

Police Complaints Board  
Minutes of Regular Meeting

**Meeting Date & Time:** Thursday, May 21, 2020  
6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Meeting was conducted via video conference

**PCB Members Present:**

- Paul Ashton, Chair
- Jeffrey Tignor
- Kurt Vorndran

**PCB Members Absent:**

- None

**OPC Staff Present:**

- Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director
- Rochelle Howard, Deputy Director
- Alicia Yass, Legal Counsel
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator
- Jessica Rau, Investigations Manager
- Anthony Lawrence, Senior Investigator
- Nykisha Cleveland, Public Affairs Specialist
- Yan Li, Research Analyst

**Public Members Present:**

- None

**Meeting Agenda:**

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. Board roll call. Mr. Ashton, Mr. Tignor, and Mr. Vorndran were present.

**II. Public Comment Period**

None

**III. Adoption of Minutes:**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the March 19, 2020 PCB meeting. Mr. Vorndran made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Ashton seconded. Mr. Ashton, Mr. Tignor, and Mr. Vorndran approved the minutes.

**IV. Old Business**

None

**V. Agency Report**

Director Tobin gave a summary of the agency report.

OPC is on full telework due to the Covid-19 health emergency. All operations are fully functional, including accepting complaints and issuing dismissals. Mr. Tignor is serving on the Reopen DC Committee on Public Safety.

The Council is unlikely to resume consideration of the Special Police Officer proposed legislation this session.

The DC Council mandated independent review of NSID is to be conducted by the Police Foundation, but contract revisions are still under review. Originally the scope of work was for an analysis of 3 years of NSID data, but after initial inquiries the Police Foundation and MPD found that would not be possible. The review by the Police Foundation will now be for August 1, 2019- January 31, 2020.

MPD issued Executive Order 20-027 to enable video or teleconference interviews and mediations. This order makes it voluntary for officers to agree to video or teleconference interviews and mediations.

Budget update: to cope with budget shortfalls due to COVID-19 for FY 20, OPC followed the Mayor's request for a hiring freeze and training freeze. There are 3 vacant FTE positions, and OPC has no paid summer interns. For FY 21 there will be a salary freeze, but no other major changes for OPC. Because the Council will be reviewing the budget on a shortened time frame, OPC will not have budget hearing.

For public outreach, as ANC meetings have been going virtual, Ms. Cleveland has been able to attend more meetings to raise the profile of OPC with the community.

The annual NACOLE conference has been reformatted for a virtual training. There will still be a cost to attend the sessions, so OPC is exploring fiscally responsible options for participation.

Investigation Statistics presented by Ms. Andrews. The number of complaints opened is about the same as it was at this point last year. More cases have been closed this year. Policy trainings are still taking place during the COVID-19 health emergency.

#### **VI. New Business**

Policy Recommendation: Lawful Firearms. Board agreed to allow more time for all members to consider the draft, and will hold an email vote with response due by Thursday, May 27.

#### **VII. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

Mr. Vorndran moved for the meeting to be adjourned, and Mr. Ashton seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 6pm via video conferencing.

Minutes prepared by Legal Counsel, Alicia Yass