



## CITIZEN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

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Approved  
6/22/10

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### Minutes of the CPRB Meeting Held on May 25, 2010 (Mtg. No. 126)

City Council Chambers  
510 City County Building  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Neighborhood: Citywide

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**Members Present:** Ms. Marsha V. Hinton, Chair  
Mr. Richard M. Carrington, Vice Chair  
Mr. Malik G. Bankston  
Ms. Erin Dalton  
Dr. Mary Jo Guercio

**Excused:** Ms. Deborah Walker

**Absent:** None

**Vacancies:** 1 (Mayoral Selection – LEP)

**Solicitors:** Mr. William F. Ward, Esq. & 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

**Excused:** None

**Vacancies:** Investigative Associate

### **Administrative Matters:**

- At 6:15 p.m., Ms. Hinton called the meeting to order.
- *A motion to adopt the meeting minutes for April 27, 2010 was offered by Dr. Guercio and seconded by Mr. Carrington, and approved unanimously.*

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

- Ms. Pittinger reported that Investigator Sherri Bridgett will be absent indefinitely due to unforeseen medical issues. Ms. Bridgett's cases are suspended and if necessary, Investigators Carson and Gamble will proceed with the casework.
- Ms. Pittinger mentioned John Binger's impending retirement/relocation plans and informed the board of City Council's preparation to recognize his accomplishments before his departure from Pittsburgh.
- On 4/28/10, Ms. Pittinger attended a debate hosted by the University of Pittsburgh in partnership with Urban Youth Actions, Inc. The debate was entitled, Pittsburgh Public/Community Debate on Police Accountability, and was argued by experienced debaters and high school students.
- On 4/29/10, Ms. Pittinger met with City Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak. The general purpose of the meeting was to discuss the role of the CPRB and to offer support for her district.

- Ms. Pittinger informed the Board of the status of CPRB Case #10-21(Jordan Miles). The CPRB investigation is pending the outcome of criminal proceedings from the District Attorney's office, as is directed by the Pittsburgh City Code Section §662.05(g) Powers, Duties and Limitations of Board.
- On 5/13/10, Ms. Pittinger traveled to Washington, PA where their police department, NAACP branch and police oversight community wished to hear advice on how to form a model similar to CPRB
- On 5/14/10, in excess of 1250 pages of documents related to the G-20 subpoena were delivered to Ward McGough by Atty. Paul Krepps on behalf of Chief Harper/City of Pittsburgh. The documents represented some of the material ordered to be released in the March 18, 2010 Court Order issued by Judge Wettick. The material is under review.
- On 5/22/10, Ms. Pittinger was a guest speaker for Deborah Walker's Community Policing class at Point Park University.
- On 5/23/10, Ms. Pittinger attended a community meeting at the Unitarian Church, Shadyside. The group was seeking additional information about the CPRB and considering ways to demonstrate their support of the CPRB.
- A March for Justice for Jordan Miles, sponsored by the Alliance for Police Accountability, will be held on 6/12/10 at Freedom Corner in the Hill District. The group is calling for criminal prosecution of the three police officers involved in the arrest and alleged beating of Jordan Miles.

### **Case Review**

Ms. Hinton moved to the case review agenda (copy attached). 12 cases were reviewed. Copies of the agenda were made 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. Mr. Harry Liller and Mr. Mark Ozark offered comment before the Board.

### **Next Meeting:**

Ms. Hinton announced that the next regular board meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 22, 2010 at Freedom Unlimited, Inc., 2201 Wylie Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Gaskin  
Executive Assistant

Attachment (1):

1. Case Review Agenda/Board Actions

**CPRB CASE REVIEW AGENDA**

<b>CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR</b>	<b>ALLEGATION(S)</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>RATIONALE</b>
<b>PUBLIC HEARING (0)</b>				
<b>FULL INVESTIGATION (6)</b>				
10-42/CARSON	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-6, 3.7) Neglect of Duty (PBP 16-1, 3.13)	Cx. alleges the S.O. did not take a report after he was assaulted.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence suggests more investigation is needed.
10-69/CARSON	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-1, 3.7)	Cx. alleges the S.O. yelled at him for not walking on the sidewalk.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence suggests more investigation is needed.
10-103/CARSON	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-6, 3.6)	Cx. alleges the S.O. cited her for not having insurance or having her vehicle registered after a car accident.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence suggests more investigation is needed.
10-104/GAMBLE	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-6, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-6, 3.7) Self –Assigned Investigations (PBP 16-1, 3.46)	Cx. alleges the S.O. issued him a citation while off duty because of road rage.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence suggests more investigation is needed.
10-107/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 are harassing him for no reason.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence suggests more investigation is needed.

<b>CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR</b>	<b>ALLEGATION(S)</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>RATIONALE</b>
10-120/CARSON	Obedience to Laws &/or Orders (PBP 16-1, 3.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-6, 3.6) Truthfulness (PBP 16-1, 3.19)	Cx. alleges he was falsely arrest and did not receive a fair trial.	AUTHORIZED FULL INVESTIGATION	Preliminary evidence suggests more investigation is needed.
<b>30 DAY EXTENSION OF FULL INVESTIGATION (2)</b>				
10-85/GAMBLE	Use of Force (PBP 12-6, 3.1) Obedience to Laws &/or Orders (PBP 16-1, 3.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-6, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-6, 3.7)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s racially profiled him.	AUTHORIZED 30 DAY EXTENSION	More Investigation is needed.
10-119/CARSON	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-1, 3.7)	Cx. alleges that the S.O. spoke and acted inappropriately.	AUTHORIZED 30 DAY EXTENSION	Cx. needs to be interviewed.
<b>DISMISSAL (3)</b>				
<b>UNSUSTAINABLE (2)</b>				
10-36/GAMBLE	Use of Force (PBP 12-6, 3.1) Taser (PBP 12-13, 5.3) Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-1, 3.7)	Cx. alleges that the S.O. used excessive force during his arrest.	AUTHORIZED PUBLIC HEARING	Unable to confirm Cx.'s allegations; Level of Force used was appropriate.
10-58/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 excessive force against him.	DISMISSED AS UNSUSTAINABLE	Unable to confirm Cx.'s allegations. Cx. has not provided witness information.

<b>UNFOUNDED (1)</b>				
10-97/GAMBLE	Obedience to Laws &/or Orders (PBP 16-1, 3.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Neglect of Duty (PBP 16-1, 3.13) Warrantless Searches & Seizures (PBP 45-2)	Cx. alleges the S.O.'s are not taking her various complaints.	DISMISSED AS UNFOUNDED	S.O. followed PBP procedures appropriately throughout the Cx.'s investigation.
<b>LACK OF COOPERATION/COMPLAINANT (0)</b>				
<b>OTHER (1)</b>				
10-38-P/BRIDGETT	Conduct Unbecoming a Member (PBP 16-1, 3.6) Conduct Toward the Public (PBP 16-1, 3.7)	Cx. alleges that the S.O.'s approached him in an intimidating manner.	AUTHORIZED SUSPENSION	Additional Research time is required: Investigator is awaiting info from PBP.