

7/25/2013

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DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2013 3:00 PM

DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS

1301 THIRD AVENUE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

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COMMISSIONERS:

- GEORGE ANTHONY, Secretary
- JESSICA TAYLOR, Chairperson
- DONNELL R. WHITE, Vice-Chairperson
- JEROME L. WARFIELD, Commissioner

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF:

- CHIEF OF POLICE JAMES CRAIG
- DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE JAMES W. TOLBERT

1 Detroit, Michigan  
2 Thursday, June 25, 2013  
3 About 3:21 p.m.

4 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good afternoon,  
5 welcome to the Board of Police Commissioners  
6 meeting. I'm Jessica Taylor and joining me is  
7 Vice-Chair Commissioner Donnell White.  
8 Commission Warfield is on his way.

9 And joining us for the Chief is DC  
10 Tolbert.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: Good afternoon,  
12 ma'am.

13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: And George, I'm  
14 going to ask George Anthony now if he would  
15 introduce the staff.

16 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Thank you, Madam  
17 Chair. For the record, George Anthony, Secretary  
18 to the Board.

19 We have present Ms. Celia Banks  
20 Washington who is our attorney to the Board,  
21 Ms. Pamela Davis-Drake who is our Chief  
22 Investigator, Officer Kent Cooper who's helping  
23 to record the proceedings, Sgt. Alan Quinn and  
24 Mr. Dale Rose from Hanson Court Reporting Service  
25 and that completes the introduction, ma'am.

1 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I'm going to ask  
2 Commissioner White if he could please lead us in  
3 prayer.

4 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Let us pause.  
5 (INVOCATION WAS GIVEN).

6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Mr. Secretary, do  
7 you have a report?

8 SECRETARY ANTHONY: I do not, ma'am  
9 but I believe there is a report from OCI.

10 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Okay, are you  
11 ready?

12 MS. DAVIS-DRAKE: Thank you, Madam  
13 Chair. Pamela Davis-Drake for the record, Chief  
14 Investigator. Currently the Office of the Chief  
15 Investigator, we have 307 open cases. There were  
16 22 cases that were closed, zero cases overdue.

17 Additionally, madam, just to let the  
18 Board know that we are currently diligently  
19 working on making sure that we are adhering to  
20 all suggestions from the monitor, keeping on  
21 track with the cases, making sure that the  
22 reports are reviewed thoroughly.

23 One trend that we've noticed and I  
24 believe I've expressed that to the Board before  
25 is that we do have an increase in the number of

1 cases over the summer months. That is a trend  
2 that has been historical and that concludes my  
3 report. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Any questions?

5 COMMISSIONER WHITE: No questions.

6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you.

7 MS. DAVIS-DRAKE: Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: We don't have a  
9 quorum, so we can't do the motion. Okay, our  
10 next meeting is Thursday --

11 SECRETARY ANTHONY: We do have a  
12 presentation from the Chief's Office.

13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Oh, okay, I'm  
14 sorry.

15 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: Yes, ma'am,  
16 Madam Chair. Today we have a presentation from  
17 the Domestic Violence who is going to talk to us.  
18 We will have the Special Victims Unit,  
19 Lt. Monique Patterson along with Officer Kim  
20 Gaddies and I'll ask Lt. Patterson to give us a  
21 brief overview before she goes into her  
22 presentation which will be handled by Officer  
23 Gaddes. Lieutenant?

24 LT. PATTERSON: I'm Lt. Monique  
25 Patterson. I've been the commanding officer of

1 Domestic Violence since February, 2011. We've  
2 moved into the building yesterday, so we're  
3 joining staff at headquarters and Kim, Officer  
4 Geddies?

5 OFFICER GEDDIES: Good evening, I'm  
6 Officer Geddes from the Domestic Violence Unit.  
7 I'm going to be doing the presentation for you  
8 today.

9 The objectives and goals of the  
10 Domestic Violence Unit is to provide equal  
11 protection under the law, provide resources and  
12 referral information to the victims and maintain  
13 and improve partnerships with other agencies such  
14 as the prosecutor, social workers.

15 To educate the public and police on  
16 laws, procedures and policies for processing  
17 domestic violence cases. The authority of  
18 Domestic Violence. Domestic Violence Unit, we  
19 handle spouse, former spouse, couple residing  
20 together, alternative lifestyle, reside together  
21 or occurred in 2nd Precinct, 4th Precinct, 6th  
22 Precinct and the 8th Precinct.

23 And that's just a continuation of what  
24 we handle. Formerly reside together, a couple  
25 with children in common, elder abuse which is 65

1 years of age or older. Dating only 2nd, 4th, 6th  
2 and 8th Precincts and malicious destruction of  
3 property where an assault occurred or during the  
4 violation of a personal protection order.

5 The partnerships and efforts, people  
6 partnered with the Domestic Violence Unit will be  
7 a STOP grant, the Victim Assistance Program,  
8 Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, PPO advocates  
9 which are housed at the 2nd and 4th Precincts,  
10 domestic violence dockets in the courts and  
11 that's going to be 36th District Court and we  
12 have a judge, Judge Ruth Carter.

13 An overview of the Domestic Violence  
14 Unit, in 2011 we handled 9,288 cases. Our total  
15 of arrests was 3,189, warrants submitted to the  
16 Wayne County Prosecutor we submitted 3,173  
17 warrants. We obtained 1,319 warrants against  
18 Defendants and we were denied 1,854 warrants.

19 In 2012 we were assigned 8,021 cases  
20 with total arrests of 2,782 and with the warrants  
21 submitted we submitted 2,857 warrants to the  
22 Wayne County Prosecutor, we obtained 1,146 and we  
23 were denied 1,723.

24 In 2013, from January to June we have  
25 so far had 3,645 cases assigned to us with the

1 total arrests of 1,200 and warrants submitted was  
2 1,207 and warrants obtained was 505, and warrants  
3 denied was 707.

4 Okay. The warrants are denied by the  
5 Prosecutor's Office because normally the  
6 complainants, they fail to appear, they fail to  
7 come before the Prosecutor and they just change  
8 their mind and don't want to prosecute any more,  
9 so they no longer go forward with it and they  
10 drop the case. That's the reason why the  
11 warrants are denied, our complainants do not want  
12 to press charges.

13 In 2011 the average caseload per  
14 investigator at Domestic Violence was 663 cases;  
15 that's per investigator. 2012, 891, and from  
16 January to June, '13 so far we only had 405  
17 assigned to each investigator.

18 The average number of warrants  
19 submitted per investigator in 2011 was 227, in  
20 201 it's 317, and from January to June, 2013,  
21 134. The average prisoners per investigator in  
22 2011 was 227 prisoners, in 2012 it was 317 and  
23 from January to June, 2013 so far we've been  
24 assigned per investigator 134 prisoners.

25 LT. PATTERSON: Thank you. Any

1 questions?

2 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Commissioner?

3 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Thank you, Madam  
4 Chair. Officer Gaddies, I believe it was the  
5 second slide, alternative lifestyle.

6 OFFICER GEDDIES: Alternative lifestyle  
7 are gay couples.

8 COMMISSIONER WHITE: So any violence  
9 involving a gay couple, are you saying that you  
10 investigate that?

11 OFFICER GEDDIES: Yes, we have, if they  
12 reside together and if they're in the 2nd, 4th,  
13 6th and 8th Precincts, they're dating, we handle  
14 dating in those precincts, the 2nd, 4th, 6th and  
15 8th.

16 So if they're just dating and they  
17 don't live together, we still would handle it,  
18 but if they were in the 9th Precinct or the 11th  
19 Precinct or the 12th Precinct we don't handle  
20 dating in those precincts, so the CIU would  
21 handle those.

22 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Is that separate  
23 from what is listed as couple residing together?

24 OFFICER GEDDIES: Yes, sir, separate.  
25 It would be the same if they were living

1 together. We still consider them as couples, so  
2 yes, alternative lifestyle couples.

3 COMMISSIONER WHITE: I'm just curious  
4 why we delineated that information and separated  
5 it out.

6 OFFICER GEDDIES: No particular reason.  
7 We still continue them as couples. We don't --  
8 if they live together, they're still a couple.  
9 We just put alternative lifestyle so that if they  
10 --

11 LT. PATTERSON: Can I clarify? Okay,  
12 initially if we would get a notification that  
13 there were two men, for instance, fighting, well  
14 we would have to know what is their connection.

15 The officers couldn't say they were  
16 married or had a child in common and you have to  
17 make that clear that they're not just roommates,  
18 you have to show that it's an intimate  
19 partnership for it to be deemed domestic violence  
20 for our unit.

21 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Okay. On Slide 5,  
22 are these numbers just for your department  
23 Domestic Violence Department or is this  
24 department-wide when we say we have these number  
25 of arrests, are these through your actual

1 department?

2 LT. PATTERSON: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Or do you more or  
4 less formalize a case and then individual  
5 precincts or districts go out and effectuate the  
6 arrests?

7 OFFICER GEDDIES: That's actually  
8 Domestic Violence numbers.

9 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Slide 6, if you  
10 see the average prisoner per investigator, what  
11 does that actually measure?

12 OFFICER GEDDIES: When a person is  
13 arrested they're assigned to an investigator at  
14 the DV Unit and that's basically how many  
15 prisoners we've handled per investigator, per  
16 officer that year, so that's basically -- that's  
17 just DV, not in the district.

18 So when a prisoner is assigned to us,  
19 that's how many we've had in those years, that  
20 year like 2007 653 -- I mean 227 prisoners per  
21 investigator at DV.

22 COMMISSIONER WHITE: So just for  
23 clarity, Officer Geddes, this is a prisoner who  
24 had an incident or is this an individual that  
25 effectuated domestic violence and is now

1 incarcerated?

2 OFFICER GEDDIES: Both, it's a prisoner  
3 that had an incident with domestic violence that  
4 they will be arrested and it would be -- they  
5 will be assigned to us, a police officer or  
6 investigator.

7 COMMISSIONER WHITE: So this isn't  
8 someone who is incarcerated, was assaulted and  
9 then we have -- that's assigned to an  
10 investigator?

11 OFFICER GEDDIES: No.

12 COMMISSIONER WHITE: This is somebody  
13 who was a part of domestic violence and then  
14 became incarcerated?

15 OFFICER GEDDIES: Correct.

16 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Okay. And last  
17 question, how many people are in the department?

18 OFFICER GEDDES: Sixteen.

19 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Is that all  
20 investigators or how many investigators?

21 LT. PATTERSON: Myself, two sergeants,  
22 two investigators and remaining police officers.

23 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Two investigators?

24 LT. PATTERSON: All of us investigate.  
25 We have two investigators and the rest are POs,

1 we all do the same job.

2 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Thank you, Madam  
3 Chair.

4 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I just have one  
5 just out of curiosity. How many men file  
6 domestic violence cases?

7 OFFICER GEDDIES: Men are actually  
8 stepping up now and filing, you know, domestic  
9 violence cases. Normally men, it's their  
10 self-esteem, their -- you know, I'm a man, I'm  
11 not supposed to be assaulted.

12 Now they're starting to come out even  
13 more, so it's taking up more than men are now  
14 reporting domestic violence situations that are  
15 occurring to them, yeah, they're stepping up  
16 more.

17 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Okay. Do you  
18 have any more questions?

19 COMMISSIONER WHITE: No.

20 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you.

21 OFFICER GEDDES: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Anything else?

23 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: That concludes  
24 our report, ma'am.

25 (Commissioner Warfield arrives.)

1 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you. I see  
2 Commissioner Warfield is joining us.

3 We're going to go back now and approve  
4 the agenda and I'm going to ask for a motion to  
5 approve the agenda for Thursday, July 25, 2013.

6 COMMISSIONER WHITE: So moved.

7 COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Support.

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: And I ask for  
9 approval of the minutes for Tuesday July 2, 2013.  
10 I'm sorry, all those in favor?

11 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

12 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: The next one will  
13 be the approval of the minutes Thursday, July 2,  
14 2013.

15 COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: So moved.

16 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Support.

17 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: It's been moved  
18 and supported. All in favor?

19 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

20 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: All opposed?  
21 Motion carries. Move for a motion for Thursday  
22 -- the minutes for Thursday, July 11, 2013.

23 COMMISSIONER WHITE: So moved.

24 COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Support.

25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: It's been moved

1 and supported. All in favor?

2 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

3 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: All opposed?

4 Motion carries. The last will be the minutes for  
5 Thursday, July 18, 2013.

6 COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: So moved.

7 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Support.

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: It's be moved and  
9 supported. All in favor?

10 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: All opposed?

12 Motion carries. The resolution for Mr. Nick  
13 Merditaj, we're going to read that into the  
14 record.

15 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Madam Chair, that  
16 was already read into the record, so it just  
17 requires approval.

18 COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Ma'am, I move  
19 that we approve the resolution honoring Mr. Nick  
20 Merditaj as we had honored him with his wife at  
21 the last community meeting.

22 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Support.

23 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: It's been moved  
24 and supported. All in favor?

25 COMMISSIONERS: Aye. All opposed? All

1 right, so Mr. Merditaj's resolution will be added  
2 to our permanent archives.

3 The next Commissioners meeting will be  
4 Thursday, August 1, 2013, 3 o'clock Detroit  
5 Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Avenue,  
6 the Media Room and that was again August 1, 2013.

7 Now I'm going to ask for oral  
8 communications from the audience. Are there any  
9 communications?

10 MR. WELBORNE: Good afternoon to the  
11 Board. My name is Bill Welborne. I come bearing  
12 some sad news today. Ms. Bridget Vance who was  
13 the vice-president of the Community Relations at  
14 the 10th Precinct passed away yesterday.

15 A lot of people I know -- I don't know  
16 if a lot of people here know her, but she was  
17 advocate in her work as a vice-president over  
18 there. She did a lot at my meetings city-wide  
19 and at her meeting.

20 And Bridget was -- I understand she was  
21 46 years old, she died of a heart attack so I  
22 just wanted everybody to know about that. I  
23 don't have anything on the things as of right  
24 now. I'm waiting on Mr. Stokes to give us the  
25 plans for her funeral and everything else.

1 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: If you let the  
2 Board know?

3 MR. WELBORNE: Yes, ma'am, I will.

4 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 MS. SEARSEY: My name is Miriam Searsey  
6 and I am here with my neighbors. We are very  
7 concerned because we lost a member of our  
8 neighborhood on Sunday. He was actually bullied  
9 and we believe that he was bullied to death.

10 There is a faction in our neighborhood  
11 that has kept up just too much trouble. We've  
12 tried to get help time and time again from the  
13 police department and every other agency, but  
14 nothing has worked.

15 On this particular day Mr. Jimmy Lamar  
16 was going about his business. The people from  
17 the house that we're concerned about started to  
18 curse him and follow him up and down the street.  
19 The end result is that we believe that two women  
20 from that house assaulted him. He ultimately had  
21 a heart attack and died.

22 We have gone to the precinct -- we live  
23 in the 8th Precinct. We have the patrol captain  
24 here. He called ahead, we asked for an audience  
25 with the commanding officer there and were told

1 we could come ahead.

2 When we got there we were treated like  
3 dirt. They would not even acknowledge that we  
4 were there. The lieutenant at the desk would not  
5 even look up to say hello. They would not take a  
6 report. We have pieced together from Point A to  
7 Z what happened to Mr. Lamar on Sunday.

8 At this point it is recorded as natural  
9 death because the police have not investigated to  
10 see what happened, how this man was actually  
11 bullied prior to his death. We were outraged and  
12 we're here asking for help.

13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Ma'am, stay  
14 there. DC?

15 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: Thank you, Madam  
16 Chair. Ms. Searsey, first of all if you -- I  
17 apologize if you felt in any way that your  
18 concerns weren't being addressed by the officers  
19 at the precinct.

20 As you know, the Chief is committed to  
21 making sure that citizens have access to their  
22 officers.

23 MS. SEARSEY: That's what I hear,  
24 but --

25 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: We just opened

1 up the precincts from the Virtual Precincts.

2 MS. SEARSEY: We were just there on  
3 Monday and that's not what happened.

4 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: So -- and we're  
5 going to look into that. What I want you to do,  
6 I have Lt. Herbert Miles here, also I have the  
7 lieutenant/acting inspector here also who can --  
8 you can have a conversation with her.

9 MS. SEARSEY: What is her name? I'm  
10 asking that because we talked to a female  
11 lieutenant there that day and the only thing she  
12 did was justified why we could not -- I mean she  
13 talked to us as if she was doing us a favor. "We  
14 don't really have to talk to you. We're doing  
15 this as a courtesy."

16 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: It was Lt. Hall?

17 MS. SEARSEY: No, it was a female  
18 lieutenant, I'm sorry.

19 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: Lt. Hall is  
20 here. So we'll have a conversation with you,  
21 we'll get the information. We will look into  
22 this. Absolutely if you believe that -- because  
23 when you talk about an assault that could have  
24 possibly led to the heart attack, that is -- that  
25 can possibly be classified as a crime.

1 MS. SEARSEY: Absolutely and that's why  
2 we're concerned.

3 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: There needs to  
4 be an investigation. We'll look into it.  
5 Obviously between Lt. Miles and Lt. Hall we will  
6 be able to hopefully get back to you and give you  
7 some information, so why don't you have a  
8 conversation with Lt. Miles. Lt. Miles is  
9 sitting right here and we'll take care of you,  
10 okay, ma'am.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Just one minute.  
12 And DC, will you inform the Board as to how  
13 that --

14 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: Yes, ma'am. I  
15 would like -- because of the fact it was going to  
16 obviously involve talking to multiple people and  
17 an investigation I don't know if I'll be able to  
18 get back to the Board exactly next week, but we  
19 will make sure we get back to the Board with  
20 this.

21 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: And I also want  
22 you to talk to our investigator, she's sitting  
23 right there.

24 MS. SEARSEY: Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you, ma'am.

1 MR. MOORE: Through the Board, the  
2 Commissioners, through our Deputy Chief and to  
3 the families, my name is Edward Moore. I'm the  
4 former liaison of the Honorable Councilman Kwame  
5 Kenyatta.

6 Message from Mississippi, Jackson,  
7 Mississippi, said to the city of Detroit which I  
8 was there at the swearing in, I went down for the  
9 swearing in, I went down there for the ceremony.  
10 I was there for about three days.

11 The struggles continue, Detroit, the  
12 struggle continues. And that from the blessing  
13 of our Creator, our Former Councilman Kenyatta is  
14 doing well, so to the city of Detroit our  
15 struggle continues.

16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you, sir.

17 MS. HINES: Good afternoon. My name is  
18 Sandra Hines. I'm with the Detroit Coalition  
19 Against Police Brutality.

20 I'm here on an issue similar to what  
21 this lady just talked about. There is a man who  
22 lives next door to me and he's being held. I  
23 live right next door and he screams all  
24 throughout the days and nights, "Help, help."

25 You just could hear him real loud. Now

1 they've moved him somewhere where you can barely  
2 hear him, but you can still hear him screaming  
3 for help.

4 Now at one point when I first moved  
5 over there they brought him out on the porch and  
6 I actually saw him. That's the first and last  
7 time that I saw him out on the porch and he's  
8 been screaming for now -- at first I didn't know  
9 how to handle it I said because I talked to the  
10 guy next door, my neighbor, and seemed to be real  
11 nice, and I didn't know -- so I called a couple  
12 of social workers and they told me it was a  
13 police issue.

14 And I'm glad I came because this man  
15 obviously is being held and you hear him  
16 screaming all night "Help, help." When they  
17 brought him out the time they did bring him out  
18 he was in a wheelchair.

19 And so he must be incapacitated, yeah,  
20 where he can't walk or do for himself, and so I  
21 really wish somebody would come over there and go  
22 in that house and see if they can find him.

23 I'm beginning to feel bad that I waited  
24 so long to come and even bring this issue to you,  
25 but it's time now that, you know, God is looking

1 at me. Somebody got to help that man.

2 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Okay, DC Tolbert?

3 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: Yes, Ms. Hines.

4 Without giving me the address, what precinct are  
5 we talking about?

6 MS. HINES: We talking about right  
7 directly across the Cole Funeral Home. The house  
8 is right directly across from Motown Museum.

9 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: That's Central,  
10 on the Boulevard.

11 MS. HINES: And I just hate to think  
12 that man is going to die with just nobody tried  
13 to help him and he's screaming every day all day  
14 long for his life.

15 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: And before you  
16 leave let me make sure we get a chance to talk to  
17 you so we can get the address and I promise you  
18 we'll get somebody over there today.

19 MS. HINES: Oh, thank God.

20 MS. BROWN: Good afternoon, I'm Shirley  
21 Brown and I do have to leave with the group but I  
22 just wanted to say this.

23 This is my first time and I have met a  
24 few of the people, they obviously come. I think  
25 this would be the beginning of change in the city

1 because, you know, I am a person that goes by  
2 auras and I look at the Commission and I see that  
3 you do care about the citizens, and I'm very  
4 proud of that.

5 I'm originally from Ohio and I served  
6 seven years on a commission that funded the LAA  
7 program, so you know how long ago that was. But  
8 I do think this -- I don't understand why the  
9 place is not full because I hear complaints  
10 constantly about the police, about the City  
11 government and I don't think a lot of people are  
12 aware that you are the citizens' representatives  
13 and that you must advocate for them because  
14 that's what this Commission does.

15 So the Deputy Chief is here and in my  
16 book that's the one that sits next to the Chief  
17 and I know, I see him, and he seems to be  
18 intelligent and thoughtful, but I do think that  
19 somebody needs to be appointed in this new  
20 administration that has authority to go about  
21 assembling staff and volunteers to help with the  
22 community problem because it's quite serious.

23 The youth are running astray. I am  
24 from the '60s, I've been an activist all my life.  
25 I am disturbed truly, but I'm too old to start

1 again.

2 But I know that this is what this city  
3 needs is more advocates, more people who are  
4 willing to look beyond a class, an education and  
5 get to the point. We must stop this insanity and  
6 it begins with us. So I just wanted to thank you  
7 because I see that you are thoughtful, so from  
8 now on when people tell me things I'm going to  
9 say go to the Commission, tell them your problems  
10 and then let me know. So thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you. Just  
12 a minute. Commissioners, did you want to say  
13 anything?

14 COMMISSIONER WHITE: No, ma'am, other  
15 than we look forward to working with you.

16 MS. BROWN: You did not hear me say I'm  
17 going to work with anyone.

18 COMMISSIONER WHITE: In terms of you  
19 being an ambassador and referring the information  
20 to the community is a vital role to what this  
21 Commission seeks to do.

22 MS. BROWN: I just wondered, do any of  
23 you have any cards because if I could please have  
24 a card because I'm from the old school that one  
25 of the things to control our community is

1 information, so if I could get a card before I  
2 leave.

3 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Ma'am, you have  
4 to be at the mic.

5 MS. BROWN: I thought I was dismissed.  
6 I'm sorry because I don't intend to be a  
7 rabble-rouser because I'm not. I just thought I  
8 could get cards.

9 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: And you can get  
10 -- can you help?

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: You can call that  
12 number, that will give you all of our numbers.

13 MS. BROWN: Is it on the website?

14 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes, ma'am.

15 MS. BROWN: Well then that's as good as  
16 having a card then. Thank you.

17 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon to my  
18 Commissioners. Bernice Smith, political  
19 activist. To you, DC, Deputy Chief, good seeing  
20 you.

21 Where is the Chief? Does he intend on  
22 coming to any of our meetings when we're here?

23 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: I've just been  
24 informed he's on his way. He was at another  
25 meeting.

1 MS. SMITH: Well, I'll wait.

2 (Chief Craig arrives.)

3 COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Good timing,  
4 ma'am.

5 CHIEF CRAIG: How you doing?

6 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon, Chief. I  
7 just asked about you.

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Ms. Bernice,  
9 you're going to address the Chair and then we're  
10 going to get you over to the Chief.

11 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon to the  
12 Commissioners and good afternoon to the Chief.  
13 I'm Bernice Smith, political activist.

14 Chief, Number 1 --

15 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Go ahead,  
16 Ms. Bernice, it's okay, you're fine.

17 MS. SMITH: I just wanted to compliment  
18 him on what the officers did this week and how  
19 punctual and how appropriate. I thought that was  
20 just wonderful. You said four minutes that you  
21 were there and I thought that was just wonderful  
22 because you're on the job.

23 In other words, you going to earn that  
24 \$225,000 and I appreciate that very such.

25 In the meantime, I arrived -- at least

1 I left Saturday night going to Chicago. I was  
2 invited to an affair over there at a church of an  
3 old friend of mine so it was on my mind to go and  
4 see -- Chicago is my home and I just wanted to  
5 see what they were doing over there while I was  
6 there.

7 And I have to give it to Detroiters.  
8 We are bad, true enough, but they are outrageous  
9 over there. They have more killings over there  
10 -- I don't know whether you were aware of it, 70  
11 in one weekend two weeks ago. And it's  
12 ridiculous that we are not aware of how the  
13 dangers of people and what they're doing out here  
14 in the streets, so I'm glad that you're here. I  
15 think you're going to do a good job.

16 So far you got my support.

17 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you.

18 MS. SMITH: And I feel as though you  
19 are serious in what you're doing and you have an  
20 intension on helping to clean up this city, and  
21 this is what we need.

22 The politicians, they're doing their  
23 job, but in the meantime I don't want you to feel  
24 as though you have to be obligated to the  
25 politicians because that does happen with the

1 police chiefs; really it does.

2 So in the meantime, like I told you the  
3 other week, be careful of Brown because I know he  
4 got a position now so he will try and dominate  
5 the police department along with other  
6 departments. See, I know him way back, so in  
7 other words just be careful and watch your back.  
8 All right.

9 I thank you very much for listening to  
10 me.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you.

12 MS. ROMANO: Good afternoon. Madam  
13 Chairperson, last week the Chief held a ComStat  
14 meeting. Anna Romano, I'm sorry.

15 And at that meeting it was mentioned  
16 that they were in need of latex gloves and crime  
17 scene tape, so last week as you know I did  
18 present to the Board a case of gloves. Also  
19 today I brought six rolls of caution tape because  
20 I was unable to find the crime scene tape.

21 Now, there's others in the community  
22 that are willing or help out and so we're  
23 wondering, Chief, I don't know when your orders  
24 are coming in, but we have more caution tape  
25 coming in and gloves.

1 CHIEF CRAIG: Let me respond, Madam  
2 Chair.

3 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes , sir.

4 CHIEF CRAIG: First of all, let me  
5 thank you so much for taking the lead. Part of  
6 our issue inside the organization, we haven't  
7 done a real good job at paying our bills.

8 We got 365 officers that have  
9 bulletproof vests that are expired. We have  
10 funds to do some of this stuff. We just don't  
11 pay our bills in a timely way. That is changing.

12 And I appreciate you taking a lead  
13 because it is so important, so caution type and  
14 latex gloves, I wish our Homicide commander was  
15 here present to give us an update where we are  
16 with that but I do thank you.

17 But that's an internal issue that I'm  
18 addressing. That's what I call mediocrity.  
19 Those days are over. Those days are over.  
20 There's things that we need to do, we should do  
21 and can do and the officers deserve better, the  
22 community deserves better and we're going to give  
23 that to them.

24 MS. ROMANO: Thank you, Chief. If  
25 there are any other items that is needed by the

1 department that the community can help out with  
2 in the businesses, they're willing to help out.  
3 We just need to know and, like I said, if you can  
4 just let me know how much more do you need in the  
5 meantime until your order does come in we would  
6 like to supply it to the department to these  
7 officers that are out there every day.

8 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you. I'm also  
9 excited that Penske -- this certainly predates my  
10 arrival here, the fact that we have 100 new  
11 vehicles donated. I got a little criticism  
12 because some think it's inappropriate to have the  
13 vehicle logo or the manufacturer logo on the car.

14 Who cares? What I care about is that  
15 we have officers in safe vehicles not with paint  
16 peeling off. Nobody seems to have cared about  
17 that.

18 But a local businessperson says we're  
19 going to donate 100 new police cars and I thank  
20 them for that, and those cars are going to be  
21 deployed not just in the civic center as some  
22 would suggest, they're going to be deployed  
23 city-wide in many of the neighborhoods. That's  
24 my commitment. Thank you.

25 MS. ROMANO: Thank you, thank you Madam

1 Chair.

2 MS. PANNELL: Good afternoon, Board.  
3 My name is Sharon Pannell. I came to you last  
4 week questioning about the ComStat meeting and  
5 the 2nd Precinct stats because Commander Yost did  
6 not talk about them at the ComStat meeting and I  
7 wanted to know who why.

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Chief?

9 CHIEF CRAIG: I'm not certain as to  
10 why. What we do at our ComStat we -- actually  
11 our very first ComStat meeting was this past  
12 Wednesday. We're still in the infant stages and  
13 the way it's going to work is that we're going to  
14 call two precincts up and those two precincts  
15 that will be called up in a district may be based  
16 on crime trends, so let's say, for example,  
17 Eastern District is experiencing an uptick in  
18 violence. That will be the district we'll call  
19 up to find out what's going on. They may be  
20 called the very next week.

21 I think the meeting you had attended  
22 was not a ComStat, it was a management  
23 accountability meeting.

24 MS. PANNELL: You right.

25 CHIEF CRAIG: So they don't talk about

1 crime at that meeting. That's a meeting to talk  
2 about Consent Decree Judgment compliance,  
3 although moving forward one of the things I'm  
4 looking to do is combine our ComStat which is the  
5 crime accountability and fold in our Consent  
6 Judgment accountability at the same meeting  
7 whenever a district or a precinct is called up.  
8 That's why you didn't hear crime discussed at  
9 that meeting.

10 MS. PANSELL: But every precinct was  
11 called up except 2nd, 2nd was not called up at  
12 all.

13 CHIEF CRAIG: I'm not certain as if  
14 maybe she was out -- I think every precinct did  
15 come up. I think she might have been out that  
16 day. DC Tolbert?

17 DEPUTY Chief TOLBERT: Yes, sir. I do  
18 believe, as you stated, sir, all precincts were  
19 called but someone else reported out for the 2nd  
20 Precinct.

21 MS. PANSELL: All right, whatever you  
22 say, but they did not that day.

23 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Ms. Pannell --

24 SECRETARY ANTHONY: George Anthony for  
25 the record. Assistant Chief White indicated I

1 think last week that Commander Yost or Inspector  
2 Yost reported on the entire district, but she  
3 didn't separate it out, and that in future  
4 meetings she will in fact separate those things  
5 out for you.

6 MS. PANNELL: Okay, thank you because  
7 I'll be there.

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any  
9 more communications?

10 MR. TAYLOR: Hello and welcome back  
11 home to Detroit.

12 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you, sir.

13 MS. TAYLOR: I'm glad to see you here  
14 and someone is here to probably help us. I  
15 desperately need some help as a business owner in  
16 the city.

17 Oh, I'm sorry, Steven Taylor is my  
18 name. I'm a Wendy's franchise owner in the city  
19 of Detroit and I have several suburban locations.

20 And recently we've had a rash of  
21 break-ins and they're actually breaking in the  
22 safes and they have scored big time. Last night  
23 there was two Wendy's that were broke in, the one  
24 on Jefferson and Lakeside and my Wendy's at Seven  
25 Mile and the Lodge.

1                   And last Friday there was two  
2                   break-ins, my Grand River and Lahser location and  
3                   the Jefferson and Belle Isle location was broken  
4                   in where they got into the safe.

5                   The week before that they broke into my  
6                   Six Mile and Gratiot location. Now, we have the  
7                   camera footage of all of the break-ins. It's the  
8                   same crew.

9                   The problem is is they know that  
10                  Detroit Police is not coming because there was  
11                  the announcement that you guys are so busy you  
12                  can't -- because of all the false alarms they  
13                  can't come out.

14                  So it takes them from seven to 12  
15                  minutes to get in a safe. It's a certain type of  
16                  safe, it's bill validation.

17                  CHIEF CRAIG: Is it a floor safe?

18                  MR. TAYLOR: It's a floor safe and it's  
19                  the bill validation which is the safe style that  
20                  we use where we feed the money and then the  
21                  armored car comes and picks it up.

22                  They -- all they need is two crowbars  
23                  and a sledgehammer and from 7 to 12 minutes they  
24                  can get in a safe. And so they broke in one of  
25                  my stores last night. We didn't have that

1 particular type safe, so they left and they went  
2 over to the Jefferson store and they broke in  
3 there and they had that type of safe.

4 I have several of the safes that they  
5 can get into and I have a couple that they can't,  
6 but it is a problem because they've done this for  
7 the last four weeks.

8 Now last year at this time they were  
9 breaking into Burger Kings, doing exact same time  
10 because I have -- I've been in the business 18  
11 years, so I know some people at Burger King, and  
12 they were doing it there and they weren't hitting  
13 Wendy's.

14 Now Wendy's is what they're hitting and  
15 I heard they've been hitting some of the  
16 churches. I don't know that for sure because we  
17 -- what happens when your alarm goes off, the  
18 companies now, both Guardian and ADT, they have  
19 these patrol guards to come out as a courtesy for  
20 the business because the Detroit Police don't  
21 come out, so they will come out and the guard is  
22 saying that it's Wendy's this time and now -- and  
23 Church's.

24 So I'm very officer friendly. I feed  
25 every officer that comes with a badge in any of

1 my stores. I've been doing it for the last 18  
2 years. I can tell you last year I fed \$40,000  
3 worth of police meals. I want them to come in,  
4 have a seat, eat something or if you come on a  
5 fly. If you come inside, we will feed you up to  
6 \$6.50 and every day, any day. You can come every  
7 day, we're going to feed you.

8 So I'm trying to help the officers  
9 because I respect you guys and it's a tough job,  
10 but now that I need some help -- and don't get me  
11 wrong, the precincts have said okay, they're  
12 taking the reports, they came out and I've seen  
13 it so many times, they come out, they send the  
14 evidence techs. By the way, we here, oh, but we  
15 only got one and he's covering the whole Detroit  
16 area, but he comes.

17 And we've had the robberies and it  
18 satisfies my people. Now when he comes and he  
19 leaves I also know this is part of the show to  
20 help satisfy my people and I welcome that and  
21 nobody is ever going to get caught.

22 But I know for a fact -- I can show you  
23 on my phone right now -- the break-in last night  
24 at 2:57 -- I'm sorry, 3:57 this morning, they  
25 broke into one of my stores, went in the office,

1 saw it was the wrong safe and left.

2 They have caused at least \$60,000 worth  
3 of just damage breaking -- every time they break  
4 a window and you pay for a board-up that's \$900.  
5 I've installed secondary locks in the locations  
6 to try to slow them down and I just was talking  
7 today to the alarm company about putting a siren  
8 on the outside. But if I'm going to spend the  
9 money to try and slow them down, but they still  
10 know that Detroit's not coming, that's a waste  
11 the money also.

12 So I really need some help and  
13 assistance because they're going to be back next  
14 week so I don't know what can be done, but we  
15 desperately need some help.

16 Because the problem is -- another part  
17 of the problem is I don't turn it into my  
18 insurance because there's only --

19 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I'm going to stop  
20 and let the Chief answer.

21 CHIEF CRAIG: Let me ask this question  
22 of one of my staff. Do we have a policy on  
23 responding to alarms, audible alarms? We  
24 probably don't, so I guess my next question is if  
25 we don't respond to audible, if there's an alarm

1 that provides -- there's alarms where if they  
2 hear noise inside, glass breaking, those type of  
3 alarm systems make a difference.

4 DEPUTY CHIEF TOLBERT: Through Madam  
5 Chair through the Chair. What we have, sir, is a  
6 verified response system, and the verified  
7 response system says that if once an alarm is  
8 activated, the alarm company will verify that  
9 there is in fact a bona fide alarm.

10 Motion, inside motion, anything other  
11 than just the primary alarm is a verified alarm  
12 response and we do dispatch.

13 However, if there is -- some of the  
14 companies, what they do is once the alarm goes  
15 off they go and then they verify the alarm and  
16 then we respond. So in this case I don't know if  
17 you have anything inside your businesses that  
18 will now raise it to a verified response other  
19 than just the primary alarm, so what we can do is  
20 we'll have a conversation with my staff and we'll  
21 find out exactly what we can do and we'll talk  
22 with our Robbery people and we'll get somebody to  
23 look into this.

24 MR. TAYLOR: Okay, I appreciate it.

25 CHIEF CRAIG: And we did -- you may not

1 have heard the news reports today. Certainly we  
2 have changed our protocols as it relates to 9-1-1  
3 emergencies. The department was criticized for  
4 having a 15-minute response time and I thought  
5 coming in that there was some inaccuracy to that.

6 In fact, I used the illustration of  
7 Eastern District a couple of days ago where we  
8 had an 11 year old shot and in fact we had a  
9 four-minute response time which exceeds the  
10 national average.

11 So we've changed our protocols. We're  
12 going to have to educate the community on how  
13 that will work, but everything is not a Priority  
14 1 call. For example, if there was a home  
15 invasion suspects are gone, that's not going to  
16 take the same priority of a home invasion,  
17 suspects inside while you're inside or shots  
18 fired in progress.

19 Those take on a -- those are true  
20 emergencies. And Detroit Police Department will  
21 respond to those things not in 15 minutes, not in  
22 40 minutes, and they will be redeployed so to  
23 speak or re-toned as I'm calling it. If they're  
24 on a non-priority call they will be dispatched  
25 immediately to an emergency call for service.

1                   In addition to that, we redeployed  
2                   roughly -- was it 175 -- 175 officers out of  
3                   Special Operations Units inside of the precincts  
4                   and districts city-wide back into response units  
5                   because service to our community is very  
6                   important and so that's why we did that.

7                   But I do encourage you to talk to the  
8                   Deputy Chief and he can get that information for  
9                   you.

10                   MR. TAYLOR: Okay, thank you because my  
11                   last comment was I'm not turning this over to my  
12                   insurance because I can't get insurance.

13                   COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I think you can  
14                   talk.

15                   All right, are there any other  
16                   comments? Before we close this session I'm going  
17                   to ask the Chief if he has anything he wants to  
18                   say.

19                   CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you, Madam  
20                   President. I have, again, lots of excitement  
21                   about being here. There have been -- now going  
22                   into my fourth week -- been tremendous change.  
23                   There have been some staffing changes. We're  
24                   looking at some structural changes.

25                   Our consultants are on the ground this

1 week. We have another set of consultants coming  
2 in this week, so we are moving very quickly in  
3 making some structural changes.

4 As it relates to personnel, we're  
5 looking at having an eye towards saving money,  
6 becoming a more efficient organization. One of  
7 the things -- and it was raised about ComStat. I  
8 did want to say that, you know, one of the crimes  
9 I know that drives fears in this city certainly  
10 are the homicides and the non-fatal shootings,  
11 but equally as disturbing is the number of  
12 carjackings that we have in this city.

13 I mean it's -- I don't know of any  
14 other place that has the number, but not only  
15 just the carjackings where they take your car,  
16 the shootings that are associated with that.

17 So we're going to do what I'm referring  
18 to as a deep tissue look at the causal factors,  
19 who's responsible. As I pointed out, the young  
20 men who were involved in -- well, young men and  
21 young women involved in the carjackings that  
22 originated out of Number 10 where we made the  
23 arrests and we gave commendations out to, we  
24 thought initially were only five incidents that  
25 they were involved in.

1                   As it turned out, we learned it's up to  
2                   35 carjackings. They are still in custody and  
3                   that's good news. Thank you.

4                   So I will say to you more to come. I'm  
5                   very serious about violence in this city. We  
6                   will get it done, but we're going to need your  
7                   help. So there's a lot of things we're going to  
8                   be doing. We're going to revitalize the citizens  
9                   radio patrol. I met with that organization  
10                  yesterday. They're excited. We want to  
11                  re-energize our police reserves. They're  
12                  excited.

13                  So the thing that I applaud and know  
14                  about Detroit, Detroiters care, they roll their  
15                  sleeves up and get it done. This is a great  
16                  city.

17                  So as we move forward I'll continue to  
18                  keep you aware of the things that we're doing.  
19                  I'm committed to transparency, I'm committed to  
20                  working with our media. We're having bi-monthly  
21                  media availability sessions, so a lot of things  
22                  that are going on which it could be staffing  
23                  issues, terminations, there are no secrets in  
24                  Detroit Police Department.

25                  So we're going to be moving forward and

1 we recognize that we work for you and we're going  
2 to serve you. And so I appreciate it, thank you  
3 for the support.

4 (APPLAUSE.)

5 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Okay. Are there  
6 any other comments? Any other comments? Any  
7 other comments? If not, I'm going to ask to move  
8 that we adjourn.

9 COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: So moved.

10 COMMISSIONER WHITE: Support.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Meeting  
12 adjourned.

13 (Meeting concluded at 4:14 p.m.)

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