

Police Complaints Board  
Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Meeting Date & Time:** Thursday, March 16, 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
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator
- Anthony Lawrence, Senior Investigator
- Hansel Aguilar, Investigator
- Ethan Trinh, Investigator
- Victoria Keyes, Investigator
- Danielle Sutton, 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 6:05 p.m.

**II. Public Comment Period**

No public comments were noted.

**III. Adoption of Minutes:**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 26, 2017 PCB meeting. Mr. Vorndran made a motion to approve the corrected minutes. Ms. Strang seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Old Business**

Mr. Tobin announced the Presidential Inauguration Protest Monitoring Report was approved by the Board and published February 27, 2017. The report has received extensive press coverage since its publication and will continue to do so during the continuous developments regarding the arrests made during the inauguration.

#### **IV. Agency Report**

Mr. Graham presented the Summary Reports he compiled regarding the increased number of complaints OPC has received in FY17. Preliminary analysis indicates the increase is primarily due to the initiation of the online complaint form.

Mr. Tobin reported that in conjunction with MPD, OPC will be introducing a singular uniform police complaint form that will be used within the District.

Mr. Tobin announced that Ms. Strang is up for reappointment. Ms. Strange received notification that the committee date for her reappointment is April 5, 2017. There is no new information regarding the appointment of a new MPD Committee nominee.

Mr. Tobin announced that The District of Columbia Council Committee on Public Safety is holding a public roundtable meeting on March 24, 2017, regarding the confirmation of Peter Newsham as Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department.

Mr. Tobin reported that he will testify before the District of Columbia Council Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety April 12, 2017, on the FY18 OPC Budget.

Mr. Tobin discussed how OPC monitored the March for Life Demonstration on January 27, 2017, and the Stop the Gag (Women's Day) demonstration on March 8, 2017. No significant observations were made to a warrant issuing a Board Report. OPC may release some general observations on the OPC website or as a press release.

Mr. Tobin reported that Mr. Graham met with researchers from the Police Foundation to provide information and data that will be used to produce a national report on civilian oversight best practices.

Mr. Tobin announced that on March 16, 2017, Special Assistant Alicia Yass participated on a panel hosted by Women's Bar Association Diversity Committee presenting on "Community Policing: Building Upon Local Successes" while Deputy Director Rochelle Howard participated on a panel hosted by the Georgetown University Master in Journalism Program presenting on "Cops & Cameras: Privacy, Transparency, and Limitation."

Mr. Tobin announced the hire of two new investigators: Marke Cross and Jeff Davis. OPC is finalizing the selections for the summer intern positions.

Mr. Tobin discussed the NACOLE Conference that is scheduled for September 10, 2017. Ms. Andrews was selected to give a presentation on Body Worn Cameras (BWC) and Senior Investigator Jessica Rau was selected to give a presentation on Mental Health Consumers.

Mr. Tobin reported that OPC is working in conjunction with MPD on a BWC study to analyze how BWC relates to citizen complaints, use of force, criminal prosecutions, and discretionary arrests.

Mr. Tobin announced that the six month report for the first half of FY17 will be released the first week of April.

Ms. Andrews presented the Investigation Status Report and highlighted that in Q2 of FY17 there has been a 60% increase in complaints while also noting that the amount of contacts and

closures has also increased. The investigators have been able to keep up with the increasing number of complaints.

Mr. Tobin announced that Mr. Aguilar was appointed to the Fairfax County Police Civilian Review Panel and will be sworn in on March 20, 2017.

V. **Adjournment and Next Meeting**

The Board voted to move the next board meeting from May 18, 2017 to May 11, 2017.

Mr. Ashton motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Mr. Vorndran moved for the motion, Ms. Strang seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The public meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:42 p.m. The next three Board meetings will be held May 11, 2017 and September 21, 2017, and November 16, 2017.

Minutes prepared by Program Coordinator, Chris Weber