

**Police Complaints Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting**

Meeting Date & Time: Thursday, May 26, 2016
6:00 p.m.
Location: Office of Police Complaints
1400 I Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005

PCB Members Present:

- Paul Ashton
- Bobbi Strang
- Kurt Vorndran
- Jamira Burley

PCB Members Absent:

- Assistant Chief Patrick Burke

OPC Staff Present:

- Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director
- Rochelle Howard, Deputy Director
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator
- Anthony Lawrence, Senior Investigator
- Michal Bilick, Program Analyst
- Lindsey Murphy, Investigator
- Catherine Twigg, Investigator
- Christine Kulumani, Legal Intern

Public Members Present:

- None

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order:

Mr. Tobin stated that the meeting was being recorded. Ms. Smith confirmed that the meeting was being recorded. Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Public Comment Period

No public comments were noted.

III. Adoption of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 21, 2016 PCB meeting. Mr. Ashton made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Strang seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Agency Report

Mr. Tobin noted that the board has a pending vacancy for Mr. Vorndran's position and that Mr. Ashton's position has been approved by the mayor and is being reviewed by Committee. Furthermore, Assistant Chief Patrick Burke will likely be leaving soon, as he has been nominated to be U.S. Marshal for the District of Columbia. The newest board member, Jamira Burley, was present for her first board meeting.

The NEAR Act, which is proposed legislation that would affect the Office of Police Complaints, has been sent to the Congress, and may be discussed in September 2016. OPC is

working to prepare for the possible legislative changes. Legislation was also proposed to the D.C. Council that would involve OPC developing the capacity to review search warrants executed by MPD and provide a determination on what, if any, compensation should be awarded for the damage.

Mr. Tobin provided a staffing update. Mr. Tobin presented the mid-year report on the status of OPC's cases. Mr. Tobin highlighted OPC's outreach efforts, including noting that Investigator Lindsey Murphy who has been participating in recent legal research. Mr. Tobin also noted that the LAPD Inspector General's office visited OPC to learn about the review of use of force incidents by MPD and OPC for an upcoming comparative report about best practices. The Baltimore police oversight agency also visited OPC to examine best practices. OPC's investigative staff is attending MPD's annual training, PDT, with MPD officers. The schedule for reviewing dismissals was presented to board members.

Ms. Andrews presented an update on statistics. Notably, all but one of the cases submitted to Complaint Examiners (CE) in fiscal year 2016 (approximately 18 cases) have been sustained. All CE decisions are published on the OPC website.

Mr. Ashton asked about the potential impact of the proposed legislation on OPC. Mr. Tobin advised him that the legislation is in a preliminary stage, and the current language would only involve OPC if an individual made a complaint about alleged that MPD officers had damaged a person's property. The board members discussed the possibility that OPC would need to hire a claims adjuster to take on this responsibility.

Mr. Tobin advised the board that OPC has been accepting online complaints via the OPC website for about 3 weeks, which has thus far yielded a slight uptick in complaints. It is being monitored for adjustments and technical issues are being addressed as they arise. The online complaint form allows a user to upload photos or videos.

V. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The public meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:38 p.m. The next two Board meetings will be held September 15th, 2016 and November 17th, 2016.

Minutes prepared by Investigator Catherine Twigg.