

Police Complaints Board  
Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Meeting Date & Time:** Thursday, January 26, 2017  
6:00 p.m.

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

**PCB Members Present:**

- Paul Ashton
- Bobbi Strang
- Kurt Vorndran

**PCB Members Absent:**

- Jamira Burley

**OPC Staff Present:**

- Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director
- Rochelle Howard, Deputy Director
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator
- Anthony Lawrence, Senior Investigator
- Robert Rowe, Investigation Manager
- Hansel Aguilar, Investigator
- Christopher Weber, Program Coordinator
- Mathew Graham, Research Analyst

**Public Members Present:**

- None

**Meeting Agenda:**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was recorded. Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**II. Public Comment Period**

No public comments were noted.

**III. Adoption of Minutes:**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the November 17, 2016 PCB meeting. Mr. Vorndran made a motion to approve the corrected minutes. Ms. Strang seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**IV. Agency Report**

Mr. Tobin announced that the next PCB meeting will be held on March 16, 2017. The meetings for 2017 will be held on the following dates: March 16, 2017, and May 18, 2017.

Mr. Tobin announced that as of October 4, 2016, Mr. Ashton was appointed as the chair of the Police Complaints Board.

Mr. Tobin reported that an Executive Director was appointed to the Police Officer Standards and Trainings Board. This Board will oversee the Training and Standards of new MPD recruits and current MPD Officers.

Mr. Tobin announced that OPC will be Protest Monitoring during the 2017 March for Life.

Mr. Tobin announced that Ms. Strang's initial partial term on the PCB expired and she is now serving as an extension until her reappointment. Ms. Strang has been reappointed by the Mayor but the reappointment has to go through the Council Appointment Process.

Mr. Tobin announced that on January 17, 2017 the Public Employee Relations Board dismissed two consolidated cases that were filed against OPC by the Police Union. These cases date back to 2011 and 2012.

Mr. Tobin presented the Fiscal Year 2016 Report. He discussed in depth the increase in the number of complainants fielded by OPC and the increased civilian contacts OPC had during this period along with the number of Complaint Examinations held in FY16. Mr. Tobin also highlighted that the two most common civilian complaints were for Harassment/Language and Conduct.

Ms. Howard presented the Mediation Program Status Report. Ms. Howard reported on the steps taken to rebrand the mediation program to adapt to the fact that all complaints received by OPC are being screened for mediation. Ms. Howard also reported that market research was conducted which led to the reduction of costs for the mediation program while expanding OPC's mediator pool by adding more mediation vendor and independent contractors to OPC's mediator pool.

Mr. Tobin discussed the three Policy reports OPC has completed since the last PCB meeting. OPC is currently drafting a policy report on Blocking Passage and one on Consent Search Procedures.

Mr. Tobin reported on OPC Protest Monitoring during the Woman's March and Inauguration Day 2017. OPC attended training sessions including one held at the MPD Training Academy with the MPD Civil Disturbance Unit. Mr. Tobin offered some general observations of what OPC and Board Member Bobbi Strang observed while monitoring the protests and stated that OPC will suggest an outside expert consultant conduct an in depth review of MPD and the other policing agencies practices on Inauguration Day.

Mr. Tobin discussed press and media coverage of OPC highlighting the Washington Post feature article that extensively discussed police complaints and OPC.

Mr. Tobin announced two new OPC staff hires; Matt Graham, Research Analyst and Chauntini Clark, Investigative Clerk.

Mr. Tobin reported that OPC met with the DC Auditor in regards to assisting with their audit on MPD Surveillance Investigations. PCB member Kurt Vorndran was present at this meeting.

A vote was held approve two new mediators, Neil H. Kaufman and Fern F. Kaufman. Mr. Ashton motioned to approve, Ms. Strang seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Vorndran excused himself from the meeting.

Ms. Andrews presented the Investigation Status Report and highlighted that there are 45 more complaints than there were at this time period from the previous fiscal year and 75% of investigations were closed in the required 180 day period. OPC is keeping up with the increase in cases despite being down two investigators.

Mr. Ashton asked Mr. Tobin about updates on the MPD Appointment to the Board. Mr. Tobin said he was informed that the decision might be pending due to the pending decision on a new MPD Chief.

V. **Adjournment and Next Meeting**

Mr. Ashton moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Ms. Strang seconded, and the motion passed. The public meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m. The next two Board meetings will be held March 16, 2017 and May 18, 2017.

Minutes prepared by Program Coordinator, Chris Weber