



Shay Castle <boulderbeatnews@gmail.com>

Boulder Beat: New version of JTTF agreement with FBI, Boulder PD

Darren O'Connor [REDACTED]

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To: Shay Castle <boulderbeatnews@gmail.com>

Cc: Jude Landsman [REDACTED] Annett James [REDACTED]

Hi Shay,

Apologies for the delay. Here is our statement:

Statement from NAACP Boulder County re Boulder Police Department Memorandum of Understanding with the Joint Terrorism Task Force

The public 'decision' for an MOU between the Boulder Police Department and the JTTF was clearly performative and predetermined. The BPD failed to make its case to the public that an MOU was essential for greater public safety, implying that our city would be unsafe and at risk without an MOU in place. Boulder Police Department statements that our Boulder community would be 'safer' with an MOU were conclusory at best, i.e. stating something as truth without any supporting evidence. Only 10% of police departments have signed on to MOU's with the JTTF of the FBI, why such a low number if an MOU is of such a benefit to the communities they serve? Boulder City Council requested that the MOU should explicitly state that the MOU would be with one officer. The MOU released does not specify this. Council wanted assurances that the officer working on the JTTF would be subject to BPD guidelines. The currently released MOU makes no concession to this, instead it states explicitly that the JTTF will only be bound by BPD guidelines until the FBI's rules differ from the BPD. Chief Herold clearly understood this to be true and tried to disguise the discrepancy. Transparency and accountability for actions with the FBI and JTTF cannot be enforced--this has been proven from numerous accounts from other, much larger cities. Chief Herold has not been in our community long enough to warrant 'trust me' as a valid assurance. The only reason for an MOU with the BPD appears to be the greater ability of the FBI to perform high-tech surveillance. Due to the FBI's history, people of color and activist groups have legitimate concerns and no assurances.

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