

Police Complaints Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting

Meeting Date & Time: Thursday, January 18, 2024
6:00 p.m.

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

PCB Members Present:

- Paul Ashton, Chair
- Bobbi Strang
- Jeffrey Tignor (phone)

PCB Members Absent:

- Earl Fowlkes

OPC Staff Present:

- Michael Tobin, Executive Director
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator
- Jacqueline Hazzan, Legal Counsel

Public Members Present:

- Elodie Huttner

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Board roll call. Paul Ashton, Bobbi Strang, and Jeffrey Tignor present.

II. Public Comment Period

None.

III. Adoption of Minutes:

Ms. Strang moved to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2023, meeting. Mr. Ashton seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by all members present, and the motion passed.

IV. Old Business

None.

V. Agency Report

Mr. Tobin gave a summary of the agency report.

OPC is formulating FY25 budget. Mr. Tobin is preparing to give annual performance review before judiciary committee.

New bill proposed affecting OPC – Secure DC Omnibus Act. Provisions potentially affecting OPC are: FOIA; MPD redacting officers' faces in body-worn camera (BWC) video footage; scaling back OPC's unfettered access to MPD's records to only those records pertaining to

investigations. Mr. Ashton asked about the rationale for redacting officers' identities in BWC footage. Mr. Tobin said that provision likely came from police union. Mr. Tignor asked about the language around neck restraints. Mr. Tobin replied that he testified, submitted a written report, and met with council staff to suggest an exception for "brief incidental and unintentional contact to the neck." More markups and amendments are anticipated to come in the following weeks. Mr. Tobin has testified before the D.C. Council regarding this bill.

OPC continues to do outreach and conduct Student Interactive Trainings (SIT).

Mr. Tobin, Ms. Andrews, and Ms. Hazzan met with the DC Auditor's Office's Deputy Director and staff. OPC will continue to work with them to assist with their audits and be in regular contact with them.

OPC has a pending offer for a new investigator position. Mr. Tobin is conducting interviews for research analyst position. OPC will post newly reclassified receptionist position shortly. New spring interns start next week. Marke Cross will be returning to OPC as Deputy Director.

The Dismissal schedule is updated.

Investigations Report:

Ms. Andrews presented the Investigation statistics.

There is a 13% increase in complaints and 22% increase in closure rate. One more investigator will be hired for 13 total.

VI. New Business

None.

VII. Adjournment and Next Meeting

Ms. Strang moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ashton seconded. It was then unanimously approved by all members present. The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Minutes prepared by Jacqueline Hazzan, Legal Counsel