



## CITIZEN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

816 Fifth Avenue, Suite 400  
Pittsburgh PA 15219  
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Approved  
7/22/2008

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**Minutes of the CPRB Meeting Held on June 24, 2008 (Mtg. No. 107)**  
**City Council Chambers, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, City County Building**  
**414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh PA 15219**  
**Neighborhood: Citywide**

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**Members Present:** Ms. Marsha V. Hinton, Chair  
Mr. John H. Bingler, Jr., Esq.  
Mrs. Erin Dalton  
Dr. Mary Jo Guercio  
Ms. Deborah L. Walker

**Excused:** Mr. Malik G. Bankston  
Mr. Richard M. Carrington, Vice Chair

**Absent:** None

**Vacancies:** None

**Solicitor:** Mr. Hugh F. McGough, Esq.

**Staff Present:** Ms. Elizabeth C. Pittinger, Executive Director  
Mr. Michael Ayoob, Intake Coordinator  
Ms. Sherri Bridgett, Investigator  
Mrs. Kathy Carson, Investigator  
Ms. Michelle Gamble, Investigator  
Ms. Carolyn Gaskin, Executive Assistant

**Absent:** None

**Vacancies:** 1 Investigative Associate

### **Administrative Matters:**

- At 6:20 p.m. Ms. Hinton, Chair, called the meeting to order.
- *A motion to adopt the meeting minutes for May 27, 2008 was offered by Ms. Guercio and seconded by Ms. Dalton, and approved unanimously.*
- Ms. Hinton reported that she, Ms. Pittinger and Mr. McGough met with Public Safety Director, Michael Huss, City Solicitor, George Specter, Assistant City Solicitor Wendy Kobe and representatives from the PBP and OMI on June 23, 2008. This was a follow-up meeting set to continue discussion on establishing a protocol for the Citizen Police Review Board's access to information held by the PBP and OMI.

### **Executive Director's Report**

- Pittinger presented the Executive Director's report which is attached and made part of the meeting minutes.
- Pittinger reported on a preliminary budget meeting with city administrators, held on June 19, 2008. Discussion involved the Citizen Police Review Board's standard proposed budget for 2009, inclusive of a request for an additional \$25,000 to acquire X-Fire, an integrated case management software system.

- Pittinger mentioned that the AFSCME labor union contract will be renegotiated at the end of this year; at which point a request to remove the investigator positions from the union will be reintroduced.
- Pittinger reported that the five year rental lease agreement between the Citizen Police Review Board and Associated Investor's Inc. has been successfully extended five years.
- Pittinger stated that the Ward McGough contract has been approved and is awaiting the Mayor's signature page required for continued compensation.

### **Case Review**

Ms. Hinton moved to the case review agenda (copy attached). 10 cases were reviewed. Copies of the agenda were available to the public. Each case summary was reviewed and acted upon as noted (votes unanimous among attending members unless stated otherwise). (*Actions taken are published here and on the CPRB website, <http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/cprb/>*)

### **Public Comment:**

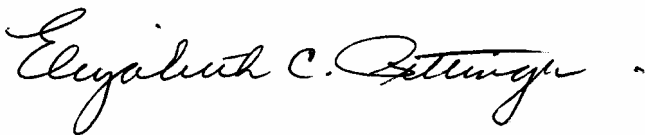
Ms. Hinton invited public comment, limited to three minutes each. No comment was offered to the Board.

### **Next Meeting:**

Ms. Hinton announced that the next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 22, 2008, at City-Council Chambers, 510 City-County Building, 414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth C. Pittinger  
Executive Director

Attachment (2):

1. Case Review/Action Agenda
2. Executive Director's Report

## CPRB CASE REVIEW AGENDA

CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION	RATIONALE
<b>PUBLIC HEARING (0)</b>				
<b>30 DAY EXTENSION OF FULL INVESTIGATION (5)</b>				
27-08 /CARSON	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP16-1, 3.6) Incompetency (PBP 16-1, 3.12) Truthfulness (PBP 16-1, 3.19) False Report (PBP 62-1, 2.10)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s placed charges on him that caused him a longer time in jail.	AUTHORIZED 30 DAY EXTENSION	Additional research time is needed.
52-08 /GAMBLE	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward The Public (PBP16-1, 3.7) Neglect Of Duty (PBP16-1 ,3.13)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s were rude and did not file a police report for the Victim.	AUTHORIZED 30 DAY EXTENSION	Need to clarify a related procedural matter.
73-08 /GAMBLE	Use of Force (PBP 12-6, 3.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1 ,3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-1, 3.7)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s used inappropriate force against the Victim during his arrest.	AUTHORIZED 30 DAY EXTENSION	Need to locate and interview robbery victims who may be witnesses.
85-08 /GAMBLE	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1 ,3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-1, 3.7) Truthfulness (PBP 16-14, 3.19) Juvenile Policy (PBP 43-10, 33.2) False Report (PBP 61-1, 2.10)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s have been harassing the Victim.	AUTHORIZED 30 DAY EXTENSION	Victim was recently located and needs to be interviewed.
123-08/CARSON	Use of Force (PBP12-6, 3.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public, (PBP 16-1, 3.7) Truthfulness (PBP16-1, 3.19) False Report (PBP 62-1, 2.10)	Cx. alleges the S.O. used excessive force and arrested him for no reason.	AUTHORIZED 30 DAY EXTENSION	Medics at the original scene need to be interviewed.

<b>CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR</b>	<b>ALLEGATION(S)</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>RATIONALE</b>
<b>FULL INVESTIGATION (3)</b>				
141-08/ GAMBLE	Conduct Unbecoming A Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward The Public (PBP 16-1, 3.7) Truthfulness (PBP 16-1, 3.19) Incompetency (PBP16-1, 3.12)	Cx. alleges the S.O. used his position as a PBP officer to make threatening phone calls for personal reasons.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Attempting to obtain additional info from a police supervisor. Evaluate for possible unlawful act.
156-08/ CARSON	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct toward the Public, (PBP 16-1, 3.7) Neglect of Duty (PBP16-1, 3.13) Truthfulness (PBP 16-1, 3.19) Warrantless Searches & Seizures (PBP 45-2, 7.7 and 10.2) False Report (PBP 62-1, 2.10)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s fired guns and illegally searched her home.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence is factually ambiguous. Will continue attempting to obtain security video from the area.
153-08/ BRIDGETT	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct toward the Public, (PBP 16-1, 3.7)	Cx. alleges the S.O. threatened to shoot him while he was working on a neighbor's roof.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence confirms encounter occurred.
<b>DISMISSAL (0)</b>				
<b>UNSUSTAINABLE (0)</b>				
<b>UNFOUNDED (1)</b>				
120-08/ GAMBLE	Use of Force (PBP 12-6, 3.1) Taser (PBP 12-13, 5.3) Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Truthfulness (PBP 16-14, 3.19) False Report (PBP 61-1, 2.10)	Cx. alleges that he was pulled over for no reason and was Tased during a traffic stop.	DISMISSED AS UNFOUNDED	Complainant misrepresented factual information and admitted to engaging regularly in unlawful activity precipitating the encounter.
<b>WITHDRAWAL (0)</b>				
<b>LACK OF COOPERATION/COMPLAINANT (0)</b>				
<b>OTHER (1)</b>				
70-06-S/ GAMBLE	Conduct Unbecoming/member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Use of Force(PBP 12-6) Truthfulness (PBP 16-14, 3.19)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s K-9 bit her during a war protest.	Dismissed as Unsustainable.  Offered recommendation to the PBP regarding the canine deployment policy related to crowd control..	On 5/6/08, a critical incident occurred that involved a civilian fatality. The K-9 involved in this complaint (70-06-S) was killed in the line of duty and his handler was involved in the fatality.

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Ms. Marsha V. Hinton, Chair  
Honorable Members of the Board  
**From:** Elizabeth C. Pittinger  
Executive Director  
**Date:** June 24, 2008  
**Re:** Executive Director's Report: June 24, 2008

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816 Fifth Avenue  
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## 1. Intake Summary through 6/20/08:

- Citizen Complaints: 29 Pending Citizen Action: 146 Total Intake: 204  
Out of Jurisdiction: 26 Statute of Limitation: 03 (EDI: 02)
- (Actual Totals for 2007: CC: 71; PCA: 227; OJ: 65; SL: 08 EDI: 10  
Total: 425)
- (Actual Totals for 2006: CC: 76; PCA: 280; OJ: 85; SL: 09  
Total: 450)
- (Actual Totals for 2005: CC: 59; PCA: 284; OJ: 70; SL: 18  
Total: 431)
- (Actual Totals for 2004: CC: 61; PCA: 352; OJ: 62; SL: 14  
Total: 489)
- (Actual Totals for 2003: CC: 61; PCA: 380; OJ: 66; SL: 20  
Total: 527)
- (Actual Totals for 2002: CC: 75; PCA: 330; OJ: 83; SL: 26  
Total: 514)
- (Actual Totals for 2001: CC: 77; PCA: 362; OJ: 87; SL: 11;  
Total: 537)
- (Actual Totals for 2000: CC: 75; PCA: 394; OJ: 92; SL: 30;  
Total: 590)
- (Actual Totals for 1999: CC: 80; PCA: 383; OJ: 27; SL: 11;  
Total: 501)

## 2. Administrative Matters

- 5/28/08: City Charter High School: Participated in a student's senior project discussion: "Influences on Police Aggression."
- 2009 Budget: Preliminary budget proposal was submitted and discussed with the administration on 6/19/08. Included was a proposal to acquire X-Fire, a completely integrated case management software system (\$25,000). This acquisition will enable the CPRB to move from inefficient paper-based record keeping to a fully electronic system.
- The lease extension for the CPRB office was discussed at Council on 6/11/08 and authorized by on 6/17/08. This extension is for an additional five years, 6/1/08 through 5/31/13. For the first 30 months, the rent will be \$11.50/sq.ft., for the last 30 months the rent will be \$12.00/sq.ft.
- A follow-up meeting to the 5/7/08 meeting with the City Solicitor and Director of Public Safety occurred on 6/23/08. In attendance were Ms. Hinton, CPRB Chair, Mr. McGough, CPRB Solicitor, Pittinger, CPRB Exec. Director, Assistant Chief Regina MacDonald, Assist. City Solicitor Wendy

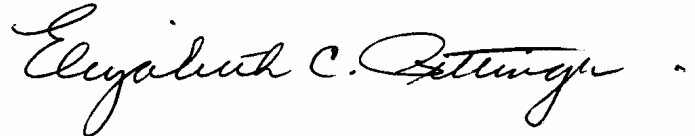
Kobe, OMI Manage Kathy Kraus, OMI Intake Coordinator Roy Dean, City Solicitor George Specter and Director of Public safety Mike Huss.

- Report deferred to Ms. Hinton and Mr. McGough.

### 3. Miscellaneous

- Pittinger will be on vacation 6/28/08 through 7/13/08. In her absence, administrative matters should be directed to Ms. Gaskin. Case related matters should be directed to the investigator or Ms. Gamble. Mayoral, Council or Media inquiries should be directed to Ms. Hinton.
- In conjunction with Mt. Oliver Community Days festival, the Hilltop Festival will be held on Saturday, 7/19/08 from 3-5 p.m. A continuation of a community conversation will occur from 3-4 p.m. The location is Transverse Field. As in the past, we will have a resource table at the event.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth C. Pittinger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.