



INDEPENDENT CITIZEN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

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Draft for
7/23/2024
Review

NOTES of the CPRB Meeting Held on June 25, 2024 (Mtg. No. 265)

Online Zoom Webinar # 854 0367 9472

Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Neighborhood: Citywide

Video of the meeting: <https://cprbpg.org/719373>

<p>Members Present:</p> <p>Mr. Raymond Robinson, Vice Chair Mr. Daylon Davis Mr. Gregory Kottler Ms. Terri Shields</p> <p>Solicitor: Atty. Alec B. Wright *Law Enforcement Professional</p> <p>Staff Present:</p> <p>Ms. Elizabeth C. Pittinger, Exec. Director Ms. Stephanie Hampton, Asst. Exec. Director Ms. Michelle Kirchner, Lead Investigator Ms. Sherri Bridgett, Community Liaison Ms. Da'Mesha Carpenter, Admin. Assistant Ms. Nicole Edwards, Investigator Mr. David Ellwood, Investigator Ms. Tiffani Hunt, Investigator</p>	<p>Excused Members:</p> <p>Dr. Mary Jo Guercio, Chair Mr. Sheldon Williams*</p> <p>Absent:</p> <p>Vacancy: Seat #2 – LEP – Council Designate*</p> <p>Excused staff: All present.</p>
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The entire meeting may be viewed here: [Independent Citizen Police Review Board Meeting 6/25/24](#)

Mr. Raymond Robinson, Vice Chair, called the online Zoom meeting to order at approximately 6:06 p.m.

Dr. Guercio and Mr. Williams were excused for medical reasons.

A motion to approve the 05/28/24 Board meeting minutes was offered by Mr. Kottler and approved unanimously.

Opening remarks by the Chair:

No opening remarks

Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Elizabeth Pittinger, Executive Director, informed the Board the intake is 107 complaints this year. Zone 2 produced the most complaints, 23. Zone 3 and Zone 1 each produced 19 complaints. Zone 5 produced 15 complaints, Zone 4 produced 11 complaints, and Zone 6 produced 8 complaints as of June 24th, 2024.

Ms. Pittinger introduced the Board's new solicitor, Mr. Alec Wright. Mr. Wright stated that he would be happy to answer any questions and was honored to be offered the position of solicitor to the Board. He noted that he requested and received ethics opinions, both professionally and governmentally, to ensure there would be no conflict between his private practice as an attorney and serving as solicitor for the Board. After much discussion with the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACAB) and The City of Pittsburgh Ethics Hearing Board, Mr. Wright is confident there will be no conflict. If such a dispute arises, he will take the necessary steps to resolve the issue.

Ms. Pittinger asked if the Board would agree on a date for the previously discussed Board Development Training Session. The Board collectively agreed to Thursday, July 18th, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

The entire meeting may be viewed here: [Independent CPRB Board Meeting 6/25/2024](#)

Case Review:

Mr. Kottler had a question regarding case #058-24; he stated that no video footage was found, but the police activated the lights on their car; how come that footage has not been shown? Investigator Ellwood noted that he was still in the process of requesting documents from the Bureau and that he could get more information once the case went to a full investigation.

Mr. Davis had a question regarding case #014-24 ED and 012-24 being authorized as a suspension rather than a 30-day extension. Mrs. Hampton, Assistant Executive Director, let him know that these cases had already been through a 30-day extension and that additional time would be needed to gather evidence/ information. Ms. Pittinger further explained why these cases go to Suspension.

Mr. Kottler had a question regarding case #012-24 and wanted to know what was preventing this case from moving forward. Investigator Edwards stated that she is waiting for additional information from the Bureau. Ms Pittinger further explained that investigator Edwards was waiting to find out if a report had been filed for this particular incident. As this information could fall under CHRIA, receiving updates could take a little longer.

Mr. Robinson wanted clarification regarding what exactly happens with the Suspended cases while Investigators wait for the additional information. Ms. Pittinger stated that these cases stay in Suspension until the necessary tasks are completed or evidence is gathered for the investigator to bring it back to the Board for a disposition.

Mr. Robinson also asked whether the staff stays in communication with the complainants. Ms. Pittinger stated that staff does keep in contact with the complainants so they are aware that their case is still being looked at and that the staff is still willing to help in any way they can. Ms. Pittinger also applauded the Office of

Community Health and Safety for being a supportive resource for some complainants who may not have been able to receive help from the Board but could benefit from the help of OCHS and their resources.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was presented.

New Business:

No new business was introduced.

Old Business

Board Development Meeting scheduled for Thursday July 18, 2024.

Next Meeting:

Mr. Robinson announced the date and time of the next Board meeting: Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. The meeting link will be posted on the cprbpg.org website and FaceBook page.

Public Comment:

Mr. and Mrs. Ozark said hello and welcomed Mr. Wright to the Board. They stated they will not be in attendance for next month's meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Mr. Kottler, and seconded by Mr. Davis and approved unanimously.

Mr. Robinson adjourned the meeting at approximately 6: 47 p.m.

The entire meeting may be viewed here: [Independent CPRB Board Meeting 06/25/2024](#)

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephanie M. Dorman

Assistant Executive Director

Attachments (1): 06/25/2024 Draft Case Review Agenda

Action Date: 06/25/2024
(16 Cases)

CPRB CASE REVIEW AGENDA 06/25/2024

CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION	RATIONALE
PUBLIC HEARING (0)				
FULL INVESTIGATION (7)				
067-24 Edwards	Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards the Public 16-1 (3.7.1-3.7.4)	The Cx alleged that the SO was rude, discourteous, and intimidating towards her when she parked in a No Parking 10-minute loading zone outside of the City-County Building (CCB).	Authorized Full Investigation 4-0	Preliminary Inquiry (PI) supports the cause of investigating if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
058-24 Ellwood	16-01.3.06 Conduct Unbecoming a Member or Employee 16-01.3.07 Conduct Toward the Public	The Cx alleges that the SOs harassed and attempted to intimidate him because of a prior civil case he filed against them.	Authorized Full Investigation 4-0	Preliminary Inquiry (PI) supports the cause of investigating if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
056-24 Edwards	16-01 (3.7) conduct toward the public)	The Cx alleged that the SO was rude and unprofessional when he made her leave the building due to security complaints.	Authorized Full Investigation 4-0	Preliminary Inquiry (PI) supports the cause of investigating if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
035-24 Hunt	11-03 Unbiased Policing 16-1 (3.06) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.07) Conduct toward the Public	The Cx alleged that he received a citation for a vehicle accident due to his attitude toward the SOs during the incident.	Authorized Full Investigation 4-0	Preliminary Inquiry (PI) supports the cause of investigating if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
032-24 Edwards	Unbiased Policing 11-3 (3.1-3.2) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Towards the Public 16-1 (3.7.1-3.7.4)	Cx alleged that SO#1 made inappropriate remarks about her and also failed to file charges against the people that she called 911 to report.	Authorized Full Investigation 4-0	Preliminary Inquiry (PI) supports the cause of investigating if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
031-24 Edwards	16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.7) Conduct Towards the Public 53-01 (6.0) Court Appearances – General Regulations	The Cx alleged that SO#1 neglected his duties when he did not inform him of a criminal hearing date in which he was the victim.	Authorized Full Investigation 4-0	Preliminary Inquiry (PI) supports the cause of investigating if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
020-24 Ellwood	12-06.5.5.1 Use of Force 16-1.3.06 Conduct Unbecoming a Member or Employee 44-1.4.0 Physical Arrests	The Cx alleges that the SO illegally stopped him and took him into custody without probable cause.	Authorized Full Investigation 4-0	Preliminary Inquiry (PI) supports the cause of investigating if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.

CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION	RATIONALE
30-DAY EXTENSION OF FULL INVESTIGATION (2)				
029-24 Hunt	16-1 (3.06) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.07) Conduct Towards the Public 40.0- 04 Motor Vehicle Stops	The Cx alleged that he was surrounded by unknown SOs who pointed their weapons at him, shouted profanities, and threatened to shoot him.	Authorized 30-day Investigation 4-0	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
017-24ED Edwards	16-01 (3.6.3) Standards of Conduct – Conduct Unbecoming A Member or Employee 16-01 (3.7) Conduct Towards the Public	The Executive Director has opened an inquiry into an incident on the West End Bridge on 01/27/2024.	Authorized 30-day Investigation 4-0	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
UNFOUNDED (3)				
028-24 Edwards	16-1 (3.06) conduct unbecoming a member 16-1 (3.07) conduct toward the public	The Cx alleged that the SO used excessive force and stole her documents because she was knocking on the door at the wrong residence early in the morning.	Authorized dismiss as unfounded 4-0	There was insufficient information to prove or disprove the Cx's allegations, and the Cx was referred to the Office of Community Health & Safety (OCHS).
001-23 ED Ellwood	12-06 Use of Force 12-07 Discharge of Firearms and Less Lethal Weapons 12-08 Matrix of Control	An Executive Director Inquiry was opened into an incident that occurred on 01/01/2023 when V#1 was shot and killed by PBP.	Authorized dismiss as unfounded 4-0	There was insufficient information to prove or disprove the Cx's allegations.
035-22 Hunt	16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming A Member 16-1 (3.7) Conduct Toward The Public 16-1 (3.9) Truthfulness 44-1 Arrests 45-2 (5.1) Warrantless Searches & Seizures	The Cx alleged that he was pulled over by the SOs at gunpoint, handcuffed, and was not read his Miranda Rights.	Dismissed as Unfounded 4-0	There is no evidence that proves the SOs violated PBP policy and procedures when they acted on warrants to search his residence and vehicle before obtaining a search warrant.
UNSUSTAINABLE (0)				
OTHER (2)				
027-24 Hunt	11.3 (3.0) Un-biased Policing 12-6 Use of Force 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.7) Conduct Toward the Public 43-10 (10.3) Juvenile Policies and Procedures	An Executive Director inquiry (EDI) has been opened based on a WPXI News release that shows excessive force used on a handcuffed juvenile who was shoved against a wall by the SO while in custody.	Dismissed as Resolved 4-0	The FOP Union representative confirmed that the SO was disciplined for the incident, and it was not appealed to arbitration and is, therefore, final.
CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	SUMMARY	RECOMMENDATION	RATIONALE
016-24 Ellwood	11-3, (4.1.3) Unbiased Policing	The Cx alleged that the SO racially profiled him when he saw him in a luxury	Dismissed as Out of Jurisdiction	The City of Pittsburgh Human Resources

	16-01, (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-01, (3.7) Conduct Toward the Public 40-4, (3.2) Stopping Traffic Violators	vehicle and then targeted him while he was a passenger in W#3's vehicle.	4-0	confirmed that the SO resigned.
SUSPENDED (2)				
014-24 ED Elwood	12-06 Use of Force 12-07 Discharge of Firearms and Less Lethal Weapons 12-08 Matrix of Control	The Executive Director has opened an inquiry into the shooting of a male Victim on the 1900 block of Huron St. in the Southside Slopes neighborhood of Pittsburgh.	Authorized suspension until July 2024 4-0	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.
012-24 Edwards	16-01 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming A Member 16-01 (3.13) Neglect of Duty 40-19 (5.0) Reports	The Complainant (Cx) alleges that the Subject Officers (SOs) neglected their duty to file a report on her behalf after she had an altercation with W#1, and he injured her foot.	Authorized suspension until July 2024 4-0	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.

CONTINUED SUSPENSIONS (11) SUMMARIES PROVIDED UPON REQUEST OF MEMBERS			
CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	REASON FOR CONTINUED INVESTIGATION	POSSIBLE CLOSING DATE

193-23 Edwards	12-6 Use of Force 16-01 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.	TBD
162-23 ED Ellwood	12-06 Use of Force 12-08 Matrix of Control 16-01.3.06 Conduct Unbecoming 16-01.3.07 Conduct Toward the Public 44-01 Arrests	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.	TBD
136-23 Ellwood	16-01.3.6 Conduct Unbecoming 16-01.3.13 Neglect of Duty 41-03.3.3.6 Crash Response Reporting 69-03.8 Body Worn Camera and Digital Evidence Storage Systems	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.	TBD
083-23 Bridgett	16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.7) Conduct Toward the Public	More time is needed to speak with W#1 and obtain CAD and Duty Activity Log.	TBD
049-23 Ellwood	16-01.3.6 Conduct Unbecoming 16-01.3.7 Conduct Toward the Public 16-01.3.19 Truthfulness 40-19.3.10.3 Correction of Reports 46-01.7.0 Interrogations 46-01.8.0 Administering Miranda 69-03.8.0 Body Worn Camera Recordings	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.	TBD
010-23 Hunt	11-3 Unbiased Policing 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1(3.7) Conduct Towards the Public 16-1(3.13.1) Neglect of Duty 40-19 Reports 69-03 (8.1.2) Body Worn Camera	More time is needed to determine if the SO violated PBP policies and procedures when he neglected his duty to take a report for a traffic accident.	TBD
CPRB CASE NO. INVESTIGATOR	ALLEGATION(S)	REASON FOR CONTINUED INVESTIGATION	POSSIBLE CLOSING DATE

181-22 Bridgett	16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.7) Conduct Toward The Public 16-1 (3.13) Neglect of Duty PBP 41-03 Crash Response.	More time is needed to review BWC.	TBD
099-22 Hunt	11.3 (3.0) Un-biased Policing 12-6 Use of Force 16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.7) Conduct Toward The Public	More time is needed to determine if SOs violated PBP Policy and Procedures.	TBD
020-22 Hunt	16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member or Employee 16-1 (3.7) Conduct Toward the Public 16-1 (3.13) Neglect of Duty 16-1 (3.19.1) Truthfulness 53-01, Court Appearances	The Cx, the victim of a home invasion, alleges that SO#1 was rude and discourteous towards her when she questioned why W#1 did not appear in court that day.	TBD
177-21 Hunt	16-1 (3.6) Conduct Unbecoming a Member 16-1 (3.13) Neglect of Duty 45-2 Warrantless Searches & Seizures 54-01 Traffic Citation	More time is needed to obtain BWC footage, SO statements, affidavits of probable cause, receipts for vehicle repairs, and identify the witnesses.	TBD
87-18-ED Gamble	12-6 Use of Force 12-7 Discharge of firearms 16-1 (3.6) Conduct unbecoming a member 16-1, (3.19) Truthfulness 62-1 Records/Reports/Files	Waiting for witnesses to cooperate.	TBD