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**PORTLAND, OREGON**

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**OFFICE OF THE CITY AUDITOR**  
**Independent Police Review Division**

**LaVonne Griffin-Valade, City Auditor**

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### **News Release – March 10, 2010**

## **Griffin-Valade and Leonard Propose Changes to Police Oversight**

The City Auditor's Independent Police Review division (IPR) was created in 2001 to bring independent oversight of the Portland Police Bureau and to process complaints from the public regarding suspected police misconduct. Auditor LaVonne Griffin-Valade and Commissioner Randy Leonard are now jointly proposing significant enhancements to IPR's oversight of the Police Bureau. City Council will hear the proposed code changes on March 18, 2010, at 2 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those changes would ultimately strengthen IPR's authority and improve police accountability.

Among the proposed reforms:

- **Strengthen IPR's ability to do independent investigations.**
  - Give IPR subpoena power to compel witness testimony and the production of evidence.
  - Establish the authority for IPR to initiate an independent investigation, whether or not alleged misconduct involves a complaint from a community member.
- **Strengthen IPR's authority in cases investigated by the Portland Police Bureau.**
  - Require IPR approval before an investigation is closed or sent to Police Bureau command staff for disciplinary findings.
  - Allow IPR to challenge the post investigatory findings or recommended discipline of Police Bureau managers.
- **Replace the current Performance Review and Use of Force Boards with a more transparent "Police Review Board."**
  - Establish IPR as a voting member of the Board, allowing them to make recommendations to the Chief of Police regarding findings and discipline.
  - Require the Board to publicly report the basis for their recommendations.
  - Establish the Auditor's authority to recommend to City Council community members to serve 3 year terms on the Board.

"We are confident that the proposed code changes will enhance the ability of IPR to fulfill its mission to promote higher standards in the Portland Police Bureau and increase public confidence," Auditor Griffin-Valade said.

IPR is the independent agency within the City Auditor's Office that receives and monitors the handling of complaints against Portland Police officers. IPR is monitored and advised by a nine member Citizen Review Committee appointed by the City Council.

*To read the proposed Ordinance and to learn more about IPR and CRC*  
[www.portlandonline.com/auditor/ipr](http://www.portlandonline.com/auditor/ipr)

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