



FINAL
5/26/20

INDEPENDENT CITIZEN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

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Minutes of the Regular CPRB Meeting Held on April 28, 2020 (Mtg. No. 222)

Online Zoom Webinar # 916 7093 0738

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Neighborhood: Citywide

Video of the meeting <https://cprbpg.org/2650>

<p>Members Present:</p> <p>Dr. Emma Lucas-Darby Mr. Thomas C. Waters Vice Chair Ms. Karen McLellan Mr. Sheldon Williams Mr. Elwin Green Sr. Patrice Hughes</p> <p>Solicitor: Atty. William F. Ward</p> <p>Staff Present:</p> <p>Ms. Elizabeth C. Pittinger, Exec. Director Ms. Stephanie Dorman, Asst. Exec. Director Ms. Michelle Gamble, Lead Investigator Ms. Sherri Bridgett, Investigator Mr. David Ellwood, Investigator</p>	<p>Excused:</p> <p>Dr. Emma Lucas-Darby Dr. Mary Jo Guercio</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>Vacancy: None</p> <p>Excused staff: None</p>
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Mr. Waters, Vice Chair, called the online Zoom meeting to order at approximately 6:07 p.m.

Mr. Waters recognized the members present and the excused members, Dr. Darby and Dr. Guercio.

Mr. Waters called for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting conducted on April 28, 2020. A motion to approve the 04/28/20 meeting minutes was offered by Ms. McLellan, seconded by Mr. Williams and approved unanimously.

The entire meeting may be viewed here: [Independent CPRB Meeting 04/28/2020](https://cprbpg.org/2650)

Opening remarks by Vice Chair:

Mr. Waters thanked the residents of Pittsburgh who continue to keep the CPRB informed of any misconduct of the Pittsburgh Police. He also thanked the police officers and all of public safety branches that have kept the residents of Pittsburgh safe during the Corona Virus outbreak.

Executive Director's Report:

Members received notice of Statement of Financial Interest (Sofi). The statements are usually due on May 1st but because of the Coronavirus the accurately completed disclosures will be accepted through due July 15th with no enforcement action. There are two options for filing the statement:

- **Option #1:** Go to the Ethics Commission online filing site: [Ethics SoFI Online Filing](#)
- **Option #2:** Print the form, fill it out, scan it back for email or mail USPS to the office, 816 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15219. Upon receipt we will file with the City for you.

Mr. Green informed that he did file his SoFi statement online with the state and wanted to know if there was anything else he would need to do. Mr. Pittinger explained that once you receive the return email from the state the email attachment needs to be forward on to the City Clerk's office at SOFI@pittsburghpa.gov.

Mr. Waters reported there was no unfinished business and no new business to discuss.

Case Review:

- Mr. Waters moved to the Case Review Agenda (copy attached). Each group of recommendations was voted upon as recorded on the attached Case Review Actions.

Public Comment:

Mr. Waters invited public comment and asked commenters to limit remarks to 3-minutes. A question was asked. "Have there been any public statements or discussions on changes to police policy related to arrest and police bookings in the time of Covid-19." Ms. Pittinger explained there are precautions in place and officers, while expected to wear masks and maintain distance, retain the discretion necessary to protect personal safety. We are not aware of any changes to enforcement policy

Next Meeting

- Mr. Waters announced the time and location of the next Board meeting is scheduled to be Tuesday, 5/26/2020, 6:00 p.m. at the City County Building, 5th Floor, 414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh PA 15219. (Dependent upon COVID-19 precautions, the meeting may be conducted online through Zoom)

Mr. Waters called for a motion to adjourn, Sr. Patrice moved and Mr. Green seconded and the motion to adjourn was adopted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephanie M. Dorman
Assistant Executive Director

Attachments (1):

4/28/20 Case Review Agenda

epc

CPRB CASE REVIEW AGENDA FINAL

CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION	RATIONALE
PUBLIC HEARING (0)				
FULL INVESTIGATION (1)				
62-20 Bridgett	Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards the Public 16-1 (3.7) Lost Stolen Abandoned Property 37-1 (9.0) Warrantless Search & Seizures 45-2 (5.1)	The Cx alleges the SO removed the Cx's weapons and bullet proof vest without being charged with a crime and will not return the items.	Authorized full investigation 5-0	Preliminary evidence provides cause to advance the investigation.
30 DAY EXTENSION OF FULL INVESTIGATION (0)				
UNSUSTAINABLE (2)				
242-19 Bridgett	Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.6) Neglect of Duty 16-1 (3.13)	The Cx alleges the SOs did not file charges against his neighbor who was harassing him	Dismissed as unsustainable 5-0	The available evidence does not support the allegations.
238-19 Ellwood	Use of Force 12-2 (3.2) Level 5 Deadly Force 12-8 (3.1.5.1)	Cx states that SO used excessive force when handcuffing the Cx causing severe injury to his shoulder.	Dismissed as unsustainable 5-0	The available evidence does not support the allegations.
UNFOUNDED (1)				
49-20 Ellwood	Unbiased Policing 11-3 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.1.6	Cx alleges that SO was biased in the choice not to arrest or otherwise act to stop W#1 from feeding a feral cat colony in Cx neighborhood	Dismissed as unfounded 5-0	The available evidence does not support the allegations.

CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION	RATIONALE
NEW SUSPENSIONS (3)				
05-20 Bridgett	Unbiased Policing 11-3 (4.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards the Public 16-1 (3.7) Truthfulness 16-1 (3.9) Motor Vehicle Stops 40-4 Warrantless Search & Seizures 45-2 (5.1) False Report 62-1 (2.10)	The Cx alleges the SOs pulled him over under false pretenses.	Authorized suspension until May 2020 meeting 5-0	Waiting on SO statements
243-19 Bridgett	Use of Force 12-6 (3.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Toward the Public 16-1 (3.7)	The Cx alleges that she witnessed the SO use excessive force on an unresponsive male.	Authorized suspension until May 2020 meeting 5-0	Waiting to view the body cam
233-19 Bridgett	Unbiased Policing 11-3 (4.1) Use of Force 12-6 (3.1) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Toward the Public 16-1 (3.7) Warrantless Searches & Seizures 45-2 (5.1)	The Cx alleges the SOs used excessive force and were unprofessional when they detained him and W#1 as possible robbery suspects.	Authorized suspension until May 2020 meeting 5-0	Waiting to view the body cam

Suspensions below.

The following cases remain in suspension with no updates (no summaries provided):

CONTINUED SUSPENSIONS UPDATES (10)			
SUMMARIES PROVIDED UPON REQUEST			
CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	REASON FOR CONTINUED INVESTIGATION	POSSIBLE CLOSING DATE
16-19 Bridgett	Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1 (3.6) Neglect of duty 16-1(3.13)	Witness 1 has not been apprehended and the CX is still out of the country.	TBD
29-19 Bridgett	Obedience to orders/ laws 16-1 (3.1) Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1 (3.6) Insubordination, 16-1 (3.9) Truthfulness 16-1 (3.19) False report 62-1 (2.10)	SO is on workman's compensation	TBD
038-19 Bridgett	Use of force, 12-6, 3.1 Conduct Unbecoming A Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards The Public 16-1 (3.7) Truthfulness 16-1 (3.19)	Waiting on SO statements	TBD
058-19 Bridgett	Conduct Unbecoming A Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards The Public 16-1 (3.7)	Waiting on SO statements.	TBD
094-19 Bridgett	Conduct Unbecoming A Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards The Public 16-1 (3.7)	Waiting on SO statements.	TBD
095-19 Bridgett	Conduct Unbecoming A Member 16-1 (3.6) Incompetency 16-1 (3.12) Neglect Of Duty 16-1 (3.9)	Waiting on SO statements.	TBD

CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	REASON FOR CONTINUED INVESTIGATION	POSSIBLE CLOSING DATE
146-19 Bridgett	Conduct Unbecoming A Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards The Public 16-1 (3.7)	Waiting on SO statements.	TBD
142-18 Bridgett	Unbiased policing 11-3 (4.1) Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1 (3.6) Truthfulness 16-1 (3.19) false report 62-1 (2.10)	Waiting for Cx's Criminal Trial that is scheduled for 6/29/20.	TBD
221-18 Bridgett	Use of force, 12-6, 3.1 Taser, 12-13, 5.3 Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1, 3 Truthfulness, 16-1 (3.19) False report 62-1 (2.10)	Currently reviewing the court transcripts.	TBD
208-18 Gamble	Use of force 12-6 (3.1) Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct towards the public 16-1 (3.7) Truthfulness 16-1 (3.19) False report 62-10 (2.10)	Waiting for another version of video to be sent from Cx	TBD
248-17-ED Gamble	Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct towards the public 16-1 (3.7) Use of force 12-6 (3.1)	Waiting for Victim's Response & Formal Statement	TBD
87-18-ED Gamble	Use of Force 12-6 Discharge of firearms 12-7 Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1 (3.6) Truthfulness 16-1(3.19) Records/Reports/Files 62-1	Waiting for witnesses to cooperate.	TBD