

**AGENDA**  
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board  
**ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING**  
February 2, 2021  
Place: Enabled by Cisco WebEX  
6:00-7:30 pm

**I. Welcome & call to order**

- Mel Currie, Southwestern District
- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District
- George Buntin, Western District
- Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District
- Tyler Salley, Southeastern District
- Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District
- Amy Cruice, ACLU
- Evangula Brown, CRB Supervisor
- Cedric McCray, Acting Director Office of Equity and Civil Rights
- Jill Muth, CRB Investigator
- Tiffany Jones, CRB Investigator

**II. Review and approval of agenda**

- Approved

**III. New Complaints:**

- A. CRB 2021-0019: Victim reported sexual assault and was not taken seriously, was not provided support, and the Complainant was charged with assault.
- Voting
    - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-CRB Investigation
    - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-CRB Investigation
    - Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District-CRB Investigation
    - Natalie Novak, Northern District-CRB Investigation
- B. CRB 2021-0020: Police officers came to the residence at 5AM and arrested the Complainant's son and towed their cars. The Complainant never saw a search warrant, and had to pay to get the cars back.
- Voting:
    - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-CRB Investigation
    - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-CRB Investigation
    - Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District-CRB Investigation
    - Natalie Novak, Northern District-CRB Investigation
- C. CRB 2021-0039
- Voting:
    - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-CRB Investigation
    - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-CRB Investigation
    - Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District-CRB Investigation
    - Natalie Novak, Northern District-CRB Investigation
    - Tyler Salley, Southeastern District-CRB Investigation

**IV. Completed Cases:**

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A. CRB 2020-0002/PIB 2020-0168

- Mel Currie, Southwestern District-transcription did not clearly show False Imprisonment; got the impression was that it was a bungled handling of the warrant. Not feeling strongly for misconduct; doesn't want the officer to pay for a departmental deficiency; if we could sustain allegation against the entire department then yes.
- Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District- The Complainant asked them to confirm he was the correct person, doesn't seem like they did confirm, didn't do enough to confirm the Complainant was the right person.
- Amy Cruice, ACLU-Are officers held responsible for incorrect information?
- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-If they take you in and there's no warrant and you're released, they probably did not face a consequence. We are the recourse. Not saying that the back-story reported by the Complainant is true or false, but looking at the facts of this complaint, doesn't seem like there was harassment. The officers brought the Complainant back to his car. But police are causing mistrust between the police and the community.
- Tyler Salley, Southeastern District-This is the last stop of accountability. It could have been a mix-up, but if I put myself in his shoes there needs to be some form of accountability. The Complainant might feel like there is no accountability for being falsely arrest. Who knows how this impacted the Complainant.
- George Buntin, Western District-If it's acceptable that it was a mix-up, and a mix-up can result in a person detained, it should be acceptable that the same mix-up can result in discipline. Yes, mistakes can be made, but if you can end up being arrested, then the officer should have to end up enduring some kind of accountability, the inconvenience can go both ways.
- Mel Currie, Southwestern District-Not convinced it was the officer's mix-up, rather a bureaucratic mistake.
- Tyler Salley, Southeastern District-What is our scope? Just the actions of the officer or a somewhat larger scope? This incident could have gone in a different direction, the Complainant could have gotten agitated and gotten additional charges or even end with someone using a weapon. Luckily here none of that happened, but if it's within our scope to have some accountability.
- Mel Currie-we can make policy suggestions to BPD even if we don't sustain.
- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-Agrees that we can and should make policy recommendations; she will start a draft letter and send it out to the CRB and collaborate.
- Jill Muth-The consent decree has a section about technological advancement for BPD. This complaint is an example of a technology failure.
- Evangula Brown-We can send out a letter of explanation, within confidentiality limits, so the Complainant knows what happened to his appeal.
- Vote
  - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-Not sustained for both allegations
    - Discipline recommendation: training
  - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-Not sustained for both allegations
    - Discipline recommendation: training

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- Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-Sustain for False Imprisonment; Not sustain for Harassment
  - Discipline recommendation: training
- Tyler Salley, Southeastern District-Sustain for both allegations. There needs to be some accountability, he was held without being the correct person
  - Discipline recommendation: training
- George Buntin, Western District-Sustain for both allegations
  - Discipline recommendation: training
- Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District-Abstains. Departmental negligence comes up a lot and under our jurisdiction we can't address that directly, which is a limitation on us. We might have to take it to the Maryland legislature to expand our scope to address departmental issues.

**B. CRB 2018-0140/PIB 2018-0508**

- Voting:
  - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-Not sustain on all allegations
  - Tyler Salley, Southeastern District-Are these repeat offenders?
  - Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District-Not sustain on Excessive Force and administratively close the case. Wishes we had more information from the Complainant. It feels like we are missing a piece of the puzzle; we can't tell from the BWC what allegations occurred; seems like there are some inconsistencies between the complaint and BWC.
  - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-Not sustain on Excessive Force and administratively close the case. Is torn when there is no engagement from the Complainant. We are missing some needed information.
  - Tyler Salley, Southeastern District-Not sustain on Excessive Force and administratively close the case.
  - Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-Not sustain on Excessive Force and administratively close the case.
  - George Buntin, Western District-left the meeting before voting on this case.

**V. Maryland Public Information Act request discussion**

- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-The organization BALT brought a lawsuit against OECR and CRB. The lawsuit is about a Maryland Public Information Act request filed with the CRB to obtain information about a prior complaint. The MPIA request was very broad. CRB is careful not to disclose confidential information about complainants, but we do want make other information public, certainly information that is for police accountability/transparency. However, the MPIA request was too broad and was not specific enough. OECR asked BALT to be more specific with the request; OECR was not trying to withhold information. The lawsuit has since been dismissed. OECR's MPIA protocol: OECR lets the CRB Chair know when MPIA requests are filed and what happens to the requests. There is no point in time when the CRB won't know about MPIA requests or lawsuits.
- Amy Cruice, ACLU-BALT lawsuit relates to a prior concern of a complainant filing an MPIA request with OECR and the complainant had a really difficult time working with OECR through this process. Also curious how the Chair gets notified about MPIA requests and lawsuits and when that information is shared with the rest of the

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CRB. So the CRB is in the loop since we represent different districts. If the lawsuit had proceeded the City Law Department would be representing the CRB and might take positions the CRB doesn't agree with. We never want to put OECR in a difficult position.

- Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-what is the law department's position on processing MPIO requests?
- Amy Cruice, ACLU-OECR has provided information via MPIOs in the past.

**VI. Misconduct allegations on PIB Blue Team Reports that do not have a signed Complaint form.**

- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-The CRB received a Blue Team Form stated that the BWC review unit caught misconduct on a BWC footage. What can we do about it? Tiera proposes that since a witness can file a complaint on behalf of a victim, the Chair file can a complaint based on the Blue Team Form on behalf of the Complainant as a witness. Tiera will file the complaint and then abstain from voting. There are several of these kinds of complaints—complaints of misconduct that aren't reported on an official signed complaint form. Since there is no signed complaint form, they go uninvestigated. So this is a way of addressing that. Also, we need to move the February meeting, Natalie will do Doodle poll.

**VI. Old Business**

**VII. New Business**

- Tyler Salley, Southeastern District-attended NACOLE presentation about analyzing and reporting statistics for use of force. Seems like there is an opportunity to use some of that data in the CRB's work. He would be happy to talk through trying to use some of this data; tracking officer behavior would inform our decision-making.
- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-send around his notes and talk about at the next meeting!

**X. Adjournment**