

Memorandum detailing the first meeting of Police/Gay community task force on crime prevention, October 20, 1980. Folder 4, Box 6, Charles T. Royer Legal Subject Files, 5274-03. Seattle Municipal Archives.

SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

TO Assistant Chief R. Skagen  
Special Operations Bureau

DATE October 20, 1980

FROM Captain N. Skagen  
Crime Prevention Division

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SUBJECT POLICE/GAY TASK FORCE MEETING - October 9, 1980

The first meeting of the Task Force was held on October 9, 1980 at 1730 hours in our Crime Prevention Division Conference Room. Those attending the meeting from the Gay Community were:

Roger Winters, Dorian Group  
Sandy Poshagi, Seattle Counseling Center  
Jim Arnold, Seattle Gay News  
Tim Mahow, ACLU  
Mauroc McKaen, Chemical Dependency Program  
Hillary Renaissance, Gay Community Center  
Molly Taylor  
Larry Levitan

Crime Prevention Staff to the Task Force are:

Captain N. Skagen, Chairman  
Officer Micki Lee  
Maury Bell

I opened the meeting with an overview of our programs and an explanation of what we hope to accomplish in providing crime prevention services to the Gay Community. I then steered the meeting to a very candid discussion on the perceptions of the group as to the role and responsibilities of this Task Force. Each person had the opportunity to ventilate their fears, frustrations and demands. It was obvious that if we were to get anything positive it was necessary to allow the negative feelings to be expressed. This proved to be a productive, albeit at times painful, strategy. By the conclusion of the three hour meeting we mutually agreed that we wanted to continue our meetings, that we would all work on opening communication between the police and the gay community and that we would approach the problems identified in this first meeting with honesty and sensitivity. A few of the subject areas we identified for future discussions were:

The problem of stereotyping - both police and gays  
Protection from harassment and abuse for sexual minorities  
A program on the citizen complaint process with a representative from Internal Investigations  
Sensitivity to gay victims of sex crimes - presented by a representative from the Sex Crimes Unit  
Commercial Security program for Gay business establishments

Following this meeting I received the attached letter and work plan from Roger Winters of the Dorian Group. It is an encouraging, and positive response to our first effort.

NIS:sc  
Att.

FORM 1.11 1.82 1.15 REVISED 10.78