

**Office of Equity and Civil Rights
Community Relations Commission
Virtual Meeting
Public Session Minutes
October 18, 2023**

Participating in the virtual conference were Commissioners Todd Yeary (Chair), Nadine Finigan-Carr (Secretary), Adote Akwei, Deyo Johnson (via phone), and Reynaldo Evangelista. Commissioner Phillip Farfel. Also present were staff: Caylin Young (Deputy Director), Lisa Kelly Chief of Investigations, Danielle Burton (Supervisor), Zelma Ortiz (Investigator), Andrea Pineda (Investigator), and Nate Cohen (Investigator).

I. Welcome/Call to Order

A. The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Chair Yeary.

II. Approval of the Minutes

A. Motion to approve the September 20, 2023 public session minutes made by Commissioner Finigan-Carr and seconded by Commissioner Farfel. Motion carried unanimously.

B. The September 20, 2023 minutes were approved without objection.

III. Director's Report

A. Danielle Burton gave the Director's Report.

1. CRC staff has completed the EEOC contract that ended September 30, 2023. Due to delays in deferrals, CRC closed out the EEOC contract with 37 resolutions.

2. Chief Kelly gave an overview of the Civil Rights Week

3. DATA – contract number was 50 but there were not enough cases forwarded to CRC to complete.

4. Contract was finalized for 2024 – the goal is 59 cases. Chair Yeary asked about the contract number. Chief Kelly responded that EEOC agreed to send automatic referrals in order to meet to number. She explained that the backlog caused them to slow down on receiving cases.

5. Chair Yeary asked if there is a potential to have staffing issues. Chief Kelly said that they are adequately staffed to meet the goal of 59 cases.

6. Chief Kelly added that there are deficiencies in staff and staff are working on it.

IV. Commissioners' Report

A. Chair Yeary reminded staff about feedback on the Draft of the Report. He asked for a status on submission to the Council. Chief Kelly highlighted community events,

agency hearings and investigations. How should the recommendations and resolutions look? Chair Yeary would like to have a working session to follow-up in the future. Commissioners are welcome to join and meet at a certain time. Dr. Finigan-Carr would like to be included.

- B. Commissioner Finigan-Carr – UMB Violence Prevention Center – Open House on Friday, November 3, 2023.
- C. Wednesday, November 8, 2023 Dr. Finigan-Carr and Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle will be in conversation. Link was posted in the chat.
 - i. <https://ssw195.activehosted.com/index.php?action=social&chash=692f93be8c7a41525c0baf2076aecfb4.1251&s=8e881783810863a6edebc4bb2dc3a929>
- D. Commissioner Akwei spoke about Immigration and asylum seekers, and US foreign policy in Africa and West Africa. He would like to meet with Senators to address assassinations in Africa. Note: Senator Cardin is in charge of working on the foreign relations. Congressman Mfume falls under that subject and CRC might be able to find the proper Staff member.

V. Open Forum

- A. Chair Yeary noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2023.
- B. Chair Yeary and Commissioners spoke about adding the Civil Rights Week schedule to the home page on the Website.

VI. Closing

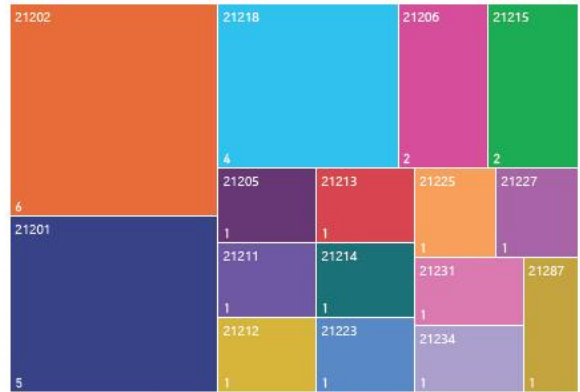
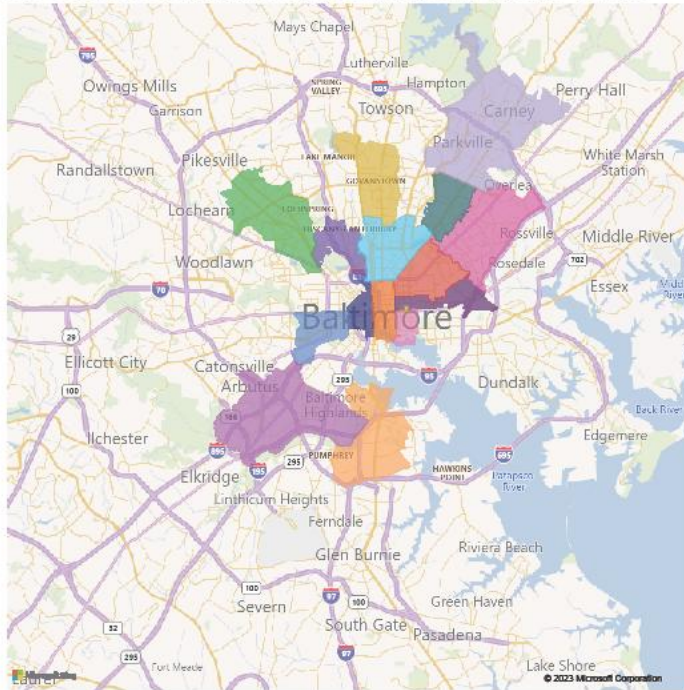
There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioners voted to adjourn at 12:47 pm.

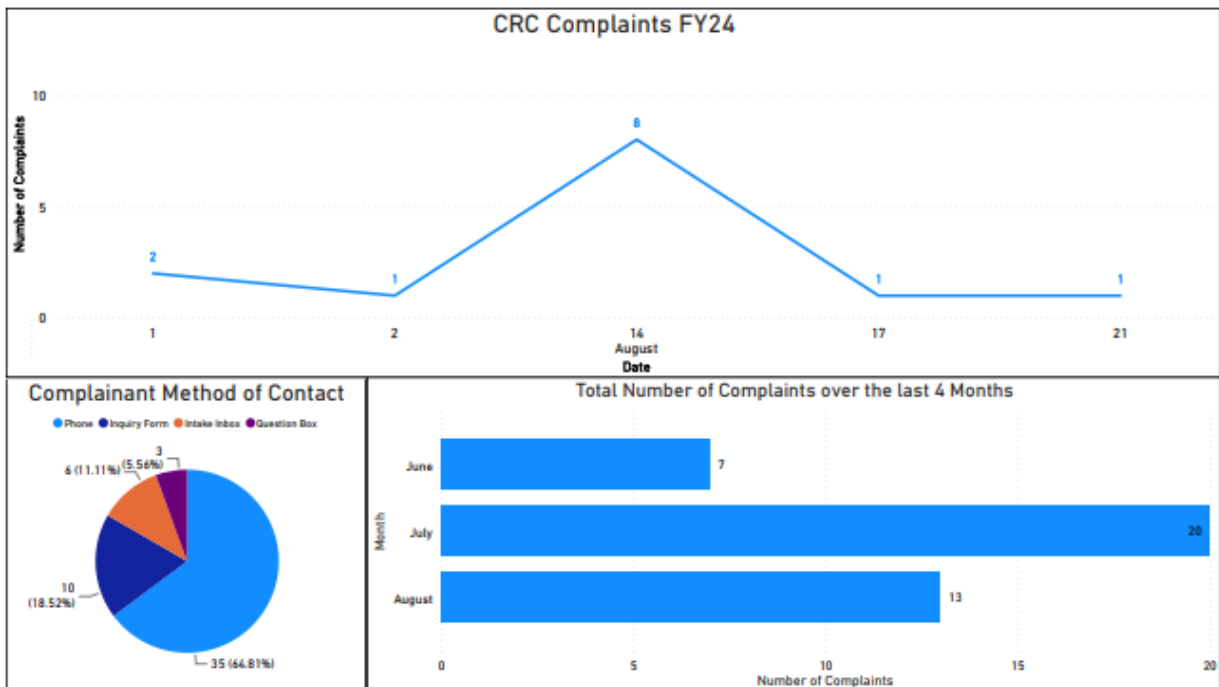
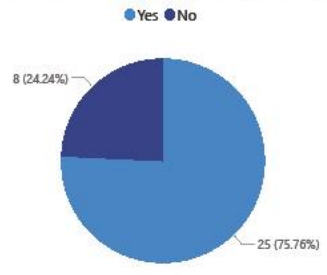
Respectfully submitted,

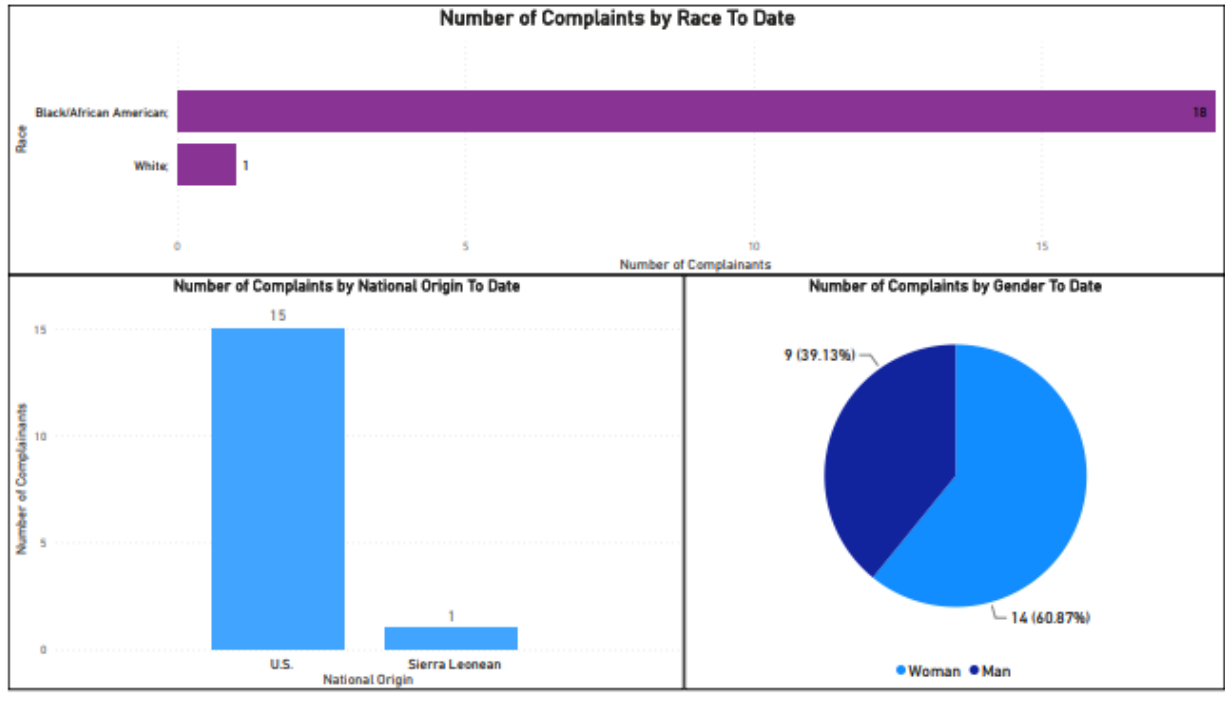
Robin Drummond
Office of Equity and Civil Rights

Site of Reported Discrimination by Baltimore City Zip Code To Date



Did the Discriminatory Occur in Baltimore City?





Number of Complaints by Basis/Protected Class To Date



Number of Complaints by Area of Law To Date

