

## BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

In 1874, the Pioneer Fire Company No. 1 was organized. Crime was infrequent in Santa Barbara in the 1800's and major felonies were so rare that it was not considered necessary to form a police force until 1900. In 1927 the City Council formed the Fire and Police Commission to ensure the smooth and professional functioning of the two departments. The Commissioners organized the departments into their present form, establishing their salaries and ranks and hiring chiefs. Major actions taken by either the Police or Fire Department had to be approved by the Commission. This arrangement came to an end in 1967 with the reconstitution of the Commission by the City Council, at which time the Fire and Police Departments became responsible for their own operations, with the Fire and Police Commission acting solely in an advisory capacity.

### General Functions:

- Advise the City Council and City Administrator in all matters relating to efficient and adequate fire and police protection for the City.
- Recommend rules and regulations concerning the operation and conduct of the Fire and Police Departments.
- Consider with the Fire and Police Chiefs an annual budget and make recommendations to the City Council and City Administrator.
- Recommend to the City Council and City Administrator appointments to the offices of Fire Chief and Police Chief.
- May issue subpoenas requiring attendance of witnesses or production of documents for evidence or testimony in any proceeding before them.
- Exercise such other functions, powers and duties not inconsistent with the City Charter as may be prescribed by ordinance.

Membership: 5 members.

### Qualifications:

Must be residents and qualified electors of the City.

### Length of Term:

Four years and until successors are appointed.

Staggered terms expire on December 31 of the appropriate year.

### Meeting Schedule:

Fourth Thursday of each month, 5:30 p.m., Conference Room, Police Department.

### Financial Disclosure Requirement:

Must file Statement of Economic Interests upon appointment, annually and when leaving the advisory group.

### Staff:

Police Department and Fire Department.

### Reference:

City Charter Sections 800-805 and 816; and Municipal Code Sections 2.08.020.I and 9.118.010.

