

MINUTES
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board
REGULAR MEETING
June 21, 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
- Sgt. Angel Batey, Public Integrity Bureau, Baltimore Police Dept.
- Mariel Shutinya, Chief of the Police Accountability Division, OECR
- Lisa Kelly, Chief of Investigations, OECR
- Meg Mishou, Special Assistant to the Police Accountability Division, OECR

II. Review and approval of agenda

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

III. Review and approval of minutes

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

IV. Director's Report

- Mariel Shutinya, CRB Supervisor OECR – 25 collaborative meetings, 10 completed investigation; 10 cases closed with recommendations, 3 had sustained allegations; 19 CRB intakes; 84 notifications from PIB, 5 new complaints sent to the board, 5 new investigations authorized, 1 IAD only case.
- Waiting on Mayor's office to send out solicitation for new Board members, should be posted shortly.
- PAD has just hired a new policy analyst, she can help with any policy work we need done.
- PAB is meeting the first Monday of each month, invites collaboration with CRB.
- ACC had their first meeting on June 13, 2023. They heard 20 cases. Their next meeting is on Friday, June 23, 2023.

V. New Complaints:

- No new complaints

VI. Completed Cases:

- 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

MINUTES
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board
REGULAR MEETING
June 21, 2023
Place: Enabled by Zoom
6:00-8:00 pm

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:
 - They did try to deescalate in accordance with the policy. The de-escalation was intentional, they tried different methods of de-escalation and made a genuine effort. The Victim started to move the knife towards the girlfriend. I can't say it seemed unreasonable. One of the reports said they did not contact a crisis intervention trained officer, but with the timing, they may not have had time to arrive before the Victim lunged at his girlfriend. Officer stated that he considered less lethal force, but felt it wouldn't take effect quickly enough to prevent the Victim from using the knife on his girlfriend. Without seeing the bodyworn camera, there is not evidence for excessive force. I am concerned that officers were informed someone was in the bedroom behind them, and shots were still fired in that direction where they could have harmed the innocent bystander.
- Mel:
 - Officers begged the Victim to drop the knife, gave the option to keep the knife and let the woman go, he did not take those options and lunged at the girlfriend. I cannot find for excessive force. With regards to the mother in the bedroom, they had to make a choice in a precarious spot, I don't fault them for the way they handled it. The Complainant was not on the scene when this occurred. The still photos showed the Victim was only inches away from the girlfriend.
- Levi:
 - It was essentially a hostage situation with the threat of deadly force. They made multiple de-escalation attempts, and the Victim moved the knife towards the Victim.
- Mariel
 - The video shows the immediacy of the issue, they had to respond urgently. The person in the bedroom wasn't directly in the line of fire, so they wouldn't have been in the line fire unless they were in the doorway. The hallway is very narrow.
 - Body worn camera footage is available for review

Board members chose to view the body worn camera footage at the conclusions of the meeting and vote on the case at the July meeting.

MINUTES
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board
REGULAR MEETING
June 21, 2023
Place: Enabled by Zoom
6:00-8:00 pm

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
 - He may have experienced some harassment or difficulties in the past, but this is more reporting a systemic issue. The exchange did not seem to support the allegation of harassment or abusive language.
- Mel
 - Not going to sustain, Complainant was not so much complaining that this was a racial slight, he was comparing himself to others based on his status. I didn't read anything that indicated he was treated unfairly. He was given a warning and not a citation. There's no way to know if these officers were treating White citizens differently.
- Levi
 - I would like to see the body worn camera footage.

Board members chose to view the body worn camera footage at the conclusions of the meeting and vote on the case at the July meeting.

Mel Currie motioned to close the meeting under 3-305 (b)(1) to discuss disciplinary action and 3-305(b)(13) to comply with statutory requirements, in this case to review redacted footage. Natalie Novak seconded.

VIII. Public Comment

- No public comment

IX. Old Business

- No old business

X. New Business

- The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

MINUTES
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board
REGULAR MEETING
June 21, 2023
Place: Enabled by Zoom
6:00-8:00 pm

- Mariel will send the advertisement for new Board members around once it is approved.

XI. Adjournment