

Civilian Review and Accountability Board

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, July 26th, 2023

Members Present: Kellie Watson, Chair; Denise Sears; Jennifer Green; Marianna Michael; Scott Dickens; Guillermo Sollano; Stachelle Bussey.

Staff: Edward Harness; Ambra Hunter; Kattie Snow; Tracy Carter; and Dr. Thomas Whetstone.

I. Welcome and call to order

Chair Watson called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Member Denise Sears made a motion to approve the July 26th Agenda. Member Marianna Michael seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes from June 28 and July 5, 2023

Member Scott Dickens made a motion to accept, Member Guillermo Sollano seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Discussion and Possible Action:

a. LMPD SOP – 2.10.1.1 Retaliation Prohibited (IG Harness)

LMPD has adapted a policy in response to the office's suggested SOP prohibition against retaliation. The language is different but in Chair Watson's words, it contains the essence. It went into effect on the 22nd of July,

b. Community Policing Council Recommendation

IG Harness introduced Carolyn Wilson so that she could have the board forward her recommendations. IG Harness suggests 30-day review before submitting her recommendations she made. She referenced her letter and the Genesis Project. She requested a recommendation for a budget change reallocating funds from the police and their salaries and directing the funds towards community investment. Denise Sears questioned the board's jurisdiction on salaries. Chair Watson said she understood the request to be that we recommend it to Metro Council, who does have jurisdiction, that salaries be readjusted, and funds redirected to the community.

VI. Investigation Recommendations

a. 29-IG-2023 – Date of incident is 12/23/22. Received in office 5/3/23.

Complainant alleges that LMPD improperly notified him of his car being towed which resulted in the car being crushed. IG Harness recommended that a full investigation not take place as it was not the office's jurisdiction and that it is being handled by the ombudsman. Board unanimously agreed that an investigation not take place.

VII. Investigation Findings

a. 07-IG-2022 – Date of incident, 10/8/2019. Authorized by board 10/26/2023.

Findings was abuse of authority by exception. Annotated in findings. Chair Watson asked for motion to accept findings as written. Member Michael motioned; Member Sollano seconded. Board unanimously accepted findings as written.

- b. **10-IG-2022** – Date of incident, 3/2/2022. Authorized by board 8/24/2022. Multiple findings and recommendations as written. 3rd party complaint authorized under death in custody. Nothing to substantiate that LMPD was responsible for the death of the subject. Findings are on scene officers were exonerated but there are recommendations. Member Dickens moved; Member Sears seconded. Board unanimously accepted findings as written.
- c. **01-IG-2023** – Date of incident, 9/26/2021. Authorized by board 04/26/2023. Most findings were not sustained or unfounded but there was found to be a training failure of SOP 3.5 regarded incident reports. Annotated in findings. Chair Watson asked for motion to accept findings as written. Member Sollano motioned; Member Michael seconded. Board unanimously accepted findings as written.

VIII. Other Business:

- a. **Community Policing Councils** – 5 meetings. Moderate attendance. Hopes they will be self-perpetuating. August 8th 3rd Division. Chair Watson asked for average attendance to which IG Harness estimated 20. She asked if any LMPD officers were attending, he responded they were not.
- b. **National Night Out** – NNO is August 1st. We will have a table on Broadway staffed by Ms. Dorsey. There will be more in other divisions and IG Harness encouraged board members to be aware and attend in their areas.
- c. **Update Grievance River City FOP 614 V. OIG** – IG Harness met with the FOP, legal advisers for LMPD and the Chief. It was agreed that updated summations be provided to all of the parties. They have been provided and the OIG is expecting a response tomorrow, Thursday the 27th, from the FOP. IG Harness said that we have been able to continue some interviews with target officers.

IX. Adjournment- *Next Regularly scheduled Civilian Review & Accountability Board meeting will be at the virtual on August 23rd, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.*