

**AGENDA**  
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
April 15, 2021  
Place: Enabled by Cisco WebEx  
6:00-8:00 pm

**I. Welcome & call to order**

- Mel Currie, Southwestern District
- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District
- Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District
- Tiffany Wingate, Central District
- Evangula Brown, CRB Supervisor
- Cedric McCray, Acting Director Office of Equity and Civil Rights
- Jill Muth, CRB Investigator
- Tiffany Jones, CRB Investigator
- Dana Moore, Director of the OECR and Chief Equity Officer
- Sergeant Eric Mox, BPD

**II. Review and approval of agenda**

- Approved

**III. Review and approval of minutes**

- Amended by Mel Currie, then approved

**IV. Director's Report**

- Intakes: 14 (telephone); 2 new complaints sent to the CRB; this meeting is a community event in the Northern District; OECR/CRB got a NACOLE conference presentation; OECR was awarded 2 VISTA interns for the summer; OECR's current VISTA has been successful in getting grants for OECR.

**V. New Complaints:**

- A. **2021-0007:** Filed 2/15/2021 alleging that the Complainant was on his way to work when he was pulled over for not having a tag light. The Complainant followed the officers' directions and gave his information to them and rolled down all four windows twice. The officers then asked the Complainant to get out of the car, which he did. Then the officers started to search the Complainant's car without his consent. The officers stated they could search the car due to "exigent circumstances." The Complainant lodges a complaint with the CRB that he was racially profiled, his rights were violated, and he experienced emotional distress. He was afraid for his life during the interaction.
  - Vote:
    - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-CRB investigation
    - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-CRB investigation
    - Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-CRB investigation
    - Tiffany Wingate, Central District-CRB investigation
- B. **2021-0070:** Filed 3/24/2021 alleging that on 2/8/2021 the Complainant and his intimate partner were having a fight and the cops showed up. An officer cuffed the Complainant and took him to Central Booking, even though the officer told the Complainant that he was taking him to the police station. The handcuffs were much too tight and the Complainant kept asking that they be loosened, but the officer did not

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loosen them. The Complainant now has a cyst on his wrist and has to see a hand surgeon. The prosecution is still pursuing a case against the Complainant, even though his partner withdrew her complaint.

- Vote:
  - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-CRB investigation
  - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-CRB investigation
  - Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-CRB investigation
  - Tiffany Wingate, Central District-CRB investigation
- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-Had a meeting with Evangula and Kay Harding. It was decided that when the Complainant is not cooperative or wants to withdraw their complaint statutorily we aren't allowed to "administratively close" the case. We have four options (sustain, not sustain, exonerate, unfounded); administrative closure is not one of our options. If the Complainant is not cooperating, we should just make a determination based on the information we have. If the Complainant withdraws their complaint, the CRB will be notified, but the complaint should be withdrawn, the CRB don't vote on it. If the case is expired, we will still vote on it based on the four categories. We no longer will use the category of administrative closure.

**VI. Completed Cases:**

- A. **2018-0162/2018-0636:** Complaint filed 2/4/2019 for Harassment against an unknown Baltimore police officer. The complaint alleges that on 10/17/2019 at approximately 3:00 PM the Complainant and his wife were in a car accident. When an officer arrived at the scene of the accident, the Complainant alleges that the officer was "indigent" and "argumentative." The Complainant alleges that the officer accused the Complainant's wife of making a derogatory statement, did not call for emergency services, and was hostile. The officer told the Complainant to "do what I tell you." Body worn camera footage was provided, which captured the officer's interaction with the Complainant and the scene of the accident.
  - Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-I sent the wrong case number to the CRB to remove from our list tonight. I advised everyone to remove this case, not 0088, as I was supposed to say 0088. This case will be held until next meeting.
- B. **2020-0016/2020-0042:** Complaint filed 3/21/2020 for Excessive Force against three named Baltimore Police Officers. The Complainant alleges that on 7/27/2019, the Complainant had a fight with her parents and she asked her parents to call the police. When the police arrived, they were "extremely brutal and aggressive." The officer pulled the Complainant out of the closet by her leg, they handcuffed her, wouldn't loose the handcuffs when she was in pain, and pushed her head into a couch. The Complainant's ankles were strapped and she was taken to Johns Hopkins Hospital for a mental health evaluation. Body-worn camera footage of this incident was also provided.
  - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-The body worn camera footage did not match up with what was in the complaint; officers seemed to be solicitous to the Complainant. Voted to Not Sustain.

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- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-Voted to Not Sustain
- Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-Voted to Not Sustain
- Tiffany Wingate, Central District-Voted to Not Sustain

C. **2020-0038/2020-1059**: Complaint filed on 10/21/2020 for Harassment and False Imprisonment against several named and unnamed Baltimore Police Department officers. The Complainant alleges that on 10/6/2020 the Complainant was delivering for Door Dash when the Complainant went into a restaurant to pickup an order. When he was exiting the restaurant, he saw several officers had approached his vehicle. The officers stated that they were checking on the passenger who was inside of the vehicle. The officers approach the passenger-side window, taped on it with a flashlight, and asked the passenger if he is okay. The passenger responds in the affirmative. During this time, the Complainant is walking out of the restaurant asking the officers what they want. After a brief exchange, the Complainant attempted to drive away. However, the officers stopped him and asked for his keys. The officers put their heads inside of the car to ask the passenger if he is okay, how much “weed” he has on him, and if he has any weapons. The passenger responds that he has a knife. The officers pat him down and put the knife on the hood of the car. The officers ask both men for their names and ID and they refuse. The Complainant repeatedly asks the officers what they want. An officer then asks, “How much weed is in the car?” The officers point a flashlight into the car and say they can see residue and they can smell it. The officers begin to search the Complainant’s car, the Complainant records with his phone. The officers said they were searching because of the odor of marijuana and the odor provides probable cause to search the car. The reason the car was approached in the first place was to check on the passenger and make sure he was okay. Which he said he was when they first asked. One of the officers seemingly aggressively points his finger in the Complainant’s face. Then the officers say the Complainant parked too far away from the curb, which is why they approached the car. One of the officers put a couple of things in his pocket; the Complainant asked him what it was. The officer said marijuana. The Complainant finally gives the officers his ID so he can get a citizen contact report and leave. The officers proceed to have a disrespectful verbal exchange with the Complainant. The Complainant has had three previous interactions with three of these officers. *Pacheco v. Maryland*, 459 Md. 171 (2018).

Body-worn camera footage was provided. The PIB case is complete.

- Mel Currie, Southwestern District-This was a fishing expedition; this is not the kind of interaction between police and citizens that we want to support.
- Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-Voted to Sustain the allegations; there are so many issues with this case; unlawful policing and PIB’s investigation was bad.
- Tiffany Wingate, Central District-Voted to Sustain the allegations. As the CRB there must be something we can do as representatives of our community to stop this kind of policing. The language the officers used was disrespectful. Something has to be done, we need to try and make a difference. Are we protecting our community members’ rights? How do we try and have better relationships with police officers when this kind of policing is happening. Officers like this are making it hard to even create dialog regarding police/community relations.
  - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-Voting

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- All voted: Officer 1 and 2: Sustained for Harassment and False Imprisonment
  - Mel Currie, Southwestern District-Disciplinary Recommendation: 10 days suspension, medium letter
  - Tiffany Wingate, Central District-Disciplinary Recommendation: training, 20 days suspension, severe letter of reprimand; requests training so they know what they did was wrong, and if they do it again it will show a pattern
  - Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-Disciplinary Recommendation: 30 days suspension, severe letter of reprimand.
  - Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-BPD Disciplinary matrix indicates that this would be an e or f violation, disciplinary matrix says severe letter and 15 days of suspension
  - Total-19 days suspension and severe letter of reprimand
- Officer 2: Same
- Officer 3 and 5: All voted Sustained for Harassment
  1. Mel Currie, Southwestern District-Disciplinary Recommendation: 6 days of suspension, medium letter of reprimand
  2. Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District-Disciplinary Recommendation-15 days of suspension, medium letter of reprimand
  3. Tiffany Wingate, Central District-Disciplinary Recommendation: 7 days of suspension, medium letter of reprimand, training
  4. Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-BPD Disciplinary Recommendation: 7 days of suspension, medium letter of reprimand
  5. Total-9 days and a medium letter of reprimand

**VII. Old Business**

**VIII. New Business**

- Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District-ACLU will advise CRB about the legislation that passed this session.
- Dana Moore, Director-Sen. Carter could also talk to us about it; Commissioner Harrison can work with us, reach out to DC Nadeau and Harrison if CRB has issues that need to be discussed.
- Mel Currie, Southwestern District-The CRB has used the press before to educate the public about issues the CRB faces; we met with Commissioner Harrison several months ago and we should meet with him again.
- Evangula Brown, CRB Supervisor-Asked Sergeant Mox if he can schedule a meeting with DC Nadeau about some of the CRB's concerns.
- Sergeant Mox-Agrees to talk to DC Nadeau and to propose setting a meeting; the next 2 weeks are PIB training, so that will be a busy time, but after that for sure, if not within the next 2 weeks, Nadeau shouldn't have a problem with having a meeting.

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- Evangula Brown, CRB Supervisor-Invited everyone to OECR events happening next week.

**IX. Public Comment**

- Community member: You all should give the harshest penalty, the police team up against black people and the officers need the harshest penalty to get them removed from the police force; some officers are not going to change and you need to get them out of here because they are racist and they are trying to get us; to fight them we need to get them fired, like the training to help show a pattern of behavior to identify which officers should be fired, get them out of here, it's the people versus the police.

**X. Adjournment**