

MINUTES
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board
REGULAR MEETING
July 25, 2023
Place: Enabled by Zoom
6:00-8:00 pm

I. Welcome & call to order

- Natalie Novak, Chair, Northern District
- Mel Currie, Southwestern District
- Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District
- Mariel Shutinya, Chief of the Police Accountability Division, OECR
- Lisa Kelly, Chief of Investigations, OECR
- Robin Drummond, Boards and Commissions Coordinator, OECR

II. Review and approval of agenda

- Mel Currie motioned to approve, Levi Zaslow seconded
- Approved

III. Review and approval of minutes

- June 2023-Approved
 - Mel Currie motioned to approve, Levi Zaslow seconded

IV. Director's Report

- Mariel Shutinya, CRB Supervisor OECR – 26 collaborative meetings, 10 completed investigation; 10 cases closed with recommendations, 3 had sustained allegations; 21 CRB intakes; 115 notifications from PIB, 5 new complaints sent to the board, 5 new investigations authorized, 1 IAD only case.
- Redistricting has been completed, so now Mel Currie and Levi Zaslow are in the same district. Mel will be resigning from the Board.
- Posting from the Mayor's office went out this week and we have received several applications.
- PAB members are also distributing the announcement.
- OECR has hired a full-time community outreach person, Jumel Howard to help CRB with community engagement.
- CRB can function with two members in accordance with the bylaws to approve new investigations in the meantime.
- Natalie Novak wanted to know about why so few CRB complaints were coming in, Mariel explained that staff is still reaching out to potential complainants, but complaints are not coming in at this time.
- Natalie Novak stated that the Board would continue meeting in the meantime when there is business to conduct.

V. New Complaints:

- No new complaints

VI. Completed Cases:

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- A. **CRB2021-0111/PIB21J-0015:** Filed on June 29, 2021, against an identified BPD officer for excessive force. The Complainant alleged that two officers responded to the home of her brother (“the Victim”) due to a call for service. When the officers arrived, they were met by the Victim’s son outside the home, who told them that his Dad (the Victim) had a knife and was upstairs with his Mom (the Victim’s girlfriend). The officers entered the home, and found the Victim, his girlfriend, and a relative of the Victim’s girlfriend upstairs. The officers asked the Victim’s girlfriend’s relative to leave, and the Victim’s girlfriend informed the officers that her son with autism was hiding in the closet and that the Victim’s mother was in the back bedroom behind them. The Complainant alleged that the officers fired twelve shots, seven of which fatally struck the Victim. The Complainant alleges that the officers fired on the Victim regardless of the fact that the Victim’s son and mother were upstairs and in the line of fire.

- Natalie:
 - Last month we reviewed the body worn camera footage. Now we have to vote
 - Vote to exonerate, review of the footage showed the officers did everything they could to act within policy.
- Mel:
 - Opinion is the same as last time. Vote to exonerate.
- Levi:
 - Vote to exonerate. Officer’s actions were within the agency’s policy

EXONERATED

- B. **CRB2022-0130/PIB2022-1383:** Filed on December 9, 2022 against an identified officer for harassment and abusive language. The Complainant alleged that on June 10, 2022 he was unloading his groceries in front of his home and was stopped in the street with his hazard lights on. The Complainant stated that after he unloaded his groceries and went to move his car, a police car was parked behind his vehicle and two officers were staring at him. The Complainant stated that when he asked them if there was a problem, they incorrectly stated that he was obstructing traffic. The Complainant stated that the officers asked him why he didn’t park his car across the street, and the Complainant informed them he had recently had surgery and needed to park closer. The Complainant stated that the officers continued to question him, asking unnecessary questions and prolonging the interaction, and ultimately gave him a warning notice. The Complainant stated that White resident regularly are able to unload their groceries in the same way and are not approached or questioned by police officers.

- Natalie
 - We discussed this at the last meeting and watched the body worn camera footage, so now we will discuss and vote.
 - Votes not to sustain.
- Mel

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- Votes not to sustain.
- Levi
 - After reviewing the footage, there is no preponderance of the evidence to sustain.
 - Votes not to sustain.

NOT SUSTAINED

VIII. Public Comment

- No public comment

IX. Old Business

- No old business

X. New Business

- Natalie Novak would like to discuss potential outreach and projects at the next meeting.
- The Police Accountability Division will be hiring a full time policy analyst.

XI. Adjournment