

Cooperation Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding
Between
The Police and Minority Relations Committee
And
The Township of Lower Merion

This Cooperation Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding ("Agreement") is entered into this _____ day of _____, 2019, by and between The Police and Minority Relations Committee (PMRC), an Association of residents of Lower Merion Township formed in furtherance of its motto, "Building Bridges Between the Police and Minority Community," and the Township of Lower Merion, represented through its Police Department.

The PMRC in the last thirty years or more has been in partnership with the Township, communicating with the Police Department concerning incidents and situations in the minority communities. This communication has been instrumental in preventing unnecessary problems. The PMRC has also been very involved in the Police Department's recruitment process by promoting Police Department employment opportunities for women and minorities.

Purpose of the Partnership

This Agreement is intended to set forth the parties' mutual understanding of their respective responsibilities in this partnership arrangement for keeping open lines of communication. The ultimate goal is to enable PMRC to continue to be an effective bridge between the Police Department and minorities in Lower Merion Township who feel more comfortable handling incidents in the Township in an informal or as needed basis.

Partner Responsibilities

Township

- Commit to Superintendent of Police's attendance and presence as a non-voting member.
- Assist with promotion of PMRC/Township meetings, events and related matters via social media, government access TV announcements, and printing of related materials.
- Assist the committee with receiving mediation training.
- Be receptive of PMRC input concerning matters pertaining to the minority community.
- Superintendent of Police will provide informational updates from PMRC's meetings to the Board of Commissioners as part of the Superintendent's Report at Police Committee meetings.

PMRC

- Assure that the Committee members sign confidentiality agreements annually or upon election to the PMRC.
- Monitor and assist in promoting the effectiveness of the complaint process.
- Serve as a mediator, where appropriate, on issues involving the police and the minority community.
- Assist in recruiting, retaining and promoting women and minority police officers.
- Prepare and distribute information regarding PMRC activities.
- Establish and maintain a Youth Advisory Committee.

Reporting and Accountability

- Hold joint PMRC and Police Department meetings that are open to the public on not less than a quarterly basis.
- Present an annual report of activities to the Township Board of Commissioners.

Duration

- This Agreement may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from the PMRC and Lower Merion Township. This Agreement shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from the PMRC and Lower Merion Township and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by mutual consent.

The Police and Minority Relations Committee

By: _____
Christine Anderson, President

Township of Lower Merion

By: _____
Daniel B. Bernheim, President