

**CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
May 19, 2016**

Present at the meeting were Civilian Review Board members Keisha Allen (Chair, Southern District), John Wesby (Secretary, Southeastern District), Charlene Bourne (Eastern District), Mary Denise Davis (Northern District), Joyce Green (Central District) and Odessa Neale (Northwestern District).

Also present were:

Kisha A. Brown, Director of the Office of Civil Rights & Wage Enforcement  
Evangula Brown, CRB Investigator  
Shaun Clark, CRB Investigator  
Amy Cruice, ACLU  
Chief Rodney Hill, Baltimore City Police  
Elizabeth Morse, Mediation Coordinator  
Sgt. Tiffany Willis, Baltimore City Police  
Jasmine Reynold, guest

**I. Welcome**

Director Brown welcomed everyone and announced that the Chair and Secretary were running late due to heavy traffic. The Chair asked Director Brown to start the meeting by giving the Director's Report.

**II. Director's Report**

Director Brown reminded everyone of the de-escalation training scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup> at 6pm at the Public Safety Training Academy, 3500 W. Northern Pkwy, Rm 203.

The new CRB complaint form was distributed for the Board to review. The Motion to Dismiss or, in the alternative, Motion for Summary Judgment of the Fraternal Order of Police's complaint against the Baltimore Police Department was also distributed to the Board. The Law Department is handling the matter representing the Police Department.

The Civilian Review Board Supervisor will begin July 1<sup>st</sup>. He will supervise the two Investigators as well as investigate cases. He is currently a Civil Rights Analyst with the US Commission on Civil Rights. Our new Deputy Director will also begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>. A new CRB member from the northeastern district should be sworn-in by the next meeting.

Director Brown will be giving a presentation at the Police Department's Comstat meeting regarding our mediation program. The number of officers who are not interested in mediation after they speak with a commanding officer is concerning.



Our Mediation Coordinator continues to track that information.

In an effort to gain exposure to the Civilian Review Board and the mediation program, the office is hosting the "Art of Storytelling" in the community. This event will allow the community to express themselves regarding their experiences with the police and community via art, poems, speaking, etc. More information will be shared as it is confirmed.

The new electronic tracking system will be in place soon and three interns from the University of Maryland School of Law will be inputting information into the system, as well as doing some research for the Civilian Review Board. Also, one of the interns will conduct a "Know Your Rights" forum.

### III. Minutes

A motion to accept the April 21, 2016 minutes was made by John Wesby, seconded by Joyce Green, and all were in favor. The minutes were approved as submitted.

### IV. New Complaints

PD037-16 through PD043-16 were voted on by the Board and were all assigned a simultaneously investigation by the CRB Investigators.

### V. Completed Investigations

<u>CRB#</u>	<u>IAD#</u>
008-14	CIU 14-3042 – Sustained (IAD book never received)
009-14	CIU 13-03392 - Not Sustained (IAD book never received)
048-14	14-0535 – Not Sustained (no CRB investigation requested)
002-15	14-0561 – Not Sustained (simultaneous investigation)
011-15	15-0014 – Not Sustained (no CRB investigation requested)
CRB never rec'd	15-0293 – Not Sustained (CRB never rec'd complaint)
043-15	15-0452 – Not Sustained (no CRB investigation requested)
065-15	15-0443 – Not Sustained (no CRB investigation requested)

### VI. Old Business

The IAD report was never received for PD008-14 and PD009-14. Director Brown asked Chief Hill to give the background on these cases. Chief Hill reported that these two cases, and a lot of others, were considered minor and assigned an investigation at the district level. These investigations were called command investigations and weren't made a priority because the investigating officers had to focus on homicides. One of the first things Commissioner Davis did when he was appointed was put together a Command Investigative Section which centralized investigations. This Section is currently going through the command



investigations, expecting that a lot have not been completed. Both PD008-14 and PD009-14 are closed in the BPD system but have to be located. Centralization of investigations should take care of most these issues, but this issue may come up again. Ms. Bourne stated that officers investigating fellow officers at the district level whom they see everyday didn't make sense. Mr. Wesby asked Chief Hill how many complaints are there that were assigned to be command investigations. Chief Hill responded approximately 810. Chief Hill will follow-up on how many of the 810 are CRB complaints.

When a case is expired but the Board sustains the allegations, the Police Commissioner cannot enforce discipline. He is, however, willing to order the district commander to attend a mediation meeting with the complainant. Chief Hill explained that he presented two cases from last month's CRB meeting that the Board sustained and IAD not sustained. Currently the Commissioner receives a report from IAD and just a paragraph from the CRB. The Police Commissioner said he isn't opposed to changing findings, but he would like to have the Board's reasoning explained more thoroughly when an allegation is sustained prior to making his decision.

By law, IAD is supposed to have their completed investigations to the Board within 90 days. This has not been happening. Chief Hill stated that he has seen great improvement in the timeliness of IAD submitting completed investigations and looks forward to the Board seeing the improvement as well.

## **VII. New Business**

Taser Training for investigators will be conducted June 14, 2016 at Morgan State's Murphy Fine Arts Building. The time will be determined. The Board is welcome to attend.

The June 16, 2016 meeting will be in the community at 6 p.m.. Ms. Green has secured 828 N. Carrollton Avenue (corner of Lafayette and Carrollton). The Board will decide whether to hold the next community meeting in September or October at the location Ms. Davis previously offered in the northwestern district.

There being no further business, the Public Session meeting adjourned and the Board moved into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Masters  
Staff to the Board