

**AGENDA**  
Baltimore City Civilian Review Board  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
November 30, 2022  
Place: Enabled by Zoom  
6:00-8:00 pm

**I. Welcome & call to order**

The following members were present:

Tiera Hawkes, Chair, Northeastern District  
Mel Currie, Southwestern District  
Natalie Novak, Secretary, Northern District  
Levi Zaslow, Northwestern District  
Mariel Shutinya, CRB Supervisor  
Amy Cruice, ACLU

**II. Review and approval of agenda**

- Approved

**III. Review and approval of minutes**

- October 2022 – deferred until next month

**V. New Complaints:**

There were no new complaints.

**VI. Completed Cases:**

- A. **CRB2022-0055/PIB2022-0159:** Disciplinary Recommendation for sustained allegations of Harassment and False Imprisonment.
- Filed 4/2/2022 for Harassment and False Imprisonment against an identified BPD officer. The complaint alleges that on 2/4/2022 the Complainant's vehicle was pulled over for a license plate cover infraction and a BPD officer approached him. The Complainant provided his license and registration information. The subject officer asked the Complainant to get out of his vehicle. The Complainant asked him why, and the officer stated that he didn't feel safe around the Complainant because the Complainant was using his phone. The Complainant exited the vehicle and was handcuffed and searched. The officers asked if they could search his vehicle, the Complainant said "no," but it was searched anyway. The officers did not find anything in the vehicle or on the Complainant and the Complainant was allowed to leave. He was given a phone number to call, but when the Complainant called the number to request a report from the incident, the report couldn't be located. Body-worn camera footage shows that the subject officer stated that he handcuffed the Complainant and searched his vehicle because he was acting "weird," his left arm placement was suspicious, and it looked like the Complainant was moving around in the car while the officer ran his license.
  - Mel – had a sustained complaint in 2021, which was close to the time of this incident; 4 days, medium letter of reprimand

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- Tiera – Violation C (unnecessary force), A, and B violations; 3 days and mid-level of reprimand
- Natalie – 2 days leave of loss and a simple letter of reprimand
- Levi – 3 days loss of leave and medium letter of reprimand, but most importantly more training; even though the trainee wasn't subject to discipline, he needs retraining too, please add that to the letter or send another letter; it shouldn't be a disciplinary letter that is added to his file, but just to communicate that he needs to be re-trained due to the subject officer's behavior.
- Total: 3 days loss of leave and medium letter and more training

- B. **CRB2022-0067/PIB2022-0909:** Filed on 5/23/2022 against an identified BPD officer for Abusive Language. The Complainant alleges that on May 18, 2022, at 12:25 am, the subject officer arrived at the Complainant's ex-boyfriend's house to answer a domestic assault call. The Complainant stated that she called the police to the home after the ex-boyfriend had placed his hands on the back of her neck and attempted to drag the Complainant out of his home and onto the front porch. When the officers arrived, the Complainant stated that the ex-boyfriend yelled and cursed at the officers. The Complainant said that she walked off the porch towards the officers crying with one shoe on, no jacket, a purse and her cell phone. The Complainant alleged abusive language because she stated that she advised the subject officer that she wanted to go home but the officer was aggressive and loud when speaking to her, but the officer was calm when speaking to the ex-boyfriend. The officer kept asking her the same question over and over, which was why she didn't leave the ex-boyfriend's property. The Complainant then attempted to speak with the other officer, but the subject officer kept interrupting them, even after she stated that she didn't want to speak with the subject officer because he was speaking in an aggressive manner. The Complainant further alleged that the subject officer refused to acknowledge the bruises from the assault, he kept asking, "where are your bruises?" The Complainant stated that she felt demeaned and disrespected by the subject officer when he denied that she was assaulted by her ex-boyfriend. The officers' BWC footage captured the incident. The BWC shows the subject officer claimed that he didn't see any bruises on the Complainant and denied that the Complainant had bruises anywhere. BWC footage appears to show that the subject officer did not initiate an investigation before responding to the Complainant. The footage shows that the Complainant, dressed only in a bra, refused her request for a jacket to cover herself up.

--Closed Session to watch BWC--

Natalie – didn't hear any AL, so there may not have been a violation of BPD policy 711.

Mel – did not hear any AL; officer was in a no-win situation; Complainant was on her phone the whole time; Officer needs more training.

Tiera – also not sure; but officer didn't deescalate the situation, rather heightened it; ex admitted to putting his hands on Complainant and the officers didn't respond to that; Complainant said she had bruises, it was dark outside and she has a darker skin tone, so bruises don't show up as well as that; Officer didn't seem to take this into consideration. Officer was also giving inappropriate relationship advice.

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Levi-also not sure; agree with Tiera that the officer didn't effectively de-escalate the situation. Officer responded to a stressful situation with an elevated and heightened tone. His tone and approach was wrong.

Board members decided to continue the case to consider it further and referred it to an email vote.

**VIII. Director's Report**

- There were 35 meetings and collaborative events between CRB and the community.
- There were 30 investigations completed as of October this year.
- 25 decisions of punitive or non punitive decisions were made as of October this year.
- 24 cases were closed by the Board as of October this year.
- 6 cases were sustained as of October this year.
- 74 intakes were done as of October this year.
- CRB has received 223 complaint notifications from PIB as of October this year; only 1 has been converted to statutory compliance.
- The Board has received 15 new complaints and authorized 15 complaints for independent investigation, with 4 referred to PIB for investigation.
- Events
  - OECR did Civil Rights Week included a day dedicated to Police Accountability at UB Law, and outreach at all other events.
  - One of these events revealed issues with individuals with disabilities and the police.
  - The CRB is in the process of procuring a new case management systems.
  - We will begin school outreach with Youth as Resources.
  - After the holidays we will continue robust outreach, Board members are encouraged to forward names of community groups that they would like to be included in outreach.
- At this time the CRB is not receiving information on final outcomes after recommendations are sent to the Commissioner, or what process they are using to review it.
- Still working on how the PAB, ACC and CRB will collaborate and communicate.

**IX. Public Comment**

**X. Old Business**

- CRB bylaws
  - Mel had a question about the administrative closure clause, and wanted to know why admin closures would only be permitted when cases were found to be out of jurisdiction. Mariel clarified that even if Complainant does not cooperate with the investigation, investigation can be completed with access to the PIB file.
  - Mel also wanted to know what would happen in the event that a Complainant chose to withdraw their complaint, and Mariel clarified that under the Consent Decree, once the complaint is initiated, it must be investigated. Complaints cannot be withdrawn from Internal Affairs

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- Natalie and Tiera have approved them
- Mel moved to approve the bylaws for public comment, Levi seconded, and all were in favor
- Draft bylaws will go up on website to be open for public comment for 30 days

**XI. New Business**

There was no other new business.

**XII. Adjournment**