

09/13/2018

1 DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

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4 COMMUNITY MEETING

5

6 Thursday, September 13, 2018

7

8 6:30 p.m.

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10 4th Precinct

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12 Marathon Petroleum Michigan Headquarters

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14 1001 S. Oakwood, Detroit, Michigan 48271

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1 COMMISSIONERS:

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3 WILLIE E. BELL, Commissioner (Dist. 4), Chairperson

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5 DARYL D. BROWN, Commissioner (Dist. 1)

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7 JIM HOLLEY, Commissioner At-large

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9 SHIRLEY A. BURCH (Dist. 3)

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11 WILLIAM M. DAVIS (Dist. 7)

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1 Detroit, Michigan
2 Thursday, September 13, 2018
3 About 6:30 p.m.

4 CHAIRMAN BELL: Good evening. I am
5 Commissioner Willie Bell representing District 4. I
6 serve as Chair of the Board and will be conducting our
7 meeting this evening. On behalf of the board, for those
8 in attendance, than you for joining us. For people
9 viewing this meeting on your government cable channel,
10 thank you for viewing our meeting.

11 We're going to have some absentees this
12 evening. Commissioner Lisa Carter who represents this
13 district is going to be absent, Commissioner Eva Garza
14 Dewaelsche is going to be absent, and also Commissioner
15 Elizabeth Brooks is going to be excused for the meeting.

16 I want to thank Marathon Petroleum Michigan
17 Headquarters and the 4th Precinct for hosting our
18 meeting tonight. This meeting is our ninth community
19 meeting this year, and at this time I'm going to ask for
20 invocation to be by Police Chaplain Samuel Watts. On
21 that note, I do not see or I do not hear -- okay. We
22 have a good reverend coming in the room. Pause on that
23 note. I'm going to ask the Commissioners to introduce
24 themselves starting to me right, please.

25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Commissioner William

1 Davis, District 7. Hello, Everyone.

2 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Good afternoon.

3 Shirley Burch, District 3.

4 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Good afternoon. Darryl
5 Brown, District 1. Good evening, everyone.

6 CHAIRMAN BELL: And joining us.

7 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: The late Jim Holley.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: No. You're right on time
9 as commissioner Jim Holley, and he's going to lead us in
10 invocation, opening prayer, as he can only could in a
11 ministerial capacity.

12 (Invocation given)

13 CHAIRMAN BELL: Mr. Hicks, do we have a
14 quorum?

15 MR. HICKS: Mr. Chair, we do not have a
16 quorum.

17 CHAIRMAN BELL: Therefore, we will go
18 forward without the business formalities. I'm going to
19 ask Mr. Hicks to introduce the staff, please.

20 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just
21 prior to introducing the staff, I did want to note that
22 taping tonight's meeting is Sergeant Quinn, Media
23 Services performing the audiovisual work, Melinda Womack
24 is the court reporter for today, and if you turn
25 directly to my right, you have Robert Brown, who's

1 sitting at the table. If you go to the front of the
2 room, go to the second row in the front of the room, Mr.
3 Warwick who is attorney for the board. And then we have
4 Bridget Lamar who is sitting in the second row who is
5 the interim personnel director. And then we have Ms.
6 Johnson, the fiscal. And Ms. Blossom, who is, of
7 course, our media outreach. We have Ms. White who is
8 our policy person, and we typically go to Dr. Polly
9 McCallister who not only introduce herself, but also the
10 balance of the individuals who work for the Office of
11 the Chief Investigator.

12 MS. MCCALLISTER: Good afternoon, board. Or
13 should I say good evening. And welcome everybody. I'm
14 Holly McCallister, Chief Investigator and attending
15 tonight's meeting with me is Supervising Investigator
16 Cromwell, and Investigator Banks, and Investigator
17 Calloway.

18 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, Chief
19 Investigator. I'm going to introduce Deputy Chief David
20 LeValley sitting in for Chief James Craig this evening.
21 If you would introduce DPD, I would appreciate it.

22 D.C. LEVALLEY: Thank you, sir. I'm going
23 to let the DPD staff introduce themselves starting with
24 Deputy Chief Charlie Fitzgerald.

25 D.C. FITZGERALD: Deputy Chief Charles

1 Fitzgerald, western patrol.

2 COMMANDER MOUSEY: Brian Mousey, Commander
3 of 2nd Precinct.

4 COMMANDER SIMMS: Deshawn Simms, 12th
5 precinct.

6 COMMANDER WALL: Whitney Walton, 4th
7 Precinct.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. Thank you. You
9 must be a part of the 4th Precinct cheer team. I'm
10 going to ask my Vice Chair to render some remarks or
11 welcome to you representing Commissioner Carter's
12 district. Before I do that, do we have anyone from
13 Marathon Petroleum Company who wants to acknowledge
14 hosting the meeting and our appreciation. If not, the
15 commander might want to speak on their behalf.

16 COMMANDER WALTON: Rich Robell is hiding in
17 his office. But he just welcomes you all, but he didn't
18 want any recognition.

19 CHAIRMAN BELL: Okay. And we appreciate
20 them hosting. I'm pretty sure that the hospitality is
21 extraordinary, and we have had that in the past. So
22 didn't have any problem finding this place, I just got
23 tied up a little bit on Fort Street. But Mr. Robert
24 Brown made sure the east side made it here timely and
25 did not have to call for help at the gate, so I

1 appreciate Southwest Detroit welcome. That really was a
2 really nice welcome, but don't do that again. Vice
3 Chair Brown.

4 VC BROWN: I thought you did it all. On
5 behalf of our past Vice Chair, Lisa Carter, I just want
6 to welcome everyone to our monthly community meeting.
7 For the second Thursday of every month we are in the
8 district for each precinct. Each precinct has to host a
9 meeting. And I just got to let you all know, I got some
10 roots down here. The Axemen Motorcycle club is on South
11 street, 4th Precinct. But thank you all for coming out.
12 We really appreciate your support and just hope that we
13 can do everything we need to do to make sure your needs
14 are being met and served by the Detroit Police
15 Department. Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, sir. I know you
17 had some ties. One thing about Detroit Fire Department
18 they get around, and also DTE, they cover the same
19 patrol, unlike us, so we appreciate that. Where am I?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: In Southwest Detroit.

21 CHAIRMAN BELL: I feel like Steve Harvey.
22 You guys take over my show. One thing about family, we
23 can laugh together, we can cry together, and we can joke
24 together. Thank you for that candid remark. When you
25 get a certain age, you have to check making sure that

1 you're here, and I am here.

2 So I guess we did introduction somewhat. Do
3 we have any elected officials or representatives of any
4 elected officials in the house this evening? Seeing
5 none, I want to thank all of you VIPs, especially front
6 row here, for attending. This is going to be a great
7 meeting and we're going to try to make sure that we move
8 forward and not keep you too long, because I don't know
9 how you're going to act at the end.

10 I just want to say on behalf of the Board, I
11 want to express our concerns and support for fallen and
12 injured officers. Our concern for officer safety and
13 citizen protection is continuously. Our board receives
14 a weekly report from the Department listing injured
15 officers. I would ask D.C., sorry, Deputy Chief David
16 LeValley to provide us with any additional information
17 related to injured and fallen officers. I also want to
18 note that today is Deputy Chief LeValley's birthday.
19 Can we say happy birthday?

20 ATTENDEES: Happy Birthday. (Applause).

21 CHAIRMAN BELL: Outstanding. Outstanding.
22 I'm pretty sure your family have coffee -- not coffee
23 and cake, but birthday cake later on.

24 D.C. LEVALLEY: I'm sure. I hope.

25 CHAIRMAN BELL: There you go. There you go.

1 Coffee and cake. I'm thinking about retirement, but
2 that's not the case with you. So basically, happy
3 birthday again.

4 It's been stated by the Vice Chair, we meet
5 on the second Thursday at 6:30 p.m. throughout the City
6 of Detroit. Normally at 3:00 we meet at 3:00 in the
7 Public Safety Meeting on Michigan and Third, and that's
8 basically our agenda for meeting. And under the Detroit
9 City Charter Article VII Chapter 8, the Board of Police
10 are empowered to provide a civilian oversight and
11 supervised control of the Police Department. The
12 citizens are justified in asking how the civilian
13 oversight and law enforcement help you and the citizens
14 in our community. Our answer is, we protect the civil
15 rights of citizens.

16 We are the forefront, and I'm going to
17 change my script somewhat because one of things I think
18 perhaps we do not do indicate our focal point of the
19 board. And you met, I'm going to have them stand
20 shortly, the City Charter makes the board responsible
21 for investigating complaints about DPD through its Chief
22 Investigator and the Office of the Chief Investigator.
23 The OCI directs a process of receiving and investigating
24 citizen complaints that are noncriminal, noncriminal
25 against the Police Department and its personnel. OCI is

1 composed of civilian investigators with a great deal of
2 experience in administration. If you have a concern
3 regarding the performance of any Detroit Police
4 Department employee, whether it be police or civilian,
5 you have the right to file a complaint using the
6 following method. I think some of you are perhaps not
7 aware of that, but we do in person, as I mentioned, you
8 can go down to the Office Chief Investigator located at
9 Public Safety 1301 Third Street, Suite 767, at the
10 Public Safety Building. You can also at any precinct,
11 at the 4th Precinct, any police precinct in the City of
12 Detroit they would take a complaint. Just walk in and
13 ask for a supervisor, and they would entertain your
14 complaint. They will not try to talk you out of it.
15 That was back in my day. Well, not talk you out of it,
16 but we try to explain how can we help you, but we can no
17 longer do that. We are required to take your complaint.
18 You can telephone us at 596-2499, 596-2499. You can
19 also go online www.DetroitMichigan.gov/BOPC, BOPC. You
20 can also fax. Who faxes? But that number is 596-2482.
21 Complaint forms are available in the neighborhood city
22 hall. Are you aware of that? They're also in the
23 public libraries and the Detroit Police Department
24 precincts as I already mentioned. You may also have
25 someone else file a complaint on your behalf. You will

1 need to plan to have an in-person interview with the
2 investigator, and they would work that up. So at this
3 time, I'm going to ask our Chief Investigator and our
4 OCI personnel to stand. Let's give them a round of
5 applause. That's who work it up in terms of your
6 concerns.

7 Now, if you have some good things to say
8 that's happened to you as far as a good encounter with
9 the Police Department, you do not contact them, you
10 contact the Board of Police Commission for any command.
11 We love to hear from you in writing or in person and say
12 I have some great things happening every day. Let us
13 know. Can we do that? So do not be shy because those
14 recommendations and writings or telephone call sort of
15 enforce to help these officers in terms of their job
16 because sometimes you get all of the criticism, and I
17 notice OCI, they say when we see OCI, you know we in
18 trouble. That's not always the case. But with body
19 cameras we enhanced that whole process. It protects the
20 officers, it also protects the citizens. And you know
21 about body cameras now, right? So just give you an
22 idea, Aretha Franklin's home going was like four or five
23 days. The police was out there from morning to night,
24 whatever, in terms of monitoring that, that was a great
25 crowd control. And that was outstanding. But that's

1 really demanding in terms of being in the public and
2 some of them not always good Christians at that time
3 because they want to see -- they want to be right in the
4 mix, the park and VIPs, and I saw Reverend Holley there
5 and all that. So I think they did an outstanding job.
6 Let's give the DPD a round of applause. There was no
7 issues, no problems, and that was a international scene
8 that we managed. That gives you one example of how we
9 operate.

10 Number one, I would like to invite each of
11 you to a Never Forgotten remembrance picnic that will be
12 held on the lawn in front of Police Headquarters
13 tomorrow starting at 12 noon and goes to what 12 to 4?
14 7. 12 to 7. It's an outing to lift up those officers
15 never be forgotten and we want your participation. So
16 you know where the location, you know the time, from 12
17 to 7. So drop in. Drop in and say thank you and
18 interact.

19 Number two. I also want to focus our
20 attention on the pending storm that will hit the
21 southeastern coast of the United States.
22 The storm is projected to cause great property damage
23 and hopefully limited loss of life. Hurricane Florence
24 will likely impact the lives of one million people over
25 the course of the next few days. We pray for the first

1 responders and community called to service to deal with
2 the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. And, you know,
3 police officers, fire, EMS, Salvation Army, and Coast
4 Guard, everybody that's monitoring that, so we pray that
5 everybody survives and gets to high ground, you know.
6 So they're on alert.

7 Number three. I also want to indicate that
8 we had planned to acknowledge his heroic work of
9 Chaplain Cedric Wyckoff. We're going to do that next
10 week at 3:00, and Commissioner Burch is going to
11 recognize this young man. The incident occurred on
12 Detroit Princess. He was recognized by counsel, but we
13 want to recognize him in that timeframe. It's going to
14 be 3:00 next week at our regular meeting.

15 This is a subject we're all concerned about.
16 Just talking about it on the way over here. I also want
17 to report some progress on the City's effort to reduce
18 speeding and cut down on the rate of accidents in our
19 neighborhoods in the combined effort between the DPW and
20 DPD, speed bumps designed to slow down traffic are being
21 installed in various neighborhoods. This board
22 advocates for a solution to speeding. Hopefully this is
23 one of the solutions, right, Commissioner Burch?

24 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Yes, sir. Yes. We
25 must do this because it's very important how people just

1 ignore the law, and speeding down our streets they have
2 killed people, so we need to put a stop and just enforce
3 the law. So we're very happy about Chief Craig and this
4 board working together to secure your safety in your
5 neighborhoods.

6 CHAIRMAN BELL: So we look forward to that.
7 So we see how that's going to play out in terms of
8 people slowing down and monitoring that. So, once
9 again, we don't want you to be caught up in terms of
10 speeding, so slow down.

11 Today's agenda we going to acknowledge the
12 service and partnership Ms. Sylvia Gucken. I don't know
13 if I have Gucken, I don't know if I have it right. Is
14 she here? We have the Venegas Family from the 4th
15 Precinct. At the appropriate time we will recognize
16 these fine contributions. We also have three
17 presentations. The first is our monthly report from
18 police personnel through our personnel director reported
19 by Ms. Brigit Lamar, Interim Director of Personnel.

20 The second report will be from the 4th
21 Precinct. I know you're waiting to he hear from the 4th
22 Precinct update, but you probably know that because
23 you're involved with that so.

24 The third presentation is an update on
25 immigration. As many of you know, because of

1 demographics of the City, the issue of immigration is of
2 great concern in Southwest Detroit. We have asked the
3 department to provide us with an update on activity
4 related to immigration. As you notice, I said an update
5 on activity related to immigration. I want to draw out
6 that Detroit has little responsibility, I'm talking
7 about the police department, have ended to enforce
8 immigration law, but as other other law enforcement
9 agents do, oftentimes their operation are mistaken for
10 DPD operation. We would like to clarify that with the
11 Department speaking to that issue.

12 In addition, we have invited LA SAD, which
13 is represented by David Sanchez and Abril Valdes
14 representing the ACLU to briefly share what is occurring
15 in the community surrounding immigration. Immigration
16 is such a big and complex issue it would be impossible
17 to cover all aspects of immigration. So I ask that both
18 updates be brief and identify any community resources
19 that might be helpful in addressing the problem of
20 citizens and families who are tied up in current issues
21 around immigration.

22 Also, immediately following the immigration
23 update, we will be entertaining questions only related
24 to that subject matter, only immigration. Later in the
25 normal order of business, we have an oral remarks from

1 the citizens. We are requesting that those who have
2 questions related to immigration to write your question
3 down at this time on a card and we collect them before
4 the start of immigration presentation. We're asking for
5 this just in case we do not have time to respond to each
6 of the immigration questions, or that the question is
7 personal and might require a follow-up. We share those
8 questions with LA SAD and the ACLU later on tonight.

9 Towards the end of the meeting when we have
10 our regular, normal oral communications, so please write
11 your name on a card and give it to Mr. Brown. There
12 should be cards in the back. If not, give it to Mr.
13 Brown to my right. He's wearing brown. You can't miss
14 him. So that is it.

15 So our first resolution, Certificate of
16 Recognition. Yes, ma'am.

17 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I do it from here? Are
18 they here?

19 COMMANDER WALL: Ms. Gucken got a little bit
20 lost. She's on Fort Street.

21 CHAIRMAN BELL: She's on her way?

22 COMMANDER WALL: She's on her way.

23 CHAIRMAN BELL: Okay. We'll pause on that
24 note. We'll go to is Ms. Sylvia Gucken here.

25 COMMANDER WALL: Sylvia's the one. She made

1 a wrong turn. She's on Fort Street. She should be here
2 any minute.

3 CHAIRMAN BELL: So we'll pause. Okay. Let
4 us know when they get here. Okay. I understand that.
5 We're going to now hear from our Deputy Chief David
6 LeValley.

7 D.C. LEVALLEY: Good evening, Board. I
8 will start out with some crime update for year to date
9 we are at 184 homicides. That's 14 below where we were
10 last year on this day. 5926 aggravated assaults.
11 That's 311 below last year. 535 nonfatal shootings,
12 which was 70 below last year. 1,647 robberies, which is
13 224 below last year. We're at 225 carjackings, which is
14 14 above where we were last year on this date.

15 I'll give you an update on injured officers.
16 We have Officer Waldis Johnson. He is currently in a
17 long-term care facility still trying to recover from a
18 gunshot wound. Officer James Kisselburg recovering from
19 a gunshot wound at home. Officer Eric Smith recovering
20 from a gunshot wound at home. Sergeant Eric Bucy is
21 recovering at home from a broken ankle. Officer Justin
22 Marroquin suffered head trauma and is recuperating at
23 home. Officer Christopher Bush, a laceration to the
24 hand. He's recuperating at home. Officer Christopher
25 Therssen. He had a motorcycle accident and is

1 recuperating at home. And Officer Lemuel Sims, torn
2 knee ligaments. He's also recuperating at home.

3 I also wanted to just comment on the 911
4 ceremony that we had two days ago at Campus Martius. It
5 was attended by members of the Department and hosted by
6 the Detroit Police and Fire Departments, that was a very
7 nice ceremony remembering 911.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. It was
9 outstanding. I really appreciate this year, because you
10 add a little bit more every year, and a Deputy Chief
11 LeValley's daughter, how old is she?

12 D.C. LeVALLEY: It wasn't my daughter, it
13 was Lieutenant Parrish's daughter.

14 CHAIRMAN BELL: Lieutenant Parrish's
15 daughter. I'm sorry. How did I get that.

16 D.C. LeVALLEY: I think she's four years
17 old.

18 CHAIRMAN BELL: Four years old. Lieutenant
19 Parrish's daughter is four years old and she did the
20 Pledge of Allegiance. Sorry about that. I was thinking
21 Parrish all the way, but I said -- right. She did an
22 outstanding job, you know. So we really appreciate that
23 age stepping forward and not being intimidated by DPD
24 and Fire Department. Any questions or concerns for the
25 Deputy Chief?

1 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Mr. Chair, just make
2 sure you convey a message to Captain Williams and
3 Captain Torres. Thank you for this information on the
4 Below 100. I want to try to make sure I try to attend
5 this training. I think this is a fantastic idea and
6 working toward reducing fatalities of police officers.
7 I think it's an excellent idea. Thank you for this
8 information. We appreciate it.

9 D.C. LEVALLEY: Below 100 initiative for
10 anybody that doesn't know is a nationwide initiative to
11 try to reduce the number of line of duty deaths across
12 the United States to below 100, and it focuses on a lot
13 of dangers in law enforcement that aren't normally
14 thought of that have to do with safety. There's
15 components about wearing bright clothing, about driving
16 slower, about wearing your seat belt. A lot of officers
17 are killed in car accidents or while directing traffic
18 out on the street. We've lost two officers in the last
19 year in those type of situations that were hit by cars
20 while they were outside their police cars. So we're
21 right now going through a purchase to outfit all
22 officers in the precincts with reflective vests so when
23 they get out to do accident investigations or where they
24 have to spend an extended period of time outside of
25 their police car on the street, they'll be able to put a

1 reflective vest on for better visibility at night.

2 We also became aware of a study that showed
3 that red lights to individuals that are intoxicated
4 causes them to go toward the light instead of away from
5 the light, so we'll probably be switching in the near
6 future the lighting systems on our cars so that in the
7 back of the cars they're all blue lights instead of red.
8 Just little things like that to try to take proactive
9 measures to make sure that officers are safe.

10 CHAIRMAN BELL: I think that's just
11 outstanding to take that visionary approach to vests and
12 lights identifying, you know, the red. I don't know who
13 thought of this, but they should get an atta boy or atta
14 girl.

15 REV. HOLLEY: So the lights, so the lights
16 that you're going to change lights because of, because
17 of --

18 D.C. LEVALLEY: The studies showed that
19 individuals that are intoxicated, when they see the red
20 lights, they fixate themselves on the red lights and it
21 causes them to hit police cars that are on traffic
22 stops.

23 REV. HOLLEY: So for those of us that are
24 not intoxicated, how does that affect me?

25 D.C. LeVALLEY: I'm assuming that you

1 probably wouldn't hit a police car.

2 REV. HOLLEY: Anyway, I'm sure you're
3 working with it.

4 CHAIRMAN BELL: I mean that's a good point.
5 I mean it's not going to have a bearing on us
6 nonalcoholic drivers. We're going to be okay.

7 D.C. LeVALLEY: The blue lights will be
8 highly visible lights. If you haven't been drinking,
9 then you would see the blue lights and you'd slow down.

10 CHAIRMAN BELL: We haven't had any problems
11 so far, and we should be okay.

12 D.C. LEVALLEY: Right.

13 CHAIRMAN BELL: Commander, could you come to
14 the mic, and I don't want you really do a disservice to
15 our name again. Could you --

16 COMMANDER WALTON: Yes. Whitney Walton,
17 Commander of the 4th precinct. We're honoring tonight
18 from the Ideal Group, a company within our precinct that
19 does a lot of great work with us, great partnership. So
20 Ms. Sylvia Gucken.

21 CHAIRMAN BELL: Commissioner Brooks going to
22 come to you now.

23 COMMANDER WALTON: And Mr. Loren Venegas.

24 CHAIRMAN BELL: Burch, not Brooks. Thank
25 you. You're so kind. I just love my family.

1 COMMISSIONER BURCH: The Ideal Group and the
2 Venegas Family. Whereas, the Ideal Group is a family of
3 business that has grown since its start in (1979) by
4 Chairman and CEO Frank Venegas, into eight companies
5 with international reach; and
6 Whereas: The Ideal Group companies manufacture products
7 you see everywhere and strive to be industry leaders in
8 safety and innovation, focused on quality and care for
9 the community; and
10 Whereas: As a collective, the Ideal Group and the
11 Venegas Family support the members of the Detroit Police
12 Fourth Precinct in good and bad times. The Ideal Group
13 reaches out without fail to lift the officers' spirits
14 when a tragedy occurs. It is their mantra "What can we
15 do? The Ideal Group spearheaded the remodel of the
16 Fourth Precinct Fitness Center where officers work on
17 their minds and bodies improving a space rarely used, to
18 a true destination committed to their well-being; and
19 Whereas: The Ideal Group takes special interest in the
20 Southwest Detroit Community, welcoming members of the
21 neighborhood to various events such as the Motor City
22 Makeover. During GM Cares Week, the Ideal Group brings
23 hundreds of students and GM Workers to Southwest Detroit
24 to partner with the community working on beautification
25 projects. The Ideal Group is dedicated to giving back to

1 the community through educating our youth. In 2013, Mr.
2 Venegas started a robotics program at the Detroit
3 Hispanic Development Corporation with a dozen kids from
4 Southwest Detroit and the programs grows every year
5 preparing them to compete globally.

6 Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the
7 Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the
8 citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department,
9 acknowledges the outstanding and dedicated commitment to
10 community service and education of the Ideal Group and
11 the Venegas Family. Their generous contribution to the
12 City of Detroit and the Fourth Precinct merit our
13 highest regards. And this is from the Board of Police
14 Commissioners. Everybody signed it. And we thank you
15 for your service and God bless you. You do a great job.

16 D.C. LEVALLEY: We also have from the
17 Detroit Police Department a Certification of Recognition
18 to the Ideal Group and the Venegas Family, residents of
19 the City of Detroit in recognition for their outstanding
20 service and cooperation, your involvement to the
21 communities and services to the City of Detroit
22 demonstrate a spirit and commitment that is worthy of
23 recognition from the Detroit Police Department signed by
24 Chief Craig. And we also have a Spirit of Detroit Award
25 presenting herewith as an expression of the gratitude

1 and esteem of the citizens of Detroit to the Ideal Group
2 a recognition of exceptional achievement, outstanding
3 leadership and dedication to improving quality of life,
4 by the City Council of Detroit, Michigan signed by all
5 council members.

6 MR. VENEGAS: Really humbled by it. Thank
7 you very much for the recognitions that we just
8 received. We're a company in Southwest Detroit and
9 we're just happy to be there and happy to be there with
10 the neighborhood and being able to grow our company and
11 grow jobs, grow lives and see it happening and really
12 just the whole transformation of Southwest Detroit. And
13 you know, with that, we can't do it without the 4th
14 Precinct and the men and women that, you know, protect
15 that area and protect the businesses and watching that
16 whole thing work all together. And I think with that
17 and having everybody work together is the way to do it.
18 And thank you very much for the recognition. We really
19 appreciate it.

20 MR. VENEGAS: If I could say one other
21 thing. Actually, three other things. You know,
22 Commander Walton who has spearheaded so many things with
23 her team. And I was sitting back there and then I
24 looked over and I didn't realize Amy and Al were back
25 there, Officers Allen and Amy who have helped out

1 throughout the week at the -- and the others as well. I
2 don't know their names and horses, which was really cool
3 yesterday. But thank you guys back there and Commander,
4 I don't know where she went, oh, there she is, and your
5 whole leadership and what you've done with the precinct
6 and what we get from the community and our business. So
7 thank you so much.

8 MS. VENEGAS: Loren said I need to say
9 something. So good evening, everyone. We are very
10 proud, the Ideal Group, to be in Southwest Detroit.
11 We're very proud of the collaboration of residents and
12 businesses, and this is only possible through good
13 community engagement and discussion. And we are blessed
14 to have the people of the 4th Precinct who it's been 21
15 years since we have been in Southwest Detroit who have
16 always had their doors open to us to have that
17 discussion and engagement. So we want to thank the
18 police commissioners for I know that you helped support
19 us.

20 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you.

21 MS. VENEGAS: And we want to thank Commander
22 Walton for adding to the legacy in Southwest Detroit and
23 the 4th Precinct. Let's give them all a shout out.

24 COMMISSIONER BURCH: We have a certificate
25 of recognition of Mrs. Sylvia Gucken, Assistant to the

1 Chairman, will be signed by the Commissioner, Willie
2 Bell. Thank you very much.

3 CHAIRMAN BELL: We'll make sure you get the
4 proper recognition. Thank you.

5 Next item on the agenda will be HR, Human
6 Resources Interim Director Bridget Lamar.

7 MS. LAMAR: Good evening to this honorable
8 board. D.C. LeValley and Detroit Police Department
9 executive staff, command staff, men and women of the
10 Detroit Police Department, and last, but not least, the
11 citizens of this great city, especially those in the 4th
12 Precinct.

13 My name is Bridget Lamar, Interim Personnel
14 Director and I'll provide to you the monthly HR report
15 ending August 31st, 2018. Starting with the department
16 staffing. The department is budgeted for a total of
17 3,321 positions. We have a 96% fill rate which includes
18 there are 2,462 sworn positions that are filled, 608
19 civilian positions that are filled, bringing a total to
20 3,057 position. We have 177 sworn positions available
21 including all ranks. It's 121 police officer positions,
22 and we will be having a class that will be coming in on
23 the 24th of September of 30. This includes the
24 additional almost 70 positions that were added this
25 budget year. There are 74 civilian positions that are

1 currently vacant, and I encourage all members of this
2 community to if you are interested in becoming a
3 employee of the City of Detroit, please do apply. We
4 love to have citizens of this great city to apply for
5 employment and become employees of the City of Detroit.
6 You can look at the city's website, detroitmi.gov, which
7 contains all of our current vacancies. A couple to
8 mention our crime analyst that we have vacant and the
9 vehicle operator one. Also on the city's website it
10 tells you exactly what you need to do to be a police
11 officer. We do have our recruitment table here in the
12 lobby if anybody wants to stop by if you're interested
13 in becoming members of the Detroit Police Department.
14 We have two recruiters right outside. And if you have
15 family members, I encourage you to take information for
16 them, or you can have them call us at 313-596-2607, or
17 they can e-mail us at recruit@detroitmi.gov. And also I
18 would encourage them to look at the city's website in
19 terms of the requirements. One in particular it has the
20 physical agility what you need to be able to do. It's
21 broken down by gender and age. Tells you how many
22 vertical, how far you need to do in the vertical jumps,
23 the number of sit-ups and push-ups and how fast you need
24 to run in a half mile shuttle run. So all of that
25 information is on the city's website. I encourage you

1 to look, and if you have any young folks that are
2 interested, please have them look at the website, and
3 again, our recruiters are here.

4 Moving on to the MCOLES testing. We had 107
5 scheduled tests, written tests. 72 people appeared, 54
6 passed. For the physical agility we had 103 that were
7 scheduled, 76 appeared, 36 passed. Again, that's why
8 it's very important we want you to look at the website
9 so you can come prepared so you know how fast you have
10 to run or how many sit-ups and push-ups that you have to
11 do.

12 We did have an academy class that graduated
13 in August. There were 30 members and we do have the
14 breakdown. There were 12 white males, four white
15 females, seven black males, six black females, and one
16 Hispanic male that joined the ranks of the police
17 department. There were a total of 37 new hires. There
18 were 35 civilians, two PA's, and in our civilian ranks
19 we brought on members for our 911 and our nonemergency
20 calls, which is our TCOs. We do have those positions if
21 you look on the website. I believe those are open also.
22 And if you look at our Detroit residency rates, of the
23 total sworn members, 583 living inside the City of
24 Detroit, a little over 1,800 outside the City of
25 Detroit. The civilians, 376 that live inside the City

1 of Detroit, 232 outside of Detroit. Of our civilian new
2 hires, 15 were Detroiters. We did have some attrition
3 during the month of August, 16 sworn members, which was
4 a combination of resignations and retirements, 25
5 civilian members, again, a combination of resignations
6 and retirements, one police assistant which we lost 42
7 members. With a leave of absence we have 137 members
8 that are restricted. Many of our restricted members are
9 restricted because of on-duty injuries, and as D.C.
10 LeValley said, it's very very important if you see
11 officers out there looking at the light, and to make
12 sure that we keep them safe because this is a dangerous
13 job. So our police and medical team gets called out
14 quite frequently morning, afternoon, night, to take care
15 of our officers if they are injured. We have ten sworn
16 members that are on continuous FMLA, that's for non-duty
17 related medical issues, 64 intermittent FMLA, 60 on
18 medical, which is a combination of duty and non-duty
19 related, three on military leave for civilian members.
20 We have seven that are on continuous FMLA, another 71 on
21 intermittent FMLA, nine on medical leave, and one on
22 military leave. And also D.C. LeValley, I don't think
23 it was reported, we did lose one civilian member of the
24 DPD staff lost his battle to cancer. He will be
25 funeralized on this Saturday. We'll make sure you have

1 the information.

2 And also, I want to let the Commissioners
3 know, you do have my report electronically. I did bring
4 a paper copy this time because I wanted to make sure you
5 had it. But if you look in your e-mails, it is
6 electronic, and it's there, but I just wanted to make
7 sure you had a paper copy this time. And I'll entertain
8 any questions.

9 CHAIRMAN BELL: Commissioners, any questions
10 or concerns?

11 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you for the
12 e-mail.

13 MS. LAMAR: No problem, Commissioner Brown.

14 CHAIRMAN BELL: Well, I'm not going to
15 solicit any statement. I just want to stay outstanding
16 report, as always.

17 MS. LAMAR: Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN BELL: We are on target. I'm glad
19 that you did an outstanding job in terms of recruiting.
20 We have it here, and Commissioner Brooks would be
21 pleased that you gave the breakdown. It's encouraging.
22 So if you have any young people that's graduating that
23 be Western High School, you can join the police
24 department at 18 if you meet all of the criteria. So
25 we're looking for -- I just named Southwestern because I

1 know it's one of the prominent high schools in the area.
2 I don't know the rest of them, but I know Western High
3 school is here in this area. So if you have any family
4 members and they want to measure up and deal with the
5 challenge of the job and go through the process. We are
6 here to help them go through that process to meet those
7 push-ups and meet your running. If you need any help,
8 Commissioner Brown is one of those people who really on
9 point in terms of exercise and the DPD is fit. They
10 echo that. So you need a training partner and
11 encouragement on what to do, we are more than willing to
12 help you out in terms of looking for good people. We
13 want good people. We just don't want anybody, we want
14 good people. As you well know, it's a challenging job.

15 REV. HOLLEY: I apologize.

16 CHAIRMAN BELL: No problem.

17 REV. HOLLEY: Just some of your remarks.

18 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, sir.

19 REV. HOLLEY: Had me say something else.

20 Just a lot of times, Lamar, that people talk to ask
21 about the police officers and why they don't make the
22 grade.

23 MS. LAMAR: Yes, sir.

24 REV. HOLLEY: Could you at maybe the next
25 meeting to give us, because this is recorded and people

1 get a chance to see it at home to just do it from, do it
2 from the back door to the front, rather than the front
3 to the back, so to speak. In other words, let's take a
4 little bit why they didn't make it. Why they don't make
5 it. I need my young people. I need my parents to
6 understand why their children or young men and women are
7 not making the grade.

8 MS. LAMAR: Yes, sir.

9 REV. HOLLEY: We're speaking of 300 to 3000
10 people that are really applying and you see a third of
11 them not making it. I think we owe it to the community
12 why did not make it. Whether it's futility, whether
13 it's drug related or whatever.

14 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, sir.

15 REV. HOLLY: It be more educational in terms
16 of the parents and the citizens understanding that this
17 is really serious business, especially when this
18 marijuana piece is coming out. I'm just saying I just
19 think that we ought to do -- and then I need to be at
20 the next meeting. I got a hot piece for recruiting that
21 I think is going to really really work, so you really
22 want to be at that meeting.

23 MS. LAMAR: Rev. Holley, if you don't mind,
24 I can highlight about just real quickly about three or
25 five bullets if you would like for me to do it now.

1 CHAIRMAN BELL: We can do that. I think
2 it's very important. They're here now. They can share
3 that. We can also do it next week, but since we have
4 people here, they need to hear from you now.

5 MS. LAMAR: One of the things is the written
6 test is at a 10th Grade level, and what our recruiting
7 team did if one is not passing the written test now,
8 through our former vice chair, Eva Garza Dewaelsche,
9 that we have resources that are available if they're not
10 passing that can help them with their reading
11 comprehension. That's one. Two, as Reverend Holley
12 mentioned, you have to be drug free. Passing the drug
13 screen test and driver's license. You have to have a
14 valid driver's license. Also making sure that you have
15 all your documents in and also passing the physical
16 agility test, and passing that physical agility test we
17 have everything that's listed there that tells you how
18 to prepare for that physical agility test. And if one
19 would like, again, at the training academy, you can
20 practice with them when they have the hire, the
21 orientation. You have to sign a waiver thought, so if
22 you get hurt, it's not on the City of Detroit. But
23 making sure that you're prepared, you have all your
24 documents in order and listing is listed all the
25 documents that you need. But, again, making sure that,

1 that you're practicing your reading comprehension, that
2 you are drug free, that you're practicing your physical
3 agility and making sure you have a valid driver's
4 license and you have all of your documents available.
5 And step by step, our recruiting team is great. We will
6 walk you through step by step of what you need to do,
7 any questions you have. Again, we have recruiters here
8 out today. We have recruiters that are out in the
9 community at all times. So those are just a couple
10 things through the Chair and Rev. Holley, and we can go
11 into a little bit more at the next meeting, but I just
12 wanted to highlight just a couple things there. I know
13 it's more than two.

14 REV. HOLLEY: Is credit, is a person's
15 credit, does that go against me if I got bad credit?

16 MS. LAMAR: Rev. Holley, we do look at a
17 credit report. However, they want to look at if your
18 credit is not so good, at least that you've made some
19 type of arrangements with your creditors that you'll
20 just -- that you're being fiscally responsible. So I
21 mean, so if you had a ding or something on your credit
22 that you're at least contacted that creditor and say
23 listen, can't afford to pay it all now, but I'll pay you
24 \$10 a month so that you have something. So again, our
25 recruiters will work with you.

1 REV. HOLLEY: Thank you so much.

2 MS. LAMAR: You're welcome.

3 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, Reverend. Good
4 point. Commissioner, I'm looking forward to you sharing
5 more about recruiting at our next meeting. And thank
6 you, Ms. Lamar.

7 MS. LAMAR: Yes, sir.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: Appreciate It. Commissioner
9 Brown wants to speak.

10 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Chairman, just to the
11 residents here, anyone one watching, just want to remind
12 you that when you spoke about licensing issues. After
13 October 1st, the driver responsibility fees have been
14 repealed and they're going away. And also for the month
15 of September, 36 District Court is waiving all fees and
16 penalties, but you have to pay your ticket in full, but
17 they're waiving everything except the clearance fees,
18 but they're waiving all those fees to get your license
19 and everything together if you want to come on the job.

20 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. We're going to
21 move the agenda by calling up 4th precinct now.

22 COMMANDER WALTON: Welcome, Board, to
23 Southwest Detroit. Marathon, we thank them. At the
24 end, everyone, just so you know, there's a catered meal
25 provided by Marathon next door. So it's always a really

1 good meal.

2 Again, I'm Whitney Walton, the Commander of
3 the 4th Precinct. Tonight absent is Captain Russ
4 Solano, my partner there. He's actually on vacation.
5 Unfortunately for him, he picked North Carolina. I'm
6 not sure how great his vacation is. You met earlier my
7 NPOs. If you guys will stand one more time.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: Let's give them a round of
9 applause

10 COMMANDER WALTON: So as a quick snapshot of
11 crime in the 4th Precinct, violent crimes we are down
12 9%. Property crime we're down 11%, and a deeper dive,
13 specific to homicides, 4th precinct we're actually down
14 72% in homicides from last year. Unfortunately, we did
15 have the very high profile triple homicide up at the
16 White Castle, but our numbers are going in the right
17 direction, but one homicide is one too many. Our
18 nonfatal shootings we're down 32% for the year. We did
19 have August was a big uptick in shootings for us. We
20 continued our strategy. We are a ceasefire precinct
21 targeting violence gun crimes. We have a lot of
22 partnerships with federal and local trying to address
23 those crimes. We're doing a lot of targeted patrol
24 going after high impact offenders and for guns. This
25 year our precinct is up 41% in seizing guns off the

1 street which, you know, every gun helps once it's off
2 the street.

3 We're doing partnering with Michigan
4 Department of Corrections doing home checks on parolees
5 and probationers making sure that they're living up to
6 the terms of their probation or parole. Property crime,
7 the only really trend we have we have a slight uptick in
8 larceny from vehicles and that's mainly on our Michigan
9 corridor and Michigan Avenue corridor and West Vernor
10 where we have a lot of businesses. The NPO's a lot of
11 messaging at meetings telling people don't leave things
12 out in the open, make sure car target. We have a lot of
13 people coming from downtown for lunch at Mexican Town
14 and they're leaving bags with computers, and so we just
15 keep pushing that message.

16 We continue to work our Southwest Community
17 Justice Center, Community Court. I think that's helping
18 us with our decreases. And the NPOs are out there all
19 the time communicating with the citizens and working
20 different programs they have. And if the board has any
21 questions for me?

22 CHAIRMAN BELL: Commissioners, any questions
23 or concerns for the Commander? Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I was wondering. What
25 about carjackings?

1 COMMANDER WALTON: This year I believe we
2 are down in carjackings. I don't have the specific
3 carjacking numbers in front of me. I don't know if the
4 DC has them for the 4th precinct. Know citywide they
5 are up, but I believe our precinct are down.

6 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commander, being a
7 ceasefire precinct, do you think is it very effective
8 with bringing down the number of gun crimes that we're
9 experiencing? Has that been effective in decreasing
10 numbers.

11 COMMANDER WALTON: I think it certainly
12 combined with every other we have it's certainly helping
13 us. I mean 72% decrease in homicides. I mean
14 something's working. Yes. So ceasefire, targeting
15 those people and having those officers dedicated to it
16 is helping.

17 REV. HOLLEY: What do you mean by ceasefire?

18 COMMANDER WALTON: Ceasefire, there is now
19 how many precincts now are in Ceasefire? Ceasefire is a
20 strategy where it's working law enforcement community,
21 and D.C., do you have a better --

22 D.C. LEVALLEY: Ceasefire program we tar --
23 we don't target. We address gun violence through group
24 and gang dynamics. So we identify individuals who are
25 members of either a named gang or a group. We reach out

1 to those individuals. We have call-ins. So we bring
2 them in. We give a presentation. We do those maybe
3 four times a year, sometimes five times a year. We give
4 them a presentation where we tell them that we've
5 identified them as individuals who are engaged in
6 violence. We give them a message that the violence
7 isn't going to be tolerated; that if they continue with
8 the violence, they'll receive the full attention of law
9 enforcement. But then the second half of the program
10 focuses on options that allows them to get out of a
11 lifestyle like that. So there's a lot of outreach
12 services. We could help them get driver's licenses, get
13 job training, incentives to get out.

14 And then we continue to monitor their
15 activities so when we have a shooting that involves one
16 of the groups that was an attendee at a call-in, that's
17 considered the next group and obviously they didn't get
18 the message. So then they receiver full attention of
19 our partnership which includes local, state, federal law
20 enforcement. We meet weekly with the US Attorney's
21 Office, the county prosecutors, FBI, ATF are in the
22 room, DPD, Department of Corrections. And so we focus
23 on those next groups, which was the last group that
24 fired a gun. So the message is for them to go back and
25 deliver this same message to all your friends. So if

1 there's some sort of beef that's going on, resolve it
2 without firing a weapon. That's kind of the gist of it.

3 CHAIRMAN BELL: And if I may, I attended the
4 last one on the east side of Detroit. This is about my
5 third one and we had two commissioners there,
6 Commissioner Dewaelsche and Commissioner Brooks in
7 attendance. And they March in the 20, 25 young people,
8 all young men that's in their twenties, and they set
9 them down. They don't do any talking, but the mayor is
10 there, he bring remarks, the Chief of Police the US
11 Attorney General, FBI, and others from ministerial from
12 the workforce explaining to these young people, this is
13 your opportunity. This is your second chance. As you
14 well know, these people are high profile on social
15 media. They identify with gangs member that's been
16 incarcerated and all that and give them an opportunity,
17 if they need a driver's license, they need a job, they
18 need to be relocated from the east side to the west
19 side, I won't to say Southwest Detroit, to get out of
20 that lifestyle, they can get out. This is -- they're
21 helping them out. When the mayor takes time, the Chief
22 of Police, the Wayne County prosecutor Kim Worthy took
23 time to come there and say this is your opportunity and
24 you need to take this lifeline.

25 And the closing statement is by a victim.

1 Normally it's a mother. The mother that spoke was the
2 young mother of a 15-year-old that was shot and killed
3 because her brother's conveyed to someone do not speed,
4 slow down, and they came back and killed her 15 year old
5 daughter who would have been a senior this year in high
6 school. She said when they walked in, I started crying
7 because it's still an open case, and you could have been
8 one of those young people that took my daughter's life,
9 and that's why I'm crying. And it was so emotional. It
10 was so quiet. At the end they came up and hugged, these
11 are hard core, they think they're hard case, but most of
12 them kids. So we have too many mothers, and that was a
13 very powerful impact statement. But when you see the
14 mayor and all these people take time from their schedule
15 to talk to these young people that at the end, they have
16 fellowship with a meal in terms of you can intermingling
17 with all these people who have conveyed to you. So it's
18 a very, very powerful program. It's not on TV. It's
19 not high profile, but you have it now in Southwest
20 Detroit, right?

21 COMMANDER WALTON: Yes.

22 CHAIRMAN BELL: We started at ZIP Code
23 48205. That's by the City Airport area, and it made a
24 dent, it made impact in the last four or five years,
25 because I live not too far from there, interact with the

1 9th Precinct, you know. They've been terrorized over
2 there. So it made a tremendous difference. So you're
3 correct. Ceasefire, it's something you don't think
4 about. It's prevention. We shouldn't have to do all
5 that but we're going the extra mile to try to make a
6 difference. And the Bishop Harris who leads that, he's
7 quite a spokesperson in terms of that type of dialogue.
8 So you have to witness that. We'll let you know about
9 next one coming up or if you schedule permits, we want
10 all the commission get exposed to that. So a good
11 question you raised. What is it. So that's what
12 ceasefire is si ceasefire. Anything else?

13 COMMANDER WALTON: Thank you. D.C LeValley.
14 You did a much better job of describing it than I would
15 have.

16 CHAIRMAN BELL: Okay. Thank you, Commander
17 Walton. Outstanding job. Give her a round of applause.
18 We're going to move right into the next section.
19 Immigration update. Will the panel come forward? These
20 two seats here. They come forward. They're going to
21 introduce themselves. And we asked them to be brief and
22 to the point. We also want to entertain any -- you
23 might have a question or concern to want to get that in.
24 So they're going to highlight those concerns. I think
25 we're going to kick it off with Deputy Chief LeValley

1 explaining the role of -- we're gong to kick it off with
2 Deputy Chief LeValley.

3 D.C. LeVALLEY: Okay. I'll talk a little
4 bit about DPD's role in communicating with Immigration,
5 Customs. So the Department not work immigration cases
6 or work immigration arrests on the street. That has
7 been our position all along for several years.
8 Immigration officials do their work on the street and
9 DPD does our work. We actually have a policy in place
10 and it's been in place since 2007 and it stays in place
11 today that prohibits department members from inquiring
12 individual's immigration status. We're not allowed to
13 ask a crime victim, a witness, anybody that we encounter
14 what their immigration status is. But we do have a
15 position that we cooperate with other law enforcement
16 agencies when they ask us for cooperation, and that is
17 currently the case today. So what that means for us in
18 our dealings with immigration officials is that they
19 will reach out to us when they have a detainer for an
20 individual that they know we have in custody. So when
21 somebody's arrested and we take them to the DDC, they're
22 fingerprinted, and those fingerprints, go into a state
23 system, and all law enforcement agencies in the United
24 States have access to that system. So we do have
25 situations where we receive detainer requests from ICE

1 and we will honor those requests as part of our
2 cooperation with other law enforcement agencies. And
3 that happened 2017 we got 18 detainer request from ICE
4 throughout the entire calendar year. This year we
5 received 15 year to date, and those are for a wide
6 variety of crimes anywhere from drunk driving arrests
7 all the way to murder. So I guess I can take any
8 questions, but that's basically the Department's
9 position. We cooperate, but we are not on the street
10 doing ICE work.

11 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, Deputy Chief.
12 We're going to hold the questions for the entire panel
13 until the end. So we're going to start with the young
14 lady. Would you introduce yourself properly, please.

15 MS. VALDES: Sure.

16 CHAIRMAN BELL: And take it from there.

17 MS. VALDES: My name is Abril Valdes. I am
18 the immigrant rights attorney with the ACLU of Michigan.

19 MR. SANCHEZ: David Sanchez, immigrant
20 rights organizer at Michigan United.

21 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. The young lady
22 want to speak first, or you want --

23 MS. VALDES: We divided topics, and we
24 just -- the officer brought up detainers which segues
25 perfectly into Mr. Sanchez' --

1 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, sir. Thank you.

2 MR. SANCHEZ: I can make my statement.

3 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, sir.

4 MR. SANCHEZ: And maybe we can ask questions
5 after.

6 CHAIRMAN BELL: That will work.

7 MR. SANCHEZ: So thank you, first of all,
8 for having me, Detroit, Southwest Detroit. Born and
9 raised in Southwest Detroit my whole life. And as we
10 all know, this city, its diversity is its strength. Its
11 diversity is beautiful and immigration is beautiful. If
12 we go right down Vernor Highway you'll see a lot of what
13 immigrants did to make that spot their own and just give
14 their culture the rest of the city and state and anyone
15 who wants to come and enjoy it, right.

16 And I know just living here being born and
17 raised here that is not easy keeping these streets safe,
18 so, again, thank you. I commend all Detroit Police
19 Officers for doing the hard work that they do. But the
20 thing is, if it was up to the current administration and
21 Trump, he would have all of our Detroit Police Officers
22 on the streets acting as deportation agents, acting as
23 immigration agents, right? He would have all of our
24 jails, housing, and separating families. He'll have all
25 of our jails turned into detention centers.

1 So Wayne County realized this, and Sheriff
2 Benny Napoleon took a stand and said that he will not
3 honor ICE detainers, anything past the regular booking
4 period. So what ICE detainer does is asks jails, city
5 jails, county jails to hold somebody who they know is an
6 undocumented immigrant past the time that they're
7 supposed to hold them for any crime they've done, even
8 if they've made bail, ICE is still asking for police and
9 jails to hold immigrants, right? Which a lot of judges
10 have found and ACLU has found that that's
11 unconstitutional.

12 The City of Lansing has also done some
13 similar things with an executive order saying that they
14 will not detain or not hold immigrants past the
15 traditional booking period. They also said that they
16 will not enter into an agreement called 287G with DHS.
17 And what's 287G. 287G is an agreement that Department
18 of Homeland Security gets in with local police
19 department to train them how to be immigration agents.
20 And we know here in the City of Detroit that police and
21 police all across the country should be more concerned
22 with community safety and we should not use our
23 resources, align them to separate families and asking
24 folks and trying to figure out who's a citizen and who's
25 not.

1 We see similar legislation going on all
2 across the country too. The truth is in Southwest
3 Detroit, I am an organizer at Michigan United, and a few
4 of our members, one member, his name is Juan Gonzales,
5 and he's a spokesperson at Michigan United. He tells a
6 story just three months ago, he was pulled over by
7 Detroit Police, showed his license and the police
8 officer asked him what his citizenship is. Juan is a
9 DACA recipient and his license looks a little bit
10 different than a license if you're a US citizen. Also a
11 friend of mine and Michigan United Member Natalie Munoz
12 has had her husband pulled over a year ago by Detroit
13 Police on Michigan Avenue and Livernois, and he showed
14 an ID that he had was expired, and just a week later,
15 ICE came and detained him while he was taking his
16 children to school. So we don't know if there's a link
17 there, but it's coincidental that that happened.

18 I feel like, and a lot of the community
19 feels like, we need to make it clear that the City will
20 not waste its resources and Detroit Police Department
21 will not waste its resources separating families. We
22 should not be complicit in what Trump is doing to
23 terrorize immigrant neighborhoods and families. And
24 just I want to make a statement that Trump has bluffed
25 on his for information and taking funding from so-called

1 sanctuary cities. And, first of all, there is no legal
2 definition to sanctuary cities. And secondly, a 9th
3 Circuit Court of Appeals Judge, Federal Court Judge just
4 ruled that it is unconstitutional to cutoff funds from
5 so-called sanctuary cities. Therefore, meaning it is
6 okay for the City of Detroit and the Police Department
7 to be concerned with civil rights and to keep doing what
8 we're doing. We can definitely take the steps needed to
9 give dignity and give honor and respect to families that
10 have built their life here.

11 And also, I'd like to offer a deep drive
12 training myself Michigan United, the ACLU a training to
13 how police interact with immigrant community, so that's
14 an offer I'd like to extend. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you.

16 MS. VALDES: Than you, David. I'd just like
17 to echo the thank you to the community for being here
18 today for inviting us and also the police officers here
19 keeping us safe. Thank you so much.

20 Just to clarify, or just to expand on some
21 of the topics that David brought up. Why we think a
22 detainer or extending a detainer past the 48 hours is
23 unconstitutional is because people have right to due
24 process regardless of your immigration status, right?
25 You're here in the United States and the constitution to

1 protects you. And so having someone in jail for a
2 longer period of time than what is required by under the
3 law would be unconstitutional. So that's our point of
4 view and the cooperation that has been happening when,
5 for example, somebody gets pulled over for a traffic
6 violation, let's say, not carrying a driver's license,
7 which a lot of undocumented people don't have because we
8 don't have licenses for undocumented drivers. And then
9 the police officer gets a call from an ICE officer
10 asking them to detain, right? If the police officer was
11 normally going to give a traffic ticket for that, no ops
12 on person or driving without a license, you know, what
13 would be the circumstance for detaining past that time,
14 past the arraignment period.

15 So those are the issues that the department
16 can open themselves to liability in those circumstances,
17 and it just becomes a slippery slope, and so that's why
18 we make it a point of issue.

19 The other things that we've been seeing in
20 the community, not with DPD, is that local law
21 enforcement has been using ICE for translation services.
22 So, for example, they pull someone over, either the
23 person has a heavy accent or the person doesn't speak
24 English, and instead of calling maybe a language line
25 which most of the courts use, I'm not sure if DPD does,

1 but basically they call an ICE officer or border patrol
2 in order to assist with translation services, and that
3 create a ripple effect of fear in the community because,
4 you know, people, people are afraid that they're going
5 to be racially profiled, right? Just because I may have
6 an accent doesn't mean that I'm not a US citizen and
7 calling, you know, federal agency in order to check the
8 immigration status I think goes beyond the scope of that
9 stop.

10 So those are the issues that we're seeing
11 and I, you know, like David mentioned, this
12 administration, any topic has been to separate families
13 as we've seen at the boarder, the children being ripped
14 from their parents, as we've seen temporary protection
15 status being ended for certain countries, and so that's
16 the MO.

17 But one of the things that I did want to
18 point out that does apply to law enforcement and the
19 community is victims of domestic violence. Victims of
20 domestic violence that seek to adjust status, meaning to
21 seek to get a green card to get legal, sometimes they
22 get, for example, a PPO, Personal Protection Order,
23 against their abuser, and by seeking such protection,
24 they can possibly -- and by cooperating with the
25 prosecutor, they can possible qualify for what's called

1 a U visa. The U visa helps victims of domestic violence
2 who are here undocumented, and if they were a victim in
3 the hands of a US citizen spouse who abused them. So
4 what happens is the attorney asks a local law
5 enforcement agency or a prosecuting attorney to sign a
6 certification saying that this victim helped with the
7 prosecution of the crime, right? So either testified,
8 came forward, wrote a statement, wrote an impact
9 statement, any of those situations can qualify to
10 certify that U visa certification.

11 What were seeing is that after Jeff Sessions
12 made the statement that domestic violence victims
13 wouldn't qualify for asylum, is that a lot of law
14 enforcement agencies said, well, we can't do U Visa
15 certifications. And that's not true. So I just wanted
16 to clarify that today. Jeff Sessions' statement is for
17 people coming into the country fleeing domestic violence
18 from outside the country. If we have a victim here in
19 the United States, they can still obtain that benefit.
20 And the Department of Homeland Security has a wonderful
21 package explaining everything, explaining how the law
22 enforcement agency is not making an immigration
23 determination when they certify. The decision -- the
24 application still needs to go through very other formal
25 steps through USCIS, and so which is the administration

1 arm of immigration, and so if anybody is in interested
2 in obtaining that packet, I have it and I can forward it
3 to you. Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. Any other
5 questions. I know Deputy Chief LeValley have -- okay.
6 Yes, sir. Hold one second. If you could -- could you
7 speak to the question that they already have?

8 D.C. LEVALLEY: The question is does DPD
9 have any policies on ICE participation in Detroit raids
10 for other local police activity. We don't have a policy
11 written that prohibits ICE from participating in DPD
12 activities, but I will say that we do not have any
13 active partnerships with ICE in order to allow that to
14 happen. We do have partnerships with HSI investigative
15 arm as part of our ceasefire project, and so they are
16 one of the federal partners that we team up with in
17 order to indict gang group members that are engaged in
18 gun violence, and so they may occasionally be
19 participants on raids, just like we do with the FBI and
20 the ATF and the DEA. But to answer this question, we do
21 not have a policy that prohibits that.

22 **A couple comments that I wanted to make with**
23 **regard to the stops that David mentioned. David, right?**

24 MR. SANCHEZ: Yes.

25 CHAIRMAN BELL: The stops that David

1 mentioned that somebody was asked an individual on
2 traffic stop their immigration status. That is a
3 violation of department policy. So if an individual
4 officer is doing that, they should not be doing that.
5 So I would ask that when you hear of those situations,
6 or you encounter that, that you would encourage the
7 individual to make the complaint to the Board of Police
8 Commissioners. They can do that. Somebody can do it
9 for them as an agent. It can be done online. It can be
10 done over the telephone, so they don't even have to go to
11 the police station to do that. All of our officers now
12 that are on patrol are equipped in wearing body cameras,
13 and so they're mandated to record all stops and
14 encounters. There are triggers that cause that to
15 happen built into the police cars, so when you turn the
16 lights on to pull somebody over all of the camera
17 systems that are on the officers or in the vehicle come
18 on and begin voice and video and audio recording.

19 So certainly, we want to be made aware of
20 those situations so that we can address an individual
21 officer that may be violating policy, but it's certainly
22 not the Department's position that we would do that.

23 MS. VALDES: Can I ask you a question? Is
24 there a time limit on filing a complaint?

25 D.C. LEVALLEY: No, no time on it. Because

1 of storage space, we don't hold camera footages forever
2 that we might not need. So doing that in 30 or 60 days
3 would be much more beneficial than a year later. We
4 probably wouldn't have the camera footage at that time.

5 CHAIRMAN BELL: Hopefully you do it as soon
6 as possible and we can investigate. That's where our
7 Chief Investigator came into the meeting filing that
8 complaint as soon as possible. That's what we talked
9 about earlier. Thank you, Deputy Chief. Yes. The
10 video was only being held for 90 days. Thank you.
11 Thank you. So you want to make sure you file a
12 complaint as soon as possible. So do you have a
13 question? I see you have a card. Do you want respond
14 to that.

15 MS. VALDES: I think this is more for me. I
16 will read you the question. Immigration community is
17 terrified of ICE patrolling and don't trust DPD will not
18 turn them over to ICE, therefore, terrified of DPD.
19 People are keeping children home from school in order to
20 avoid exposing themselves, avoiding medical appointments
21 or going to work resulting in losing employment. Is
22 there a strategy DPD has to rebuild trust with the
23 community?

24 D.C. LEVALLEY: Well, I think that one of
25 the best ways to build trust in this particular topic is

1 by showing what our actions are. So we're now two years
2 into this administration in Washington, and I think over
3 the last two years, DPD has demonstrated that we are not
4 out on the street doing ICE's work for them. We are not
5 rounding people up to deport them. I would believe that
6 almost every encounter that individuals have with police
7 officers when they're forced to encounter officers, they
8 would not be asked those questions or not be subjected
9 to deportation because they encountered a Detroit Police
10 Officer, whether they were the victim, witness or
11 somebody involved in a police report. So I think the
12 best way to build the trust is to just show that what we
13 say we're doing is what we're actually doing, and aside
14 from some isolated incidents, that I'm sure there may be
15 some isolated incidents, that we would address with an
16 individual officer that that is not our way of
17 conducting business.

18 CHAIRMAN BELL: Why don't we do this. If
19 you're not -- anymore cards? If you want to go to the
20 mic, we take one or two questions. Just go to mic.
21 We'll take one or two questions. I'll allow you to go
22 to the mic and you can speak. I hope we can be brief
23 and to the point after the Commander speaks. Go ahead.

24 COMMANDER WALTON: Yeah. I just have one
25 comment about U visas. I personally handle every U visa

1 that comes to the 4th Precinct. I have a turnaround time
2 of about one to two days. So I just wanted to let you
3 know that they're personally done by me. I sign them
4 and return them immediately. They're not stuck in
5 drawers. They're being addressed.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: In working for a
7 not-profit, I work very closely with the 4th Precinct,
8 so the NPO officers do go to our centers and partner
9 directly with the families to bring that back.

10 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you for sharing that.

11 MS. LANDRUM: I'm just a little confused.
12 The officer, Deputy Chief told us what they do not do.
13 And my question is well, what can you do when you find
14 a -- when you pull -- have a stop, you pull over and you
15 find that there's four people in that car without ID?
16 So what can you do? Because in reference to the
17 lawyers, federal law IWA, entry without authorization.
18 That's a crime. So I'm sympathetic to the cause, but
19 it's telling regular citizens that live in the city
20 every day, we're pulled over. We're asked for ID. You
21 got people here, got a lot of friends all over the city,
22 Hispanic, whatever, some of them are undocumented, some
23 of them are legal. So what are the, what, what -- how
24 can you -- it's a gray area with me, because if I'm a
25 law abiding citizen in this country legally with ID, and

1 then we have people that are IWA, and my rights are
2 being violated every day, and then they have more rights
3 than I do. I get a problem with that.

4 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, ma'am.

5 MS. VALDES: Just to address the IWA
6 comment. Being here without status is not a crime by
7 immigration law, and the immigration process is actually
8 a civil law. So when somebody is put into deportation
9 proceedings, they're fighting a civil case. It is not a
10 criminal case. So that's the misconception, and that is
11 the stigma that throughout many many years, and not just
12 for the Hispanic community, the Latino community have
13 come through, but, you know, the Irish. Lots of people
14 who have been stigmatized in the past have been
15 stigmatized in this way and so they're seen as
16 criminals. And that's the reason why, you know, as soon
17 as we label someone as a criminal, we want to fully, you
18 know, put arms length between us, and that's, that's the
19 lie. So I do empathize and I understand your question.
20 I just wanted to clarify that immigration law is a civil
21 matter.

22 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you.

23 MR. SANCHEZ: If I could respond. To the
24 point that undocumented immigrants might have rights or
25 more rights than someone else, we can see with what's

1 going on, and that's just not true. And I don't -- I'm
2 not one that believes that if somebody, if there's a
3 group of people that gets rights, it takes from another
4 group of people. I think they're all in to together and
5 we can all move forward together to give rights to
6 everybody based on -- not based on citizenship or race
7 or nationality just every living person.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: Commissioner Holley.

9 REV. HOLLEY: I think David, and through the
10 Chairman, certainly when you talk to the lawyer, I know
11 the work that you do. As that said, I understand that.
12 David, I understand what you do. But I pastor a church
13 of a about 2,200 members, and I have members that get
14 stopped by the police and their driver license is not
15 valid, so they run it. And then to find out he's got a
16 warrant. He's separated from his family. He's
17 separated from his wife. And I guess our problem -- not
18 our problem, but many of us have a problem, David, with
19 the fact is I've got 14,000 children in foster care.
20 They're separated from their mamas and from their
21 daddies. I'm 14% of the population of Michigan. I'm
22 70% of the prison population in Michigan. So you have
23 to -- and I've been in this country for 300 some years,
24 and you get -- your cause is worthy, but you basically
25 get identified by your accent. I get identified by my

1 color. And I just feel like that, that somehow the
2 immigration, the cause, it's got to also integrate with
3 us. Because I feel like as an African-American that's
4 been basically all my life fighting for rights, and I'm
5 not pro anybody, but I do feel like that indeed that,
6 that you have to understand that for us that we feel
7 like somehow we got to work this thing out together
8 because you guys -- not you guys, but the cause seems to
9 be, and I know I'm Down River, and I understand that, I
10 just have to pray my way out, but I'm just saying to you
11 that somehow our rights, and the civil rights, madam
12 attorney, we got to get together and see how we can work
13 this thing out together because eventually I think we're
14 going to come down where it's going to be us against you
15 and you against us. Because I'm just saying to you is I
16 see this as a -- and I'm glad that you're here, and I
17 love, I love everybody. I love everybody. But I also
18 want you to understand I see where my cause has been
19 sent to the back burner because your cause is up front.
20 And every time my cause gets on the front burner, if
21 it's not after Viet Nam, then we get moved back because
22 they had to come in and get preference. Every time it
23 goes to a war, they come out and we're on the front
24 burner and we get some rights, then I got to go back.
25 So now I'm going back to the back burner again because

1 immigration. And I just feel like ACLU is somehow the
2 civil rights lawyers that you do and that we do got to
3 work together, because otherwise, I do feel like that
4 we're going to basically, I don't have the right -- I
5 got more emotional than I have articulation, I
6 apologize, but my point is that I hope that we can work
7 together rather than against each other.

8 But understand I'm 14% of this population
9 and I'm 70% of prison population, and many of them based
10 on the things that you're saying, separated from my
11 family. 14,000 kids separated from my family. We are
12 basically stopped, and for whatever's wrong, we
13 basically understand.

14 So I say to you, I'm sympathetic of the
15 cause. I love everybody. I certainly don't like to
16 families snatched, children snatched. I don't like the
17 snatching of my children in foster care, in prison. So
18 I ask, I beg you to see, madam attorney, how we can
19 basically have a conversation of how we all work
20 together to see that everybody rises to the top. The
21 Titanic didn't sink from the top down, it sunk from the
22 bottom up. And what we're talking about here is those
23 of us who's on the bottom, whether you are immigrants,
24 or not illegal, whatever that term is, or whether you're
25 just those of us who basically just poor and don't have

1 representation. I hope I'm making some sense. I hope
2 I'm not saying nothing that's like -- because I, I just
3 care about everybody. But I am an African-American
4 preacher that basically all my life worked for the same
5 thing that you're working. And I appreciate. You
6 remind me so much of -- we look alike, like we might be
7 kin. My daddy was a rolling stone.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: On that note. I'm going to
9 ask you, your point well taken, but this immigration
10 issue, this evening that is serious and dear to people's
11 heart, and this is not our first panel of concern. It's
12 ongoing. The issue raised that we all are concerned and
13 we're all in this together. We have to look at it that
14 way. But I want to ask the panel some brief closing
15 statements. And we really -- you got another card. I'm
16 sorry go ahead. By all means, have another question.

17 D.C. LEVALLEY: I think I got to answer the
18 question that was directed at me. So what the
19 department does is we continue to investigate and
20 enforce crimes in the city that are either violations of
21 city ordinance or state law. And so when we stop a car
22 you mentioned officer stop a car full of individuals who
23 don't have identification, there's not a law that
24 requires individuals to carry identification unless
25 you're actually driving the car. And in that instance,

1 we would take somebody to jail who was driving without a
2 license. And then once we do fingerprint them, like I
3 mentioned before, that information is made available to
4 all law enforcement agencies. So we're not out
5 enforcing, again, ICE's policies or their procedures or
6 civil actions, per se, but we do continue to investigate
7 crime. And as we're doing that, it doesn't matter if
8 the individual is documented or undocumented, we do it
9 across the board.

10 And the question that was handed to me has
11 to do with can I identify -- how to make a complaint,
12 website, phone number, etcetera, could we partner with a
13 local trusted organization that could accept the
14 complaints that would ease resident's tension and
15 increase the possibility of reporting.

16 CHAIRMAN BELL: We answered that question
17 how to make a complaint already, and if you need a
18 little bit more response, our staff is here, but we
19 addressed that early on and took a statements that's
20 ongoing. That's what we do.

21 D.C. LEVALLEY: I just want to reiterate
22 that, maybe give the number again.

23 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Mr. Chair. Ms. Valdes
24 and Mr. Sanchez, what information does your organization
25 provide, or your firm provide, to explain the process of

1 obtaining citizenship that we could help, you know, that
2 we could help the community through this board and the
3 department to, you know, to foster those relationships
4 of trust to help them attain citizenship? What message
5 can we give them and how can we help them get it and
6 what that process is?

7 MS. VALES: What we do is we give them human
8 rights presentation and we just do educational
9 presentations where people -- immigration law is very
10 complicated and we do a myth, a debunking myth. For
11 example, there's a myth of people get in line and how
12 that's not possible and what it takes to get a green
13 card, and then what it takes to become a US citizen.
14 We'd be happy to set that up if the Commission would be
15 interested in that.

16 MR. SANCHEZ: And for green card holders,
17 Michigan United does weekly citizenship classes that
18 show green card holders to take those steps to become
19 citizens and help with taking the citizenship test.

20 CHAIRMAN BELL: I want to say that Michigan
21 United is on the cutting edge in working with this
22 issue. I think people are aware of that. They've been
23 involved quite some time, and we have worked close
24 together, and you should know the history of Michigan
25 United. They were the focal group that lobbied on

1 behalf of us getting our power back. They lobbied very
2 strongly and took the lead on that issue and they had
3 several panels in that year to impact the council to
4 vote how they voted. Michigan United, I have great deal
5 of respect. If you want to deal with any immigration
6 issue, this is the organization that you should contact.
7 And I know the people, their forms, you know, just they
8 are really on the cutting edge. So I just want to
9 commend you. And ACLU, in terms of the impact of those
10 areas that we all are concerned about. So any other
11 statement you might want to make at this time.

12 MS. VALDES: I would just -- I would like to
13 address Mr. Holley. And as a person of Mexican descent
14 who has the privilege of passing, I understand where
15 you're coming from. But I think that when we make it a
16 brown versus black issue, you know, we go down this path
17 of the race Olympics, right? And it's the challenge of
18 who has it the worst. And right now, we all have it
19 terrible. Black kids are being shot every day just
20 because of the color of their skin. You know, brown
21 kids, it's the same thing that's happening in our
22 communities. Maybe it's not as publicized, but it is
23 happening. And instead of pointing out our differences
24 or the fact that issues are going into the back burner
25 or not, I think that our common goal with every

1 community is to be treated with dignity and respect, and
2 that's how we have to come together, right? What do
3 brown and black folks want, and that's dignity and
4 respect. So that's where I would stand.

5 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you.

6 MR. SANCHEZ: I think she said it perfectly.
7 And I just said, I think coming together, and I talked
8 about this earlier, is we refer to ourselves as
9 minorities, but we're actually the global majority. In
10 a few years here, if we come together, we would be the
11 majority. And if we come together, then we have a power
12 that we haven't seen yet in this country. So I think we
13 need to take those steps to get there for the good of
14 our children and our grandchildren, and that's what I'm
15 doing.

16 CHAIRMAN BELL: And thank you on behalf of
17 the board. It's been interesting. It's going to be
18 ongoing. I want to acknowledge you taking the time to
19 come out. I assume you might be here. We'll be
20 wrapping up in probably the next 15 minutes. Someone
21 want to interact with you. I want to thank Mr. Hicks
22 and the staff for putting together this panel. It's
23 ongoing. So we, the Captain and Deputy Chief, he
24 understand the role DPD. If you have any concerns of
25 any relating to policing, you have to file a complaint,

1 and then we can address that. You need to do it in a
2 timely manner. He mentioned about the body cameras and
3 the car cameras. So we are very conscious about that.
4 So don't be shy. Don't be hesitating. The system will
5 work for you if you come forward. And thank you again.

6 MS. VALDES: Thank you.

7 MR. SANCHEZ: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN BELL: Do we have have any standing
9 or committee reports? I'd like to move on to Mr. Hicks,
10 Board Secretary.

11 SECRETARY HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
12 don't have any particular report. I do want to indicate
13 because it's become a little bit of a concern. There's
14 an updated copy of the board's presentation and agenda
15 that's attached to your board packet. We've over the
16 last month or have had to reschedule several different
17 things, so there's an update there so that you can
18 anticipate as a board what types of presentations would
19 be coming forward to you. This is part of our annual
20 publication of our schedule, but, again, over the course
21 of the year we may amend it, and for the balance of this
22 year, this is the most updated version that is
23 available.

24 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you for that reminder,
25 and we would take heed to that. Any old business? Any

1 new business? Announcements? As I mentioned earlier,
2 our next meeting will be next Thursday, September 20th
3 at 3 p.m. at the Public Safety Headquarters t Third and
4 Michigan. The next Community Meeting is going to be on
5 Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the 7th
6 Precinct. Going to be at this police station? Is that
7 right? It's on the Old Gratiot and -- okay. It's going
8 to be 2200 Hunt Street. It's just the old historic
9 police precinct. I remember being locked up there when
10 I was a kid. I'm just throwing that out. Gratiot and
11 the area of what, Chene? Yeah. Gratiot and Chene area.
12 You're not going to get lost. The building's been
13 renovated. It's historic. That was before my time,
14 okay? Good thing we don't have Commissioner Mallet
15 here.

16 The next point is oral communication from
17 the audience. This is your opportunity to speak.
18 Assume that you have filled out the card and Mr. Brown's
19 going to call you at this particular time. Ms. Blossom.
20 Just have one speaker.

21 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, currently have one
22 card. Mrs. Theresa Landrum.

23 MS. LANDRUM: Thank you again. I don't know
24 if you guys are aware of Community Recreation Center,
25 about a mile away from here. The center has been

1 renovated and we have a challenge as a community. The
2 Fort Street is a state road under the jurisdiction of
3 MDOT, and the speed limit was increased from 35 miles an
4 hour to 45 miles an hour we think in light of the
5 closing of I75. And what we have seen in the closing of
6 I75, an increase of 30, from 35 to 45 speeders. And we
7 had a young child, eight-years-old or nine-years-old,
8 autistic, run over and killed. Two weeks later we had a
9 gentleman run over and killed on Fort Street right by
10 the Recreation Center. We had the opportunity to have a
11 presentation by the State Police and MDOT policymakers.
12 We wanted to get a clarification of why they would take
13 the speed limit from 35, up it to 45 in front of a
14 recreation center that was about to open.

15 We have a challenge because we have many
16 seniors coming from the triple city communities of
17 Ecorse and River Rouge getting across that street. So
18 we want to know who polices Fort Street and does
19 enforcement for speeders because we were told by the
20 State, Michigan State Police that a traffic study needs
21 to be done, and that it could result in an increase from
22 45 to 55, and that is unthinkable. And we need the
23 speed limit lowered, because once that center opens, a
24 kid is not going to worry about if the car's going 45,
25 55, he just wants to get to that recreation park and

1 that recreation center.

2 So we asked the Michigan Police Department
3 to work with the Detroit Police Department to do
4 enforcement because he told us, in essence, they're
5 going to reward the speeders by increasing the speed,
6 not enforcement. So we see that as a huge problem. So
7 we wanted to ask the Deputy Chief to ask Chief Craig to
8 work with Michigan Department of Transportation and
9 lower the speed limit because we don't want anymore
10 casualties that occur. And it took me 15 minutes just
11 to get across Fort Street to try to get to the center
12 when we were out there having a rally. So that's a
13 challenge for us.

14 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. I think that
15 Commander Walton is going to speak to that. I don't
16 know if Deputy Chief wants to elaborate. Are you
17 prepared to speak to that?

18 COMMANDER WALTON: So last Thursday, last
19 Wednesday and Thursday I just spent with MDOT and State
20 Police. They had traffic engineers come in and they
21 were doing a study right between Schaefer and Outer
22 Drive on Fort Street. The takeaway from that was that
23 the biggest problem is people crossing because there's
24 not enough crosswalks for them to legally cross in
25 certain areas. So from that meeting, it sounds like

1 they're putting more crosswalks. They did not seem to
2 be looking to lower the speed. I did not hear any
3 discussion about upping the speed. But what I've
4 decided to do with my NPOs, we're going to be doing an
5 education piece down there. When people are crossing
6 the road, we're going to give out, it may look like a
7 ticket, but it's a warning and we're trying to educate
8 people to use the crosswalks because down there there's
9 some spots that are very dark so that people, if you
10 cross at a red light, you're going to be much safer. We
11 have people -- they had some video of people just
12 darting across the road, and it's almost like the video
13 game Frogger where they're going in between. So it's
14 going to be enforcement from my traffic people and TEU
15 for speeders, us doing the education piece of understand
16 sometimes drivers won't see you. And if they're doing
17 the speed limit, which is 45, in order for them to stop,
18 they won't be able to stop. So it's going to be a few
19 different things. So enforcement, education, and MDOT
20 is committed to doing some more crosswalks and
21 addressing safety down there.

22 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Mr. Chair, could I
23 address the Commander?

24 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, ma'am.

25 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I just wanted to say to

1 you that we have that problem on the east side as far as
2 speeders. If you heard in the beginning of the meeting,
3 we shared about how we're going to start putting speed
4 cushions. I don't know if your street would handle
5 that, but I just want to ask you one question. Do you
6 have a D.C.? Like we have D.C. Bettison and Baron that
7 are over the Commanders in certain areas. Do you have
8 that over here in Southwest?

9 COMMANDER WALTON: Yes. I have Deputy
10 Chief --

11 COMMISSIONER BURCH: You've heard of D.C.
12 Bettison.

13 COMMANDER WALTON: Have I heard of D.C.
14 Bettison?

15 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I just want to know
16 because because you're out here. I mean you're far away
17 from us.

18 COMMANDER WALTON: No. Absolutely. He's
19 citywide. Chief's liaison. We all know D.C. Bettison.

20 COMMISSIONER BURCH: He's my boy. Please
21 contact him. He will help you. That speed should be
22 lowered because we're going too fast. I don't care in
23 this city, it just seems to be it's like --

24 COMMANDER WALTON: Unfortunately, the speed
25 limit is not under the purview of the Police Department,

1 but enforcement of the speed limit is under ours. We
2 cannot change the speed limit, but we can enforce the
3 speed.

4 COMMISSIONER BURCH: That's what I'm saying,
5 Commander. That's not being handled. We've got to
6 enforce it.

7 COMMANDER WALTON: We are. It's just
8 that unfortunately, we can't do that 24 hours a day.

9 COMMISSIONER BURCH: You can say that. I'm
10 not arguing with you. I'm just saying that you don't
11 have enough officers to watch all the speeders to be
12 right to enforce it. I'm not saying you're not
13 enforcing it, but we need to work together. If you need
14 to work together with the State Police. You need to
15 lower these speed limits where those children are
16 crossing that street. That's ridiculous for them to say
17 they cannot lower the speed limit.

18 COMMANDER WALTON: And that was expressed
19 to MDOT, so they're looking into it.

20 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Don't give up on that.
21 And you, lady, don't give up. Keep pushing it. No.
22 That's not right.

23 CHAIRMAN BELL: Okay. I think we have
24 covered this area of concern and we hear you loud and
25 clear. And I would hope that since this is involving

1 city residents, this board's leadership had an
2 opportunity to meet with the mayor and Chief of Police.
3 And we would take this issue to them, and also you
4 should make sure your council person is aware of this
5 concern and we hear you loud and clear. We put this on
6 our agenda, and I'm pretty sure we can interact with
7 Commissioner Carter can report back to you because she
8 had some great deal of concern in reference to the issue
9 you just raised. So we would raise the flag with the
10 proper authority and see if we have an impact. And the
11 Commander is on top of it, but maybe we can take it to
12 another level what we're try to do address your concern.

13 If there's no other business before this
14 body, I want to thank you for your turnout. My
15 understanding that we have refreshments and we have an
16 opportunity to fellowship. You don't have to leave the
17 building at this particular time. You can fellowship.
18 And be right next door. And thank you. The Chair can
19 adjourn so we don't have a quorum. We stand adjourned.
20 Thank you.

21 (The proceeding was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY

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STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, Melinda R. Womack, Certified Shorthand Reporter, a Notary Public in and for the above county and state, do hereby certify that the above deposition was taken before me at the time and place hereinbefore set forth; that the witness was by me first duly sworn to testify to the truth, and nothing but the truth, that the foregoing questions asked and answers made by the witness were duly recorded by me stenographically and reduced to computer transcription; that this is a true, full and correct transcript of my stenographic notes so taken; and that I am not related to, nor of counsel to either party nor interested in the event of this cause.

Melinda R. Womack

Melinda R. Womack, CSR-3611
Notary Public,
Oakland County, Michigan

My Commission expires: 06-22-2025

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