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THE GUARDIANS OF MICHIGAN

65 E. COLUMBIA - DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48201 - 964-3095

December 26, 1972

*Assigned to
De Baryle
Crews Committee*

In an effort to find ways to improve minority police-community relations, over 200 minority police officers and community representatives met in a 2 1/2 day conference in Detroit in April. The Conference was sponsored by the Michigan State University Center for Urban Affairs, the MSU School of Criminal Justice, the Guardians of Michigan, and the Detroit Police Department with a grant from New Detroit, Inc.

The product of the conference was a list of 22 recommendations, which is attached. As a follow-up to the April Conference, three mini-conferences will be held on three consecutive Saturdays, January 20, January 27 and February 3, 1973, to consider some of the recommendations.

The conference sponsors would like to invite you to attend those mini-conferences. Please return the enclosure indicating you plan to attend. Please indicate those 22 recommendations you have preference for.

All conference sessions will be held at Model Neighborhood Center, 5031 Grandy, Detroit. Beginning at 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. Lunch will be served.

Sincerely,

Guardians of Michigan

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Support a citizens review board.
2. Black law enforcement organizations should attempt to keep black police officers community oriented.
3. Educate the public to the problems of police recruitment and aid in recruiting black police officers.
4. Recruit more black police officers from the Detroit Police Department into the Guardians of Michigan.
5. The Guardians as a group should exhibit a greater interest in the Detroit Police Officers Association.
6. Establish a speakers bureau within the Guardians to speak to community groups and hold community forums.
7. Open Guardian meetings to the black community.
8. Impress upon all black police officers the necessity to conduct themselves at all times in a manner which imparts a favorable image.
9. Investigate the possibility of a Guardian radio or tv program to further the black community's awareness of city-wide issues.
10. Sponsor social activities for the black community.
11. Meet with and hold coalitions with organizations operating in the black community.
12. Become unified and support aims and objectives within the black community.
13. Promote black representation in the police academy.

14. Support development of psychological evaluations of recruits and psychological testing of in-service personnel every two years.
15. Attempt to secure federal funding for future conferences relevant to minority police officers and the community.
- ✓ 16. Organize Guardian wives and other female members of their families as an affiliate organization to participate in those affairs which might be economically and politically unfeasible for police officers to participate in.
17. Support community sponsored police-community relations programs for federal funding.
18. Aid in the abolishment of STRESS and other such racist units and also develop other alternatives for the prevention of crime in black and poor communities.
19. Establish a permanent investigative committee within the Guardians to deal with cases of brutality in black and poor communities. This committee would make its findings public.
20. The Guardians of Michigan should establish a mechanism to enable black police officers and other minority candidates for police positions to succeed in the testing process.
21. A national black police officers organization should publish a newsletter.
22. Black police officers should take a position on matters of nationwide importance such as busing, family assistance, etc.