

Supervisors;

In 1993 i was on the Juvenile Justice Commission for Mendocino County. The idea of a citizens oversight committee was floated(there were a lot of complaints at the time especially about the Fort Bragg PD). The Sheriff's Department, at that time headed by Tusso, was 100% negative. The idea that law enforcement would/should/could be subject to any kind of examination by ordinary, untrained people, who of course would have no understanding, was an anathema to him. Nowadays with cell phone video camera capabilities, enforcement is usually much more in conformance with laws and rights.

It was a good idea then, and it is still a good idea, BUT the commissioners need to be selected with great care since their judgement will, regardless of outcome, affect many lives.

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