



PORTLANDJACL

SUPPORTING CIVIL RIGHTS SINCE 1928

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The Portland JACL urges the Portland City Council to vote in favor of pulling the Portland Police Bureau out of the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Wartime hysteria fanned the flames of fear and hatred after the attack at Pearl Harbor. False rumors—sensationalized by the media or vote-seeking politicians—can overwhelm and contradict evidence-based analysis.

Our government lied to us. There was no fifth column activity. There was no evidence that any Japanese American was working with the Japanese military. Despite those facts, an executive order was signed that paved the way for the complete removal of the Japanese American population from the west coast. This lie was used all the way to the Supreme Court which bought the justification of military necessity

On 9/11, America had another catastrophic attack. Thousands of New Yorkers lost their lives by the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda. Suddenly we are facing a new enemy, and we should not let fear guide our policies. In the aftermath of this attack, the Department of Homeland Security was created which at its foundation has constitutionally questionable practices.

Our local police and government need to uphold our constitutional protections. Their role is to work with the local community and build trust and maintain local law. We have a new administration and new concerns that people are being targeted for surveillance now not on ethnic heritage but based on religion or political affiliation. We are also concerned about the Joint Terrorism Task Force's lack of transparency and accountability.

We cannot let this happen again. Contact the Portland City Council and tell them to eliminate Portland's participation in the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

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