

**POLICE COMPLAINTS BOARD  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**Meeting Date & Time:** Thursday, May 28, 2015  
6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Office of Police Complaints  
1400 I Street, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20005

**PCB Members Present:**

- Paul Ashton
- Assistant Chief Patrick Burke
- Kurt Vorndran

**PCB Members Absent:**

- none

**OPC Staff Present:**

- Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director
- Christian J. Klossner, Deputy Director
- Nicole Porter, Special Assistant
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator

**Meeting Agenda:**

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Vorndran called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

**II. Public Comment Period**

No public comments were noted.

**III. Adoption of Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the March 19, 2015, PCB meeting. Assistant Chief Burke made a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**IV. Agency Report**

Mr. Tobin discussed Chief Burke's and Bobbi Strang's roundtable testimony before Councilmember McDuffie for reappointment and appointment to the Board. Mr. Tobin stated that he was unsure when the Council will approve the reappointment and appointment. Mr. Tobin then discussed the agency's annual report and its six-month report. Mr. Tobin introduced a draft copy of the annual report and noted that it had a different format. The report is shorter, which will make it more user friendly and reader friendly. Mr. Tobin further stated that the agency will be creating a six-month report. The six-month report will be shorter as well, and will be formatted more like a pamphlet. Mr. Tobin is envisioning a pamphlet that can be downloaded from our website and given

to community members at the meeting. The report will update the community as to what the agency has done over the prior six months. Mr. Vorndran stated that he was initially concerned about the burden to staff resources in developing the six-month report, but now believes that the report is a good idea. Mr. Vorndran stated that the six-month report is more oriented to the general readership and will be helpful to the community.

Mr. Tobin discussed the recently-issued failure to identify policy recommendation and asked Chief Burke about the report's implementation status. Chief Burke stated that MPD was working on implementing the report's recommendations and plans to issue a draft policy. Ms. Porter discussed the three policy recommendations that agency is currently looking into: disorderly conduct, assault on a police officer, and language or conduct. Chief Burke noted that MPD is reviewing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Task Force Report and plans to comment about the Department's progress in implementing the report's recommendations.

Mr. Tobin informed the Board that he and Ms. Porter met with Mike Bromwich, the expert hired to assess whether MPD is still in compliance with the Monitor's report. Mr. Tobin also gave the Board a copy of OPC's budget for Fiscal Year 2015. Mr. Tobin stated that the agency is adequately funded. He also stated that OPC has proposed that it report more extensively on MPD's use of force reporting, which would require the creation and funding of a research analyst position.

Mr. Vordran asked about the number of complaints to date where OPC investigators have requested video footage from MPD. Ms. Andrews stated that the agency has made requests for approximately 10 complaints so far. In response to Mr. Vorndran's question, Ms. Andrews stated that she did not know of any instances where cameras have been destroyed. Mr. Tobin and the Board briefly discussed the District Council's position on the public release of video camera footage taken by the body cameras.

Mr. Tobin updated the Board on the agency's community partnership program. Mr. Tobin stated that the agency would have one or two more partners by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Tobin also briefly discussed the media coverage OPC received on body cameras, as well as the BJA toolkit on body cameras and the inclusion of OPC's body camera policy recommendation in BJA's list of publications.

Mr. Tobin informed the Board of the arrival of new summer interns and two new investigator hires. He also informed the Board of the hiring of an agency program coordinator, Michal Bilick.

Mr. Tobin and Ms. Andrews discussed MPD's professional development training and the Department's continuing inclusion of OPC investigators and staff in the training. Ms. Andrews shared feedback from the investigators about the training.

Ms. Andrews went over the agency's case statistics. Ms. Andrews noted that cases received were slightly up from a year ago, as well as contacts. Ms. Andrews noted that closures were up as well. Ms. Andrews stated that agency administrative closures were also up, probably because a lot of MPD officers have been retiring. Ms. Andrews noted that MPD referrals were likely up because the agency has been getting more complaints

that are out of our jurisdiction. Ms. Andrews and Mr. Klossner then gave examples of the types of cases that are referred to MPD or other agencies due to jurisdictional issues.

Mr. Tobin updated the Board on the agency's backlog. He reiterated the agency's benchmark to get 60% of its cases closed within 180 days. Chief Burke discussed the Department's new training efforts.

**V. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held September 17, 2015 at 6 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Special Assistant Nicole Porter