

Hare, Belinda

To: Hare, Belinda
Subject: FW: Animal Cruelty Unit

From: Diven, Timothy <Timothy.Diven@austintexas.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 6:49 AM
To: Nazor, Craig - BC <bc-Craig.Nazor@austintexas.gov>
Cc: Hare, Belinda <Belinda.Hare@austintexas.gov>
Subject: Re: Animal Cruelty Unit

Hello Dr. Nazor,

Appreciate you reaching out. We have not heard of any changes (one way or the other) since I sent out that email. What we have unofficially been hearing is that due to the sharp uptick in violent crime in Austin, the department is evaluating whether to reallocate detective positions from property crime units (eg, Animal Cruelty, financial crimes, etc) to our violent crimes units (eg, Homicide, robbery, etc).

We don't believe this would be imminent (they are required to give us a 28 day notice) but we truly just don't know.

If nothing else, it would be great to have just some type of declaration on record from the commission. What we have so far is a collection of letters and emails from animal advocates asking the department not to disband/reallocate us. We have already presented those to our department, so hopefully they have already taken it into consideration, but every little bit helps.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance, and thank you again.

Tim

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From: Nazor, Craig - BC <bc-Craig.Nazor@austintexas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 5:08 PM
To: Diven, Timothy
Subject: Animal Cruelty Unit

Tim,

My name is Craig Nazor - I am Chair of the Austin Animal Advisory Commission. About a month ago, we received a notice that APD was considering disbanding the Animal Cruelty Unit because of lack of funding. Since the Texas State Legislature passed a bill to prevent funds from being removed from the police, and it has now been signed into law, I was wondering if the Animal Cruelty Unit is still on the chopping block?

I hope not. If it is, we would probably take some action. If not, then we won't have to put it on the agenda.

Thanks for all your great work for Austin!

Sincerely,
Dr. Craig Nazor

Chair, Austin Animal Advisory Commission
bc-craig.nazor@austintexas.gov
512-836-5087

Craig Nazor
Boards and Commissions

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Craig Nazor
Boards and Commissions

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