## CITY OF OAKLAND

## Memorandum

To: Office of Chief of Police

Attn: Chief LeRonne L. Armstrong

From: Acting Lieutenant Jeff Thomason

**Date:** 2 Mar 22

**Re:** City of Oakland's Hearing Administrative Officers

The purpose of this memorandum is to address the questions about the Tow Hearing Program. The Tow Hearing Program was created for community members to contest vehicles towed by the Oakland Police Department. The Hearing Administrative Officers fall under the Oakland Department of Transportation (ODOT). This is separate from the police department so it provides a fair and unbiased hearing for contested tows. The Tow Hearing Officers will consider the evidence from the police report and the owner/driver's account of what occurred. They have the final decision on the status of the towed vehicle.

The Tow Hearing Officers report to Shahla Azimi. The tow hearings are scheduled by the Tow Hearing Officers whose offices are in the Eastmont Substation Lobby area.

## **Hearing Administrative Officers:**

- Rudy Villegas
- Thomas Viglienzone
- Mario Thornton

## **Information Requested for Tows (2021):**

Oakland Police Department Tows:	10,366
Tows related to Sideshow (23109):	40
Tow Hearings:	38
Sideshow tows released by Hearing Administrative Officer:	19

The data listed above was gathered reviewing the Records Tow Log and the Tow Hearing Officers hand count. I believe there were more tows related to sideshow, if a different

tow authority was used. I will be creating a sideshow tracking sheet starting 5 Mar 22, to obtain more accurate data on sideshows.

Jeff Thomason

Acting Lieutenant of Police

Support Operations Division