02/07/2019

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10	DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
11	REGULAR MEETING
12	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019 AT 3:00 PM
13	DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS
14	1301 THIRD AVENUE
15	DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226
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1	COMMISSIONERS:
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3	WILLIE BELL, Chairperson (Dist. 4)
4	DARRYL D. BROWN, Vice Chair (Dist. 1)
5	EVETTE HOLLINS-GRIFFIE, Commissioner (Dist.2)
6	SHIRLEY A. BURCH, Commissioner (Dist. 3)
7	WILLIE BURTON, Commissioner (Dist. 5)
8	WILLIAM M. DAVIS, Commissioner (Dist. 7)
9	ELIZABETH BROOKS, Commissioner, At-Large
10	EVA GARZA DEWAELSCHE, Commissioner, At-Large
11	JIM HOLLEY, Commissioner, At-Large
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12	REPRESENTING THE	CHIEF	OF POLICE'S	OFFICE:		
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14	POLICE	CHIEF	JAMES CRAIG			
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- 1 Detroit, Michigan
- 2 February 7, 2019
- 3 About 3:00 p.m.

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- 5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Good afternoon. I am
- 6 police commissioner Willie bell. I represent District
- 7 4; I serve as chair of the board and we conduct our
- 8 meeting today. On behalf of the board for those in
- 9 attendance thank you for joining. For people viewing
- 10 this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you
- 11 for viewing our meeting. I want to ask for a moment of
- 12 silence to acknowledge the off-duty death of police
- officer Donald Hiatt badge number 3007 assigned to the
- 14 4th precinct. Thank you. Invocation will be given by
- 15 Arthur Berry Senior of the Detroit chaplain corps.
- 16 (Invocation given.)
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Going to ask
- 18 the commissioners to introduce themselves starting to my
- 19 far right.
- 20 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Good afternoon, William
- 21 Davis, District 7.
- 22 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Good afternoon, Shirley
- 23 Burch, District 3.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Good afternoon,
- 25 Elizabeth Brooks, at-large.



- 1 VICECHAIR BROWN: Good afternoon, Darryl
- 2 Brown, District 1.
- 3 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Jim Holley, at-large.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Eva Garza
- 5 Dewaelsche, at-large.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Commissioner Willie
- 7 Burton, District 5.
- 8 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: Commissioner Evette
- 9 Griffie, District 2.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Commissioners.
- 11 Mr. Hicks do we have a quorum?
- MR. HICKS: Yes, Mr. Chair, you have a
- 13 quorum.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Mr. Hicks,
- 15 would you introduce the staff of the Board of Police
- 16 Commissioners, please?
- 17 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As far as
- 18 introducing the staff, I do want to indicate for the
- 19 record that Sergeant Quinn is taping our media tonight,
- 20 media services is providing the audio visual work and
- 21 Caitlyn Mancini is the court reporter. And immediately
- 22 to my right is Robert Brown and if we go to the first
- 23 row on this side of the room we have Mr. Wyrick who is
- 24 secretary -- I mean, board attorney. We have
- 25 Mrs. Blossom who is of course media outreach person.



- 1 Mrs. White who was in charge of our policy area and then
- 2 if we go to the second row we have Dr. Anderson who is
- 3 in charge of DPD HR and then we go back to the first row
- 4 -- Mrs. Johnson is sitting next to her who is in charge
- 5 of our fiscal area and of course Dr. Polly McCalister
- 6 who is the chief investigator and she'll introduce
- 7 herself as well as other members of the investigative
- 8 staff who are here present today.
- 9 DR. MCCALISTER: Good afternoon, board. I'm
- 10 Dr. Polly McCalister, chief investigator and attending
- 11 today's meeting with me is supervising investigator
- 12 Cromwell. Senior Investigator Jones. Senior
- 13 investigator Rivera. Investigator Banks. Investigator
- 14 Callaway. And Investigator Washington.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Dr.
- 16 McCalister. It's good to see the board staff and OCI
- 17 staff. It's another day. And I'm going to ask chief
- 18 James Craig to introduce DPD staff.
- 19 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you, Mr. Chair and the
- 20 board. Starting with Deputy Chief Todd Bettison.
- 21 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Deputy Chief
- 22 Bettison, chief neighborhood liaison.
- DEPUTY CHIEF FITZGERALD: Deputy Chief
- 24 Charles Fitzgerald, neighborhood policing bureau west.
- 25 DEPUTY CHIEF BARREN: Deputy Chief Elvin



- 1 Barren, neighborhood policing east.
- 2 COMMANDER STEWART: Commander Tiffany
- 3 Stewart, major crimes.
- 4 DEPUTY CHIEF WILSON: Deputy Chief Marlon
- 5 Wilson, detective bureau.
- 6 CAPTAIN CHAMBERS: Captain Michael Chambers,
- 7 internal control.
- 8 MR. HA: Grant Ha (inaudible).
- 9 LIEUTENANT POTTS: Lieutenant Lashanna
- 10 Potts, chief neighborhood liaison.
- 11 CAPTAIN HAYES: Captain Franklin Hayes,
- 12 downtown services.
- 13 CAPTAIN MCGINNIS: Mike McGinnis, homicide.
- 14 CAPTAIN PETTY: Captain Conway Petty, chief
- 15 neighborhood liaison.
- 16 (Other names inaudible).
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I assume that's it,
- 18 Chief. Thank you for your attendance and DPD staff good
- 19 to see all of you this afternoon. And do we have any
- 20 elected officials attending the meeting or anyone that's
- 21 appointed to any capacity with the city or the state?
- 22 Okay. Any civil leaders or any other representative
- 23 with us this afternoon? If not, we'll move on and good
- 24 to see all of you this afternoon in attendance. Board,
- 25 we have an excused absence from Commissioner Lisa Carter



- 1 this afternoon. And we'll move right into the chair
- 2 will entertain a motion to approve the agenda.
- 3 VICECHAIR BROWN: So approved.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Support.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Been properly moved and
- 6 supported. Discussion, those in favor aye.
- 7 ALL: Aye.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed? Motion
- 9 carried. Next item would be approval of the January
- 10 31st, 2019 minutes.
- 11 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: So moved.
- 12 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Support.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Been properly moved and
- 14 supported. Discussion? Those in favor aye.
- 15 ALL: Aye.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed? Motion
- 17 carried. We'll move right into Chairman's report at
- 18 this time. On behalf of the board I want to express our
- 19 concern and support for fallen and injured officers.
- 20 Our concern for officer safety and citizen protection is
- 21 ranked as two of the most important priorities of the
- 22 board. Our board receive a weekly report from the
- 23 department listing injured officers. I would ask the
- 24 chief of police during his remarks to advise us with any
- 25 additional information relating to injured officers,



- 1 fallen officers. The Board of Police Commissioners meet
- 2 every week except for Thanksgiving and Christmas
- 3 holiday. We meet at police headquarters three weeks in
- 4 a month on Thursday at 3 p.m. We also meet in community
- 5 every second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Under
- 6 the Detroit city charter, Article 7 Chapter 8, the Board
- 7 of Police Commissioners is empowered to provide civilian
- 8 oversight and supervise control of the police. Our
- 9 citizens are justified in asking how the civilian
- 10 oversight of law enforcement help you as a citizen
- 11 within our community. Our answer is we protect the
- 12 civil rights of citizens. Oversight like the BOPC are
- 13 at the forefront of investigating, reviewing, and
- 14 auditing individual cases of citizen complaint and
- 15 pattern of operation by policy agency to eliminate
- 16 misconduct, discriminatory police practices, and
- 17 unnecessary use of force by police. Our work is based
- 18 on the public supporting effective policing. Mutual
- 19 trust and respect between the police and the community
- 20 is critical towards increasing the quality of life for
- 21 residents and visitors to Detroit.
- The Board of Police Commissioners exists to
- 23 provide civilian oversight for the work of the Detroit
- 24 Police Department. As a board we receive and
- 25 investigate noncriminal citizen complaints. I'll say



- 1 that again, noncriminal citizen complaint. Monitor
- 2 operation of the department and work with the mayor and
- 3 the chief of police to make or modify policy.
- 4 Several important items for your
- 5 consideration. The board has continued to work with
- 6 NACOLE, the National Association of Civilian Oversight
- 7 Law Enforcement, to host in Detroit the national
- 8 conference September the 22nd through the 26th of 2019.
- 9 Through the same time Detroit will be celebrating our
- 10 45th year as a civilian oversight organization. I'll
- 11 repeat this message several times as we approach the
- 12 September conference. We inviting law enforcement and
- other civic minded individuals and organizations to join
- 14 us at the conference. The planning process well under
- 15 way and again we invite your participation. I remind
- 16 boards members that in the month of March 2019 I plan to
- 17 conduct two community meetings. First would be on March
- 18 the 7th at West International High School at 1:30 p.m.
- 19 Also we would have regular community meeting in March on
- 20 March 14th in the 9th police precinct. I want to remind
- 21 the board this is the first meeting in the month of
- 22 February, black history month. Over the course of black
- 23 history month I will try to highlight some of the
- 24 critical developments in Detroit and the relationship of
- 25 black history, according to the Walter Rutland (sic)



- 1 archives, a four-member police commissioner appointed by
- 2 the Michigan governor Austin Blair in March 1861.
- 3 Uniform officers appeared on the streets of Detroit in
- 4 1865. According to Deputy Marvin DuLaney in his book
- 5 Black Police in America, Mr. DuLaney stated in 1890
- 6 Joseph Stohler (sic) was appointed as the first African
- 7 American to Detroit Police Department. Records show
- 8 that PO Stohler only last two months and was removed
- 9 some unknown reason.
- 10 The next African American was L.T. Toliver
- 11 in 1893. Records show that Toliver went on to serve a
- 12 brilliant career as a police officer. Opened the doors
- 13 for other African Americans. Also a note in 1893 was
- 14 Marie Owen, the first female officer. Detroit Police
- 15 Department the first department to use automobiles to
- 16 patrol and the first to use radio dispatch technology.
- 17 This not withstanding according to the Rutland archives,
- 18 Detroit Police Department had a history of recruiting
- 19 white southerners who played an important role in
- 20 keeping black residents in check. Over the course of
- 21 department history with its citizens, there has been
- 22 many controversial operation and units in department
- 23 including the big four -- some of us remember the big
- 24 four. The notorious STRESS unit. And I had a NACOLE
- 25 member ask me what was STRESS. Stop the Robberies Enjoy



- 1 Safe Streets, from 1971 to 1974. Some of us remember
- 2 that. I started my career in 1971. Later a series of
- 3 events leading to the department consent order related
- 4 unlawful use of force and confinements of prisoners.
- 5 These problems and issues also led to a variety of
- 6 reforms including election of the first Detroit African
- 7 American Mayor Coleman A. Young and his commitment to
- 8 hire a police force that reflects the image and culture
- 9 and diversity of Detroit.
- 10 We also saw reform in the city most basic
- 11 government documents. The Detroit charter created a
- 12 modern Board of Police Commissioners and provided for
- 13 civilian control and oversight into police department.
- 14 Again, over the course of this month we're returning to
- 15 the issues and problems that made Detroit Police
- 16 Department a department to continue to move in the
- 17 direction of racial justice. Detroit like our nation
- 18 has not archives (sic) full racial harmony. It has not
- 19 closed the gap between economics and social injustice.
- 20 Even with our current state of affairs with many
- 21 examples of black heroes, we should continue to work
- 22 towards fair and just treatment of all citizens
- 23 including those who live in un-evolving communities.
- Today on the agenda we will take up two
- 25 resolution. One for Officer Hiatt who died active this



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- 1 week and also retired Captain Mark Thornton from the 9th
- 2 precinct. Mr. Darnell Blackburn, the District Field
- 3 Representative of Michigan Commission on law enforcement
- 4 standards, MCOLES. I've asked the staff to distribute
- 5 in advance of the meeting a copy of the standards that
- 6 MCOLES used to set training and standards to certify
- 7 officers. I'm sure Mr. Blackburn will share how MCOLES
- 8 operate in some of the most pressing issues related to
- 9 certification, recruitment, and monitoring police
- 10 agency.
- 11 The second presentation from Detroit
- 12 Ombudsman Bruce Simpson. Ombudsman Simpson is asked to
- 13 address the board as another arm within the city
- 14 government that seeks to resolve the issues and concerns
- 15 for citizens. The first presentation is a report from
- our chief investigator, Dr. Polly McCalister from the
- 17 officer of the chief investigator. This report was
- 18 rescheduled from January the 31st, 2019 meeting. We
- 19 also have our regular meeting -- I'm sorry, regular
- 20 report from chief of police, Chief Craig. Our chief
- 21 will talk about our current stats and update us on many
- 22 additional police personnel injured in the line of duty.
- 23 I also ask the chief to update us on critical issues
- 24 facing the department; specific I ask the chief to
- 25 report on the recent incident involving two officers



- 1 stopped a resident for an expired tag and went on to
- 2 Snapchat to voice some disturbing and assaulting
- 3 comments. Additionally, all the more important, may
- 4 have disregarded a duty involving police policy after
- 5 impounding her car and forcing her to walk home in the
- 6 most oppressive weather in Detroit history. Clearly, as
- 7 a department we can treat our citizens better. As a
- 8 board we are interested in any disciplinary action that
- 9 you have and we'll take in this matter.
- I also ask the chief to update us on the
- 11 recent discovery of human cremated remains at the Howell
- 12 Funeral Home. Finally, I ask the chief to comment on
- 13 the recent report of a stolen police vehicle and the
- 14 policy to protect police property.
- Towards the end of the meeting you will have
- 16 the opportunity to communicate with the board from the
- 17 audience. Please make sure you print your name on a
- 18 speaker card. Cards are located in back on the table or
- 19 you can see Mr. Brown. You have two minutes to speak to
- 20 us and hopefully it should be a respectful exchange
- 21 about public safety in the city of Detroit. We are now
- 22 moving on. I just wanted to say that on Thursday,
- 23 Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning I served on NACOLE
- 24 national board and they was in the city to wrap up plans
- 25 for the conference in September. And there was a great



- 1 four-day opportunity to interact with that board, which
- 2 is my first official board meeting with NACOLE and I
- 3 want to thank that Commissioner Dewaelsche who hosted us
- 4 in terms of hospitality, our board secretary Mr. Hicks
- 5 and our attorney to the board Mr. Wyrick, and others who
- 6 made it worthwhile. It was a good exchange. The hotel
- 7 the Mirage is looking forward to hosting. They got all
- 8 the details and et cetera, so some of them this was
- 9 their first opportunity to come to Detroit in quite some
- 10 time and they really say we appreciate what we have
- 11 witnessed so far. As you well know those board meetings
- 12 are long but we did have a chance to get out and took
- them over to the MGM for a light after board meeting and
- 14 so that was good thing. I heard some good things about
- 15 Detroit and their agenda is about public safety and try
- 16 to expand NACOLE.
- 17 So we going to move on to resolution and
- 18 Chief Craig your name came up two or three times. They
- 19 know about your work in the city of Detroit and they
- 20 want the national NAACP, the Chairman at Bryant Core
- 21 (sic) has interacted in the format, so they're looking
- 22 forward to more change in terms of the whole process
- 23 working up the work shops, so that was a key part of
- 24 that. I just want to let you know that.
- 25 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Resolution, I'm going as
- 2 Captain Mark Thornton he retiring from the 9th precinct
- 3 and I'm going to ask Commissioner Shirley Burch to share
- 4 'cause she was one of the commissioners engaged in 9th
- 5 precinct. Would you please?
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURCH: This one right here?
- 7 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Does it say Captain
- 8 Thornton?
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURCH: No. Whereas Mr. Donald
- 10 Hiatt -- wrong one. It's the only one I have. Excuse
- 11 me, I'm sorry, I didn't have that Captain Mark Thornton.
- 12 Whereas Mark Thornton was appointed to
- 13 Detroit Police Department on July 28th, 1986. Upon
- 14 graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy,
- 15 Officer Thornton began his career at the mini-station
- 16 and whereas, Captain Thornton, Officer Thornton has
- 17 investigated -- is assigned to the Detroit Police
- 18 Department, uprooted in the 5th precinct crime section.
- 19 And this, and the south 6th precinct investigating
- 20 operations limit unit and whereas Officer Thornton
- 21 displayed tremendous knowledge and fellowship in this as
- 22 a police officer and was promoted to the rank of
- 23 investigator on March 21st, 1997.
- 24 As investigator he was reassigned to the
- 25 south precinct investigative operations unit. On March



- 1 24th, 1998 he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He
- 2 was transferred with -- from the 6th precinct
- 3 investigative operation unit to the commercial auto
- 4 theft section. He also served the 13th precinct
- 5 investigative operations unit, eastern operations
- 6 bureau, northwestern district crime analysis, and the
- 7 8th precinct; and whereas Sergeant Thornton was promoted
- 8 to the rank of lieutenant on November 22nd, 2013 and was
- 9 assigned to the criminal investigation unit as the
- 10 officer in charge, and later served in the 5th precinct
- 11 as investigative operations unit.
- 12 On April 11th, 2016 Lieutenant Thornton was
- 13 appointed to the rank of Captain where he served as the
- 14 night commanding officer at the 9th precinct where he
- 15 served until his retirement; and whereas Captain
- 16 Thornton was the deserving recipient of the following
- 17 awards: A Life Saving citation and metal, chief's Unit
- 18 Squad, fireworks Award, both current judgments award,
- 19 the chief's most awards into perfect attendance awards
- 20 to the Major League Baseball All Star Recognition Award
- 21 to the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award and
- 22 Superbowl Recognition Award as well as numerous letters
- 23 of commendation from citizens and superiors. And
- 24 whereas Captain Thornton has tirelessly served the
- 25 Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit, and



- 1 his neighboring communities for 32 years -- 32 and a
- 2 half years. He has served the Detroit Police Department
- 3 and the citizens of Detroit with loyalty,
- 4 professionalism, integrity and courageous enforcement
- 5 community in a professional way. Now, therefore, be it
- 6 resolved that the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners,
- 7 speaking on behalf of the officers of the city of
- 8 Detroit, recognize and honor the life long commitments
- 9 of excellence to this public service Captain Mark
- 10 Thornton, his display of courage and overwhelming
- 11 commitment to the service has improved the quality of
- 12 life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you all the
- 13 best in your future endeavors. This is to congratulate
- 14 Captain Mark Thornton. Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Commissioners.
- 16 Chair will entertain a resolution.
- 17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: So moved.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Motion, I'm sorry.
- 19 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Support.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Properly moved and
- 21 supported. Discussion? Those in favor aye.
- 22 ALL: Aye.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed? Motion
- 24 carried. Thank you. Our next resolution is going to be
- 25 for Donald Hiatt.



- 1 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: Whereas Mr. Donald
- 2 Hiatt was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on
- 3 July 11th, 2008. Upon graduating from the Metropolitan
- 4 Police Academy Officer Hiatt began his career at the
- 5 southwestern district 4th precinct. And, whereas,
- 6 Officer Hiatt dutifully served the southwestern
- 7 district, which is known as the 4th precinct, his entire
- 8 career. On Wednesday, February 6th, 2019 after 10 plus
- 9 years of service police officer Donald Hiatt badge
- 10 number 3007 passed away. And, whereas, Officer Hiatt
- 11 was the deserving recipient of a Fireworks Award, both
- 12 department of justice consent judgment awards, Rosa
- 13 Parks Funeral Recognition Award, a Major League Baseball
- 14 All Star Recognition Award, the Superbowl XL Recognition
- 15 Award, and numerous letters of commendation from
- 16 citizens and superiors.
- 17 And, whereas, officer Hiatt tirelessly
- 18 served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of
- 19 Detroit, and its neighboring communities with unwavering
- 20 devotion. His commitment to public service, integrity,
- 21 and dedication were a credit to the Detroit Police
- 22 Department. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the
- 23 Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the
- 24 citizens of Detroit and Detroit Police Department, award
- 25 this resolution posthumously in recognition of police



- 1 officer Donald Hiatt's ten years plus years of dedicated
- 2 and diligent public service. His professionalism,
- 3 integrity, and standard of commitment to the city of
- 4 Detroit and its residents -- citizens merit our highest
- 5 regards. We solute you police officer Donald Hiatt for
- 6 a job well done. Congratulations.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 8 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Motion to approve.
- 9 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Support.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Been properly moved and
- 11 supported. Discussion? Those in favor aye.
- 12 ALL: Aye.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed? Motion
- 14 carried. Thank you. Thank Mr. Robert Brown and the
- 15 staff for working up the resolution for both officers
- 16 and we're going to now move on to Chief Craig, the chief
- 17 of police report.
- 18 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you, Mr. Chair and to
- 19 the board members of the police commission. Start with
- 20 crime. As of this is the first quarter of the year
- 21 going into February, as of today we're sitting at a 25
- 22 percent reduction as compared to last year. Strike
- 23 that. 33 percent reduction, which equates to 8 fewer
- 24 homicides as compared to the prior year. Aggravated
- 25 assaults are up. We show an increase of 69 aggravated



- 1 assaults with a 10 percent increase nonfatal shootings,
- 2 we show two more than the same time last year with a 4
- 3 percent increase. Robberies are down 16 with a 7
- 4 percent decrease. Carjackings are down 17 incidents
- 5 with a 61 percent decrease. Overall property crime is
- 6 down 13 percent, when you include violent and property
- 7 we're down 9 percent. Again, the first quarter of the
- 8 year the numbers are small. Lots of fluctuation, so
- 9 it's hard to get excited about any numbers until usually
- 10 around the end of the second quarter.
- Going into my next item. Donald Hiatt I had
- 12 a chance to visit with his family both his DPD family,
- 13 his family, and certainly unexpected, very sad, well
- 14 respected. His staff over at the 4th precinct spoke
- 15 fondly; he was a training officer who was diligent and
- 16 described as a hard training officer but one that had
- 17 such a tremendous impact on young officers so he truly
- 18 will be missed.
- Moving on to the biggest news of the week
- 20 since last Wednesday and that's the 6th precinct issue.
- 21 So what we've done, we've gone down two separate tracks,
- 22 one an IA investigation and the second one an
- 23 environmental audit. These two investigations are
- 24 running at the same time. Right now our internal
- 25 affairs investigation is focusing on two officers



- 1 assigned to the afternoon shift. Kind of give you a
- 2 little bit of a timeline, this matter was -- started our
- 3 investigation on Friday of last week. Initially,
- 4 Officer Steele, who was identified in this matter, was
- 5 placed on administrative, no public interaction. He was
- 6 moved out of the 6th precinct until we could get more
- 7 information. Our internal affairs did work through the
- 8 weekend and then on Monday I ended up meeting with one
- 9 of the officers that came forward to try to understand
- 10 how extensive this matter was other than the actual
- 11 post. I learned from this officer, who initially was
- 12 okay with staying in the precinct because of some recent
- 13 events from the time we started it was in his best
- interest we moved him to another operational command;
- 15 that has been done. He was also interviewed on that
- 16 date by internal affairs. Also there was a retired
- 17 officer who retired out of the 6th precinct
- 18 approximately about a year and a half ago; he was
- 19 interviewed. Also met with the core group on that date
- 20 to have a discussion. There was a civilian employee who
- 21 also worked at 6th precinct at the core meeting who was
- 22 interviewed.
- 23 So what we can say preliminary is that it
- 24 appears that there was a pattern in conduct isolated
- 25 right now to primarily two officers and that it's



- 1 isolated to the afternoon shift. Based on what we've
- 2 learned thus far I made a decision to suspend both
- 3 Steele and his partner who was named in a local
- 4 newspaper Garrison. Both are in a suspended status as
- 5 we speak. We have interviewed, as far as IA we've
- 6 interviewed all of the platoon that they were assigned
- 7 with a total of about 20, 25 people interviewed. Our
- 8 plan going forward as it was indicated at last week's
- 9 news conference or early this week's news conference, we
- 10 would turn this investigation around in 14 days. At the
- 11 present time we are on track. Our plan is to interview
- 12 former and current commanding officers of the 6th
- 13 precinct. That should happen early next week starting
- 14 tomorrow and then the accused, the two accused officers,
- our plan is to interview them mid week probably around
- 16 Wednesday. The environmental audit, which basically
- 17 started roughly around the same time, led by Assistant
- 18 Chief James White. They've done a lot of work; they've
- 19 gone through the 6th precinct. The reason why I was
- 20 concerned about the environment, given what the officer
- 21 reported coming forward, I had a concern that it may not
- 22 just be isolated to these two officers. So we started
- 23 an environmental audit. It does appear that it is
- 24 isolated, as I reported out on the internal affairs
- 25 side, to this one shift. I am concerned that there are



- 1 no female supervisors that work in this precinct at all.
- 2 So we're going to address that as part of the after.
- 3 There's some training concerns as it relates to new
- 4 officers assigned to the 6th precinct.
- 5 So there are some pretty substantial
- 6 concerns that are going to be treated. Our commitment
- 7 closing out this environmental audit will be two weeks
- 8 and also is my commitment to make sure this body or
- 9 board gets a copy of that report at the conclusion,
- 10 which is probably when you talk about two weeks to
- 11 finish the investigation and maybe another week to
- 12 write, and then we will submit it for your review. And
- 13 at the appropriate time, I'll take additional questions
- 14 on that.
- The marked vehicle was an assigned vehicle
- of an NPO out of the 2nd precinct. She was going home,
- 17 went to the 2nd precinct but she was in the 7th precinct
- 18 when the vehicle got stolen. The vehicle was left
- 19 running while she went in the store. Suspect got
- 20 inside, took it and suspect was arrested within 7
- 21 minutes. Certainly, outside of our department policy we
- 22 have generated a strict policy on leaving unattended
- 23 police cars running; and so that's an investigation
- 24 being conducted by west bureau.
- 25 And then the last item before I turn it over



- 1 for questions in terms of the cremains recovered
- 2 yesterday, a search warrant was executed at 1505 on
- 3 Dexter; it was an abandoned building, it was formally
- 4 Ramsey and Howell Funeral Home; what's referred to as
- 5 bourbon Explorer had gone into this vacant building and
- 6 began taking pictures; he turned the pictures over to
- 7 the Free Press, which depicted cremains in boxes with
- 8 names. After we executed the warrant, we recovered a
- 9 total of 35 and so that investigation is continuing.
- 10 And it's not connected that we can see with the period
- of our Cantrell investigations that are still ongoing.
- 12 So with that I'll take any questions anyone might have.
- 13 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I have a question.
- 14 CHIEF CRAIG: Sure.
- 15 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Chair?
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, sir.
- 17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: It sounds to me like
- 18 you're saying with the officer that came forward in 6th
- 19 that is there a problem with officers throughout the
- 20 system, they're afraid to tell on other officers doing
- 21 stuff or know stuff?
- 22 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair, some of
- 23 that is correct and I'm sensitive that as it relates to
- 24 the two officers who are the core part of the
- 25 investigation, as I've indicated they have a right to



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- 1 due process. I know that there has been a loud cry to
- 2 fire them immediately. I have to follow union rules.
- 3 We have a pretty robust investigation underway. As we
- 4 indicated from the onset two weeks, right now we're on
- 5 track. I do anticipate that this investigation may take
- 6 a side turn. I'm not ready to say that -- well, let me
- 7 just start by saying that the entire 6th precinct is not
- 8 engaging in this type of behavior. I did say it was
- 9 isolated to this one shift, the afternoon shift. I can
- 10 tell you that these two officers who are senior officers
- 11 set a tone for the shift that did have an impact on
- 12 primarily younger officers. As you know most of our
- work force today are young. Many of them will become
- 14 aware of a certain conduct and while it might not rise
- to the level of criminality, they're trying to get off
- 16 probation. They are coming forward now both in the
- 17 environmental audit and in the internal affairs
- 18 investigation. So there is cooperation.
- 19 I want to also remind the board that there
- 20 was an officer that came forward. That officer was
- 21 willing to stay and one of the reasons why this thing
- 22 spun to the degree it did is because the officer
- 23 rejected the Snapchat video and in doing so he was
- 24 booted out of a private chat room where some of these
- 25 6th precinct officers communicated with each other;



- 1 there were things in that chat room that we consider
- 2 inappropriate and so that's part of our investigation as
- 3 well.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Do you allow people to
- 5 be -- to use private social during working hours too?
- 6 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair I didn't say
- 7 it was done working hours. We haven't gotten that far
- 8 in. Certainly, there are -- there is a policy on social
- 9 media and the proper use of it, so to suggest that it
- 10 was done suggest during working hours, they could have
- 11 these chats off hours and could be talking about
- 12 management; could be talking about certain recruits or
- 13 new officers so there's a lot to this and, again,
- 14 without undermining the internal affairs investigation
- 15 I'm going to pause on that piece as it relates to the
- 16 environmental. I'm committed that this board will get a
- 17 copy of it. There are some similar issues being raised
- 18 both in the IA as well as in the environment.
- 19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Have you set up a
- 20 policy or a mechanism so that if officers are working
- 21 with other officers that are doing and saying things
- they shouldn't be saying so they can discretely tell?
- 23 CHIEF CRAIG: As you know I've reported
- 24 recently that today more so than ever officers are
- 25 reporting misconduct. We have an investigation



- 1 emanating out of the academy right now which was an
- 2 anonymous letter written, it was sent to me and from
- 3 that we opened, initiated an investigation. Culturally,
- 4 I'm told years back that officers were very reluctant to
- 5 report misconduct because they didn't believe that the
- 6 department was going to take action. What we are seeing
- 7 today is officers are taking action; I reported out on
- 8 the unfortunate situation involving a commander, that
- 9 was officers from his own precinct that stopped and
- 10 properly reported. So I would say to you that there is
- 11 a change and we reenforce it in both the academy; we
- 12 reenforce it during rollcall training. That does not
- 13 mean that officers are not going to engage in certain
- 14 conduct and so we encourage officers that when they see
- 15 something, say something.
- 16 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you.
- 17 CHIEF CRAIG: That's what we're seeing right
- 18 now.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Griffe and
- 20 then Commissioner Dewaelsche.
- 21 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: So like many of my
- 22 colleagues on this board and citizens of Detroit was
- 23 very appalled when I learn about what happened --
- 24 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Very.
- 25 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: -- in that situation



- 1 and the next following day I did e-mail our board
- 2 attorney to find out, I wanted to get more information
- 3 about the social media policy because I wanted to
- 4 understand what was being trained or what was the policy
- 5 around this, and I guess my question is I'm reading the
- 6 policy; it does state that this is -- I believe that
- 7 what this officer did is outside of the social media
- 8 policy but wondering what kind of training since the
- 9 policy is in place, if there's a need for some kind of
- 10 refresher training or increased training of the like to
- 11 ensure that other officers understand what will and
- 12 won't be tolerated. I think I've seen a couple examples
- in the very short amount of time since I've been
- 14 involved in this board we've had issues with officers
- using social media, whether it be while they're on duty
- or off duty to, you know, that has said things that have
- 17 been out of professional conduct.
- 18 CHIEF CRAIG: We reenforce it. We reenforce
- 19 the policy. In fact there was a probationary police
- 20 officer that everyone knew about that when we became
- 21 aware of the inappropriate posts, he was suspended. And
- 22 from his suspension in less than 24 hours he was in a
- 23 hearing with me the following morning, 10:00 in the
- 24 morning and was terminated. But he was a probationary
- 25 employee and certainly the rules are different for



- 1 probationary employees. For me to take a tenured
- 2 employee and fire that person all we're doing is setting
- 3 not only the city for a lawsuit but that person wanted
- 4 their job back. In fact, it was a former police officer
- 5 that posted on his website something that he said when
- 6 he posted something inappropriate, he was immediately
- 7 fired but not only was he restored but he got his job
- 8 back. Not saying that he should not have been restored
- 9 but if the decision is to terminate, do I want to do it
- in a rushed way without due process? Violate his
- 11 rights? I don't think that would be wise. I want to
- 12 make sure that we're doing a thorough investigation and
- in fact I'm very pleased with how fast we're moving, but
- 14 we don't just have the internal we have the
- 15 environmental because I wanted to know is this something
- 16 widespread through this precinct? And I can tell you
- 17 preliminary it looks like it was isolated to this one
- 18 shift and that the two officers that are the focus of
- 19 this investigation pretty much set the tone. I have
- 20 some concerns on leadership, supervision. And so we're
- 21 looking at all aspects of this.
- So Todd has done a wonderful job in reaching
- 23 out to some of our local leaders in the community who
- 24 are confident that the department is going to handle
- 25 this appropriately. I just ask for some patience. It's



- 1 been a week. And, again, I cannot and will not simply
- 2 violate their union rights to bring closure only to find
- 3 out within two months at an arbitration hearing that
- 4 they might be restored. Just want to make sure the
- 5 investigation is thorough and proper.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Dewaelsche
- 7 and Mr. Brown.
- 8 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Thank you, Mr.
- 9 Chair. As Commissioner Griffe mentioned, you know, I
- 10 was appalled as well but I was appalled at the way the
- 11 young lady was treated. And I would like to know what
- 12 the policy is. First of all, I understand she was about
- 13 17; is that correct?
- 14 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair she was not;
- it doesn't matter if she was 17 or 27.
- 16 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Well, here's why I
- 17 bring that up, because if she was 17 or younger, she was
- 18 a minor. And that would be just totally, totally out of
- 19 line and inappropriate to have someone, you know, walk
- 20 home from stopping them from a stop.
- 21 And the other thing is that the governor, if
- 22 I'm correct, and correct me if I am wrong, had just
- 23 declared that day an emergency, state of emergency for
- 24 the state. And to me that has to mean something in this
- 25 investigation that a person, as you said whether it's an



- 1 adult or a youth, was forced to walk in that weather.
- 2 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair I have the
- 3 same type of passion; I've expressed that. I want to
- 4 follow it the correct way. I'm asking that we be
- 5 patient. I am considering the time of day, hours of
- 6 darkness. I personally contacted the mothers when it
- 7 was reported. When I found out that there was an issue
- 8 with towing and that the fees, they couldn't afford it,
- 9 we waived the fees so they could get their automobile
- 10 returned and she was pleased about that. I will tell
- 11 you, and I indicated this in a prior news story, there
- 12 was a former officer who posted in response to this
- incident; he worked at the number 6 precinct; he has
- 14 since left the department; he's now working at another
- 15 police agency. He posted that if you think this is bad,
- 16 you should understand what happened Christmas. We
- 17 didn't actually know what Christmas that he was
- 18 referencing but as we began to investigate and identify
- 19 the person that made that post, we learned that in 2017
- 20 of December this same officer did another Snapchat post
- 21 where he stopped, detained a family of Christmas gifts,
- 22 recovered the vehicle or took the vehicle and that
- 23 family walked through the streets wherever they were
- 24 headed to with Christmas gifts and there was a caption
- 25 or at least some reference to walk of shame, a similar



- 1 caption which was used in the video that we now know
- 2 about. So we're taking this very seriously. We're
- 3 looking at past, current, and anything that represents
- 4 what we call a pattern of conduct. So it is very
- 5 serious. I just ask that you give us the amount of time
- 6 and we'll keep you briefed as the investigation
- 7 progresses.
- 8 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Thank you. I do
- 9 want attention to be paid to -- and I know you will --
- 10 to the person, the young lady, however old she was, the
- 11 distance she had to walk, the temperature, the time of
- 12 day. I would be outraged if they did that to my
- 13 daughter.
- 14 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair as I
- 15 indicated in my remarks I along -- it's not just me
- 16 there's many members of this police department white,
- 17 black, Hispanic, male and female who are outraged, so we
- 18 are not taking this lightly.
- 19 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Thank you, Chief.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Brown.
- 21 VICECHAIR BROWN: Chief, hey good to see
- 22 you. You got a tough thing. I know the men and women
- 23 of the police department; tough job to do at times.
- 24 Conduct unbecoming has always been an immediately
- 25 fireable offense and you have the authority to do that.



- 1 I understand why you're walking it down 'cause you want
- 2 it to stick and I appreciate that, the diligence in it.
- 3 That should be something that could be considered --
- 4 should be considered because conduct unbecoming, seems
- 5 like this guy has a pattern which you've uncovered
- 6 already, that he has a pattern of conduct that's
- 7 unbecoming of a Detroit police officer. I know we don't
- 8 train them; you don't train them to be -- to act in such
- 9 a disrespectful way to the department and the community.
- 10 So that's something we should be considering.
- 11 Also I'd like to get with you and through
- 12 the chair and our policy division, maybe we need to come
- 13 up with a policy in situations like that with increment
- 14 weather and if we're going to tow or impound a vehicle,
- and I understand the greater good of impounding the
- 16 vehicle, and it's a humanitarian decision for a person
- 17 to do that, but at the same time, you know, he was
- 18 within all of the policies of the department and
- 19 everything that -- to take action like that but what I'm
- 20 saying is maybe we need a policy if something happens
- 21 like that again that they have to call for a transport
- 22 to make sure these people are taken to a place safe and
- 23 not walking in sub-degree temperatures.
- 24 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair, I want to
- 25 say if there are others, shame -- most of our policies



- 1 use a tremendous amount of common sense. They show
- 2 empathy. I'll tell you the story you've heard me say
- 3 during these hearings where officers will see a child
- 4 that's injured and they will quickly transport and so
- 5 this is disturbing and certainly not befitting or
- 6 reflecting of a Detroit police officer.
- 7 In terms of policy we would hope that
- 8 officers would know that this is not something that
- 9 builds public trust and so I'm optimistic. I have a
- 10 great team, as you know. We hired a new director in
- 11 status and constitutional pleasing who has been deeply
- 12 involved in this investigation and thank goodness for
- 13 his background. I can tell you preliminary, I am not at
- 14 that place today but as we complete this administrative
- investigation there may, emphasis on may, there may be
- 16 an opportunity to look at potential criminality. I'm
- 17 not saying that's what we're going to do; we're going to
- 18 focus on administrative at this point but there may be;
- 19 so, again, this is not being taken lightly and very
- 20 serious.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Mr. Chair.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 23 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Chief Craig, I would
- 24 just like to say regarding what police officers go
- 25 through daily, you're going to have the bad ones, the



- 1 good ones, the in between. My concern is that they're
- 2 training of discernment just to think before sometimes
- 3 they go and make a decision. You said before is that
- 4 make the right decision. You said that so many times in
- 5 your different speeches to the community. My whole
- 6 thing is that if we do rush into this and allow that
- 7 officer to sue the city of Detroit, we're in more
- 8 trouble. Everybody out there is angry about what
- 9 happened to that young girl. We feel that. But it has
- 10 to go through due process. Otherwise we're failing and
- 11 I just want to say to the audience, and to you Chief
- 12 Craig, the 11th precinct put on an event just this past
- 13 Wednesday about policing, about how can we bridge that
- 14 gap of the citizens and the police. It was so many
- 15 different pieces in that everybody here could have
- 16 benefitted from it but we have a lot of people out there
- 17 that just jump to the gun and do things without
- 18 thinking. What he did was unthinkable. That comes into
- 19 this I think our officers need more training
- 20 periodically, that they need to go back and just see how
- 21 they are. And what they brought up in our meeting at
- 22 the 11 precinct, sir, they brought up the word snitching
- 23 and what you just said, the police that's same way they
- 24 are; that think about the young recruit that is
- 25 recruiting but he has a senior person driving with him.



- 1 He may see that senior doing things that's not
- 2 appropriate but he's afraid to say anything. So I think
- 3 you need to serve, just go back and make sure that these
- 4 senior officers are good reputations or good citizens to
- 5 show the young officers how to treat the citizens. And
- 6 we see that, sir.
- 7 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair, I don't
- 8 disagree with anything you've said. There's a lot of
- 9 things we do since we deployed body worn cameras on
- 10 officers. We do random ongoing audits of officers'
- 11 interactions and contacts. We do it because we want to
- 12 make sure that contacts with the public are appropriate.
- 13 Sometimes, and we have our command officers have
- 14 uncovered behavior that's not appropriate but not
- 15 certainly to this level, maybe there's some interaction
- 16 with someone from the community and they're directing
- 17 profanity. Not appropriate. And we take quick and
- 18 prompt action to deal with that. Certainly, OCI
- 19 investigates a lot of complaints involving demeanor but
- 20 I want to caution, this here should not be viewed as the
- 21 way Detroit police officers do business. We certainly
- 22 don't want to send the wrong message. Doesn't mean that
- 23 we shouldn't and we do continue to reenforce the
- 24 appropriate way. We talk extensively, I know that
- 25 Chairman Bell and other commissioners will go to the



- 1 police academy.
- 2 One thing I will tell you as it relates to
- 3 the newer officers of today, one of the things that's
- 4 very different, and I've seen this in my career, younger
- 5 officers today are more apt to talk about conduct that's
- 6 either criminal or administratively wrong. They ask
- 7 questions, well, why are we doing this and yes, it is
- 8 some because of fear that while it may not amount to
- 9 criminality, they know this is not the way people should
- 10 be treated. And so the byproduct of doing this
- 11 environmental, taking prompt action to address this, it
- 12 sends a message to the entire organization. As I'll
- 13 restate we had a situation involving a probationary
- officer who made inappropriate statement; he was fired
- 15 within 24 hours and you would think that alone would
- 16 have been a message for all. And so, and this is not
- 17 isolated to just Detroit. There are other departments
- 18 that grapple with posting social media and it's gotten
- 19 people in trouble.
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURCH: But Chief, just to
- 21 follow-up what you just said, in my opinion again it's
- 22 about the officers being just like evaluated at so many
- 23 months to see how they are because how many citizens
- 24 actually know the three pieces of ID when they're pulled
- over that should be in your pocket or in your glove box.



- 1 And a lot of people don't keep it, right? So that
- 2 officer may get antsy and say, okay, where is your IDs;
- 3 where's your registration, where's your blah, blah,
- 4 blah. Because maybe he's so stressed out from other
- 5 things he's done, that okay this last person, you're on
- 6 my last nerve where's your ID; I want to ask you this,
- 7 Chief, is a police officer supposed to tell a citizen to
- 8 get out of their car and walk back to their car and give
- 9 them their information? Is that legal to ask that
- 10 person to get out the car?
- 11 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair there may be
- 12 a reason. I talked about discretion. The one thing I
- won't involve myself in or nor the supervision and
- 14 management, officers have the discretion to stop, to
- 15 cite. They don't call the police chief and say do I
- 16 have your permission to cite this person or impound but
- 17 it's for officer's safety and they can articulate. Many
- 18 times the officers there's no such thing as a random
- 19 stop. Many times these officers don't know what they're
- 20 dealing with and if there's some further movement in the
- 21 car that causes an officer concern. They absolutely
- 22 should investigate further and during that investigation
- 23 the determination is made that the person didn't do
- 24 anything wrong. Before your tenure on this board I
- 25 talked to the board about something we push out through



- 1 all the commands, something we call dusting off; is that
- when you have a stop with someone that maybe it didn't
- 3 go quite so well. Maybe you had to have a person step
- 4 out of the car. The key is dusting off just simply
- 5 means explaining why we did what we did. And that may
- 6 not necessarily make that person feel that much better
- 7 but at least they now know; and officers sometimes have
- 8 to go to the next level and understand it so they can go
- 9 home and be safe but it's how you do it that's what
- 10 counts and what matters.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Chief, I want to thank
- 13 you for taking these steps. I don't know if the
- 14 commission heard you say that you conducted two
- 15 extraordinary investigation on this matter, so you've
- 16 been up front as in the past. But we want to commend
- 17 the police officers that's on the city streets 24/7.
- 18 They're doing excellent job in terms of traffic stop, et
- 19 cetera, et cetera as we all know. When these incidents
- 20 happen people always say well what about whatever; they
- 21 are human beings. They make mistakes and our job is to
- 22 get to the bottom of it and deal with it. So as you
- 23 well know it's ongoing. We going to have some incidents
- tomorrow or in the future. There's no perfect human
- 25 beings out here policing in any work endeavor, so that's



- 1 the challenge.
- 2 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair I just want
- 3 to certainly thank the community as I indicated earlier
- 4 my remarks on this matter Deputy Chief Bettison did
- 5 reach out to a number of our stake holders, president of
- 6 NAACP, a number of ministers to advise them of what took
- 7 place. I know I called you to talk about what we were
- 8 doing, our next steps. So they were all pleased with
- 9 the direction that we're going. Also I know there's a
- 10 press conference on Friday with a number of state
- 11 legislatures, one being Sherry Gay-Dagnogo. I had a
- 12 conversation with her. She certainly, like everyone
- 13 here, expressed her disdain for this matter. I talked
- 14 to her about the necessity to, you know, follow it the
- 15 correct way, their union rights and she indicated in
- 16 that conversation she appreciates that and but she says
- 17 she's going to go forward with her press conference to
- 18 talk about what she believes can be done but respects
- 19 the fact that we're trying to do it the right way.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. We're going
- 21 to move on to Mr. Darnell Blackburn from Michigan
- 22 Commission of Law Enforcement standards, MCOLES as we
- 23 know it. And he is no stranger. We've been interacting
- 24 at the academy and he also attended graduation.
- 25 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the chair.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, sir.
- 2 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I had a question for
- 3 the chief.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Well, you have to pause
- 5 now, sir, 'cause we're going to go with the next
- 6 speaker. I asked and nobody responded.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I had my hand up.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Could you pause? Okay.
- 9 MR. BLACKBURN: Good afternoon,
- 10 commissioners. And thank you Mr. Secretary for the
- 11 invitation. You know, my portion of presentation is
- 12 more so for information for you all. I would say
- 13 unintentionally this is probably one of the better
- 14 meetings for me to attend because of the idea of the
- 15 conversation about training. Just for your benefit I
- 16 just want to give you somewhat of an idea what MCOLES
- 17 is. MCOLES is the Michigan Commission of Law
- 18 Enforcement Standards. And I know that you have some
- 19 documentation in front of you but let me just give you
- 20 kind of a snapshot. MCOLES is the governing body for
- 21 all law enforcement here in the state of Michigan. We
- 22 set the entry level standards as well as training
- 23 standards. Once you're in the academy a couple training
- 24 standards for while you're on the job. With that being
- 25 said, we're empowered by a public act 203 of 1965 just



- 1 some basic information.
- I wanted to kind of jump in maybe a little
- 3 bit on this conversation. One of the things that is a
- 4 benefit, and I see specifically with all the -- well,
- 5 with the 600 or so agencies in the state, not all of
- 6 them do this but one of the entry level standards is a
- 7 psychological screening. Everybody has to do medical
- 8 screening and things of that nature but on the
- 9 psychological screening there's a form that says that a
- 10 medical doctor can sign off on this psychological
- 11 evaluation form. Literally just a medical doctor could
- 12 look at you and say Mr. Hicks you're suitable to be a
- 13 police officer; you feel like you going to harm
- 14 somebody? You feel --
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Excuse me. I hear some
- 16 commissioners. I think if we could not have any
- 17 conversation and give him an opportunity to speak. I
- 18 hear that feedback. Thank you.
- 19 MR. BLACKBURN: With that being said I can
- 20 speak to an agency specifically or specifically to
- 21 Detroit and there are other agencies and larger cities
- 22 in the state of Michigan that do this but one of the
- 23 things that Detroit looks for is with psychological,
- 24 they actually do a psychological evaluation upon entry
- 25 and as I understand it from years of dealing with them



- 1 they look -- you guys look for suitability and maturity
- 2 with regard to entry level standards. Now if you got a
- 3 medical doctor that can just sign off on and say, you
- 4 know, you're free of mental and emotional instability,
- 5 that's obviously a greater standard as to what Detroit
- 6 is doing and looking at. The challenge is this, is that
- 7 as was spoken earlier by one of the commissioners, that
- 8 once you're on the job, you are on the job. There
- 9 aren't evaluations; MCOLES does not require that they
- 10 continue evaluations and for a number of reasons. We've
- 11 had discussions like that at the state of Michigan and
- 12 about, you know, following up with these evaluations but
- the challenge is obviously it's a major financial burden
- 14 to incur, to say for an agency the size of MSP or DPD to
- 15 continue to send people through evaluations without
- 16 cause. So those are some of the challenges with regards
- 17 to the standards.
- We set the entry level standards and we
- 19 allow agencies to set the standards higher than what we
- 20 do. But, you know, I can definitely say that the city
- 21 of Detroit is one of those agencies that does that. So
- 22 to just give you guys some information, one of the other
- 23 things that I want to talk about is public act 128 of
- 24 2017 passed, you know, obviously a couple years ago.
- 25 And with regard to that one of the things, the



- 1 challenges is we've heard of rogue police officers who
- 2 get terminated from one place and go work at another
- 3 place. That's been a huge challenge for MCOLES as well
- 4 as Detroit and other agencies where people are getting
- 5 in because what they've done, they may have been --
- 6 committed criminal acts that don't rise to the level of
- 7 felony which allow them at times to continue to look for
- 8 law enforcement work. Now with this public act of 128
- 9 of 2017 there are certain misdemeanors that are
- 10 disqualifiable or revokable or suspendable offenses.
- 11 Just some of those to throw out possession of any drug
- 12 including marijuana. Use of any narcotics, schedule one
- 13 narcotic. Assault and battery conviction. Domestic
- 14 violence conviction. These are things that we've
- 15 changed as of recent to try to prevent these things from
- 16 happening. The other thing that we try to improve was
- 17 the idea we have a separation form that we use for
- 18 officers when they are retired, separated, terminated
- 19 from agencies. We have made it a mandate now the
- 20 agencies indicate why people are being separated,
- 21 whereas before they could just say separated or they can
- 22 check separated in lieu of some sort of prosecution but
- 23 they didn't have to document that. Now we've changed
- 24 that process, so we're trying to do things to
- 25 professionalize and make things better with regard to



- 1 law enforcement for the greater good all of the 600 or
- 2 so agencies and the 18,000 police officers in the state
- 3 of Michigan.
- I didn't want to come and give you guys a
- 5 formal presentation. I mean, I did want to but I really
- 6 want to answer any questions that you all might have
- 7 with regard to hiring or licensing or training in
- 8 general with regard to the academy, so I'd like to open
- 9 up the floor for you if you do have questions.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioners?
- 11 VICECHAIR BROWN: I have a question.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Brown.
- 13 VICECHAIR BROWN: Mr. Blackburn, thank you
- 14 for coming; it's always a pleasure to sit back and talk
- 15 with you. I know you're very knowledgeable about
- 16 everything. But where I see a gap is that this new form
- 17 and everything that you're filling out, is this
- 18 electronically filed?
- MR. BLACKBURN: Yes.
- 20 VICECHAIR BROWN: So why aren't we -- when
- 21 people are let go from a department and things like that
- 22 why isn't their certification immediately revoked? If
- 23 they're let go 'cause these guys are going through
- 24 criminal prosecution and everything and they still not
- losing their certifications and that's how they're able



- 1 to slip through the cracks and do all these things
- 2 'cause they're still certified police officers, so why
- 3 isn't it immediately revoked when things like that
- 4 happen or put in a suspended or suspension status where
- 5 they can't practice?
- 6 MR. BLACKBURN: So very good question.
- 7 Prior to this act really the only thing that could get
- 8 you permanently revoked was being convicted of a felony
- 9 and often times, just like that chief said, with any due
- 10 process in a court system people are -- they get charged
- initially with a higher charge and it's pled down to the
- 12 lower charge. Now with these revokable misdemeanors we
- 13 are allowed to revoke them; we are allowed to completely
- 14 revoke them if it's one of those misdemeanors, which
- don't rise to the level of felony. But what we try to
- 16 do is with due process we have to give people an
- 17 opportunity because it is what it is regarding that.
- 18 However, what we've done is the idea we've
- 19 put on the agency so if, for example, if somebody gets
- 20 terminated for, you know, maybe not one of those
- 21 disqualifiable misdemeanors or a felony, it's on that
- 22 form, the agencies now have to give form. Before they
- 23 didn't give -- the agencies didn't have to exchange the
- 24 forms so now they have to exchange that information and
- 25 now the ownness becomes on that agency to make the



- 1 determination as to whether or not they're going to hire
- 2 them, if that makes sense.
- 3 VICECHAIR BROWN: So in the midst of like an
- 4 investigation if something happens with an officer, so
- 5 like let's just say I did a Snapchat video of something
- 6 and I'm suspended. I know that it's not going to
- 7 expound upon anything criminal, so in light of all the
- 8 controversy I just say I'm just going to resign, and
- 9 then I'll go work for a neighboring department. How do
- 10 we stop that? Because now this officer is still allowed
- 11 to carry on the same conduct and behavior. It's still
- 12 going to follow with, you know, like they say a leopard
- 13 never changes his spots. But he's still going to
- 14 follow; how do we prevent people like that falling
- 15 through the gaps and slipping in, you know, quitting
- 16 from one department? You know, my question really is
- 17 should that certification follow him or should it be
- 18 recertified from department to department?
- 19 MR. BLACKBURN: I can give you my personal
- 20 opinion but that would get me in trouble. I'll give you
- 21 professionally. The idea is that if you are department
- 22 A and the chair is department B and, you know, I resign
- 23 from department A and in lieu of something, I'm being
- 24 maybe prosecuted or in lieu of some suspicious
- 25 circumstances. It is up to the chair's department B to



1 do their due diligence and make the determination as to

- 2 whether or not they're going to hire them.
- 3 Unfortunately, again, as I stated with regard to the --
- 4 if it's not a felony, we cannot automatically revoke
- 5 them. And that's part of the challenge is that these
- 6 departments are hiring people that they know are coming
- 7 with this baggage that is not something that's going to
- 8 benefit them and that's the -- -
- 9 VICECHAIR BROWN: But you guys set the
- 10 rules, though, right?
- MR. BLACKBURN: Absolutely.
- 12 VICECHAIR BROWN: So you can change the
- 13 rule?
- 14 MR. BLACKBURN: You work for a board, it's
- 15 not that easy.
- 16 VICECHAIR BROWN: I know it's not but I'm
- 17 just saying it needs to be addressed and looked at where
- 18 you can't just walk from neighboring departments amidst
- 19 some controversy. If you resign under some type of
- 20 controversy, then that certification should be revoked
- 21 or suspended and then that prompts an investigation.
- 22 MR. BLACKBURN: There are things that cause
- 23 it to be revoked but some things are, you know, are
- 24 things that are subjective. We have to have -- we got
- 25 the concrete things but there are other things are



- 1 subjective, just like what was spoken of, we got to give
- 2 due process; and mistakes are different than misdeeds.
- 3 You know, and that's just it.
- 4 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair. I just
- 5 want to respond to Commissioner Brown's concerns. One
- of the things we do here is that any time, and many
- 7 times when we're going through the process of hearings
- 8 sometimes employees will decide that they think they're
- 9 racing termination and they'll retire and resign. And
- 10 routinely what we do is we place on the resignation,
- 11 resign under charges. It's up to the hiring agency to
- 12 do their due diligence. What does that mean? Where it
- 13 becomes problematic when the agency that's allowing the
- 14 person to retire or resign doesn't make a notation
- 15 concerning that and it may not come up. That's
- 16 something we do as a matter of routine.
- 17 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: Through the chair.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner.
- 19 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: I agree with
- 20 Commissioner Brown on this topic. And I would like to
- 21 -- if this body could send some kind of -- and we don't
- 22 have the power and authority of course, we're not in
- 23 charge of MCOLES but maybe make some statement, and I
- 24 don't know how the other colleagues feel, to send
- 25 something to the board just with our formal



- 1 recommendation for some kind of redesign on the policy,
- 2 because it makes no sense to me that something could
- 3 happen with an officer like what we're discussing right
- 4 now and they would be allowed to go a division or to
- 5 another police department that has less tolerance for
- 6 this kind of behavior. And I think even with them being
- 7 allowed, you know, with us putting something in their
- 8 file it doesn't matter if the person that's on the other
- 9 side of the hiring table is okay -- it acceptable but I
- 10 think that what we deem acceptable in Detroit should not
- 11 be allowed to be transferred anywhere in Michigan
- 12 because the same thing could have happened to -- if we
- 13 allow it to move to Royal Oak or Ferndale. That's just
- 14 my -- what I'd like to see happen, if everybody else --
- 15 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Mr. Chair?
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes.
- 17 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I'd just like to say
- 18 with both commissioners I concur with what they said is
- 19 that the problems we have we just don't have the
- 20 solution yet. It does not make sense for an officer to
- 21 do whatever he's doing and then to go to another state
- 22 or just within the same city just in the suburbs, so the
- 23 problem still goes on and on with that officer. So
- 24 we've got to step to the table and find solutions.
- 25 Thank you.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Any other commissioners?
- 2 Well, I guess you covered the subject matter. This is
- 3 an age old issue. As you well know it's a political
- 4 issue. We've come a long way and I think one of the
- 5 commissioners implied what we concerned about is what we
- 6 -- how we hire. That would be the primary in terms of
- 7 what's coming in DPD. I know Chief Craig and recruiting
- 8 team do a thorough job in terms of scrutinize
- 9 individuals that apply for the Detroit Police Department
- 10 and the bar is high. When you talk about recruiting
- 11 people, we say wait a minute we want the best of the
- 12 best. And we know why. Thank you, Mr. Blackburn.
- MR. BLACKBURN: Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Burton, your
- 15 question for the chief.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Sure. Mr. Chairman,
- 17 you know, I have a couple questions. You know, one of
- 18 the questions is that looking at the city of Detroit's
- 19 most violent crime statistics. You know, looking at
- 20 Michigan State Police report, which comes from the
- 21 department, which numbers have shown violent crimes are
- 22 gone up a little, which contradicts the chief's claim
- 23 that violent crimes went down. In 2014 there was a
- 24 15,595 that was reported but MSP has, the state has
- 25 14,136 in 2014. And then in 2015 there was 15,430



- 1 reported and then Michigan State comes back and says
- 2 12,106. I'm looking at numbers for 2016 and 2017. In
- 3 2016 there was 14,568, the city reported, and then the
- 4 state comes back and says 14,149. And then in 2017
- 5 there's 13,796 reported and then the state says it's
- 6 14,362.
- 7 You know, Detroiters, you know, often say
- 8 there's two Detroits. And they feel like when they call
- 9 the police for service either they get a busy signal by
- 10 9-1-1 or the police doesn't show. You know, Detroiters
- 11 need a full-time police chief and not a chief that's
- 12 wearing two hats, you know, so Detroiters want to see --
- they don't want a part-time police department because
- 14 the police department is involved in the community 24/7.
- 15 You know, I personally call for the chief to resign as
- 16 Deputy Mayor and focus full-time --
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Burton.
- 18 Commissioner Burton. That remarks is inappropriate.
- 19 The chief of police is coming here as chief of police.
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman, Detroit
- 21 is still one of the most violent cities in America. And
- 22 there is no other city has a chief of police also
- 23 operating as the Deputy Mayor. We cannot have the
- 24 police department functioning part-time when we have
- 25 these type of data statistics that's before us. You



- 1 know, we are tired of the shenanigans.
- 2 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair, I'd like to
- 3 respond.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, sir, Chief Craig,
- 5 you can respond but I just want to -- as this board that
- 6 that line of questioning is out of order. The chair is
- 7 going to rule that line of question's out of record.
- 8 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman, well
- 9 then --
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Excuse me, let the chair.
- 11 That has no place in terms of on our agenda in terms of
- 12 this Board of Police Commissioners. If the chief going
- 13 to be so kind to respond but the issue of is totally --
- 14 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order,
- 15 Mr. Chairman.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Chairman ruled you're out
- 17 of order.
- 18 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order,
- 19 Mr. Chairman.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Chief Craig.
- 21 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair and
- 22 Commissioner Burton, I know this has been an issue
- 23 that's come up before, so I owe you a response. Let me
- just say my day to day job whether the mayor is out of
- 25 town or in town is a police chief. That's been widely



- 1 reported by local newspaper that the mayor's out of
- 2 town. I've not spent one minute in the mayor's office.
- 3 I've not done anything associated with the mayor's
- 4 office. My job is that of the police chief; I've been
- 5 immersed in it and per the article the mayor can appoint
- 6 anyone he wants to fulfill the role of Deputy Mayor.
- 7 The Deputy Mayor triggers and in the time I've been in
- 8 this, as you kept wearing two hats, it's only been once
- 9 that I've had to invoke mayoral duties and it was
- 10 actually a law enforcement function. I remember it.
- 11 Kmak, there was a report of an explosive device. A
- 12 decision by the Deputy Mayor police chief was to
- 13 evacuate Kmak, which we did that, until we could render
- 14 the building safe. That has been the only time I have
- 15 performed the duties of a Deputy Mayor.
- On occasion whether the mayor's in or out of
- 17 town I've had to go to events where I've represented the
- 18 city and an event I'd more than likely would attend
- 19 anyway, so any assertion that I am part-time I'm hardly
- 20 that. And these last three weeks have probably been
- 21 some of the busiest weeks, I spent not one minute doing
- 22 anything associated with the mayor. So I wanted to make
- 23 that point clear.
- 24 As it relates to crime it's been asked and
- 25 answered. We keep going over it. At one point, I don't



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- 1 have the data in front of me for the prior years but it
- 2 was this department when we had an outdated RMS, I
- 3 talked extensively about the horrible RMS system we had
- 4 and what we found that the numbers being reported as it
- 5 relates to aggravated assaults were 2,000 aggravated
- 6 assaults less and we argued and said no, our information
- 7 is there's 2,000 more. Who wants to report more crime?
- 8 But we're willing to do it, so it was a dispute.
- 9 I will also note 'cause I think it's
- 10 important to note since we have our new RMS system, the
- 11 Michigan State Police the last quarter of last year
- 12 recognized this department for the way we deal with
- 13 crime data. I think it's very important. My last
- 14 point, I think it's important to say this, this whole
- 15 issue of two Detroits and that in some way we staff
- 16 precincts based on economics. Poor neighborhoods get
- 17 less police service, so in anticipation of your concern
- 18 I brought a document, which I'm certainly more than
- 19 willing to share with you.
- So, for example, when we look at the 3rd
- 21 precinct, which is the precinct that Corktown, we know
- 22 there are fewer officers assigned to that precinct. I'm
- 23 looking for it, so if you could just bear with me for a
- 24 minute. I'm just going to talk about calls of service.
- 25 So by way of example in the 3rd precinct in the last 28



- 1 days what we do is we do an evaluation of our staffing
- 2 levels every 28 days so we can make real time
- 3 adjustments. That means if we find that one area is
- 4 going up in calls, we may want to add two, three
- 5 additional police officers. We make those adjustments
- 6 based on officers coming out of the cabinets. So by
- 7 example, in the 3rd precinct during the last 28 day
- 8 period there were 340 priority one calls for service.
- 9 In the 3rd precinct other nonpriority like priorities
- 10 twos and threes, and all those other calls 1,193. Now
- in comparison the 9th precinct, which is no secret it's
- 12 the busiest precinct along with 8th, but in terms of
- 13 violence, the highest violent area. In the 9th precinct
- 14 696 priority one calls for service. More than double
- 15 and then in terms of other calls for service roughly a
- 16 few less than what's in the 3rd precinct: 1,173. The
- 17 reason why I bring that up because when you talk about
- 18 violence in certain areas of the city, and we all know
- 19 the 9th precinct on the east side of Detroit is very
- 20 busy; more shootings, homicides and when there's a
- 21 homicide investigation, resources get tied up. There
- 22 are times where all units assigned to 9th precinct are
- 23 not available for calls in the 9th precinct so the
- 24 dispatcher has to reach out, pull cars from 5, which is
- 25 next door; we have to pull cars from 7, which is not as



- 1 busy. So that's just an example. But also when you
- 2 look at the number of calls for service what we do, and
- 3 I think James White said it eloquently during the last
- 4 meeting, we don't deploy for socioeconomic reasons; what
- 5 we deploy for calls for service, violent crime and
- 6 population density. The 8th precinct, which is far east
- 7 -- I mean, far west, which is another busy precinct,
- 8 certainly doesn't have the same socioeconomic issues but
- 9 the call load is significant. So by way of example if
- 10 you look at the 8th precinct over the last 28 days,
- 11 priority one calls 816; 100 or so more than even the 9th
- 12 precinct.
- 13 So when you look at our deployment of
- 14 officers -- and this information is available to you and
- 15 certainly the entire board are welcome to come and look
- 16 at how we deploy -- this is something that I kind of
- 17 grew up in; it's important because we know that calls
- 18 for service change, and we have to respond to that
- 19 change. So every 28 days we're looking at this report,
- 20 so there are no two Detroits.
- 21 And the other thing I will just say is that
- 22 when you talk about response times of course because
- 23 there's a significantly higher call load in 9th and 8th
- 24 precincts, the response time is not going to be the
- 25 same. It might be a minute or two higher but even



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- 1 though we have more resources deployed, we still know.
- 2 And then there's a prioritization matrix within priority
- 3 one calls. Shooting in progress, sexual assault in
- 4 progress take the higher priority. Now are we going to
- 5 make mistakes? Absolutely. We do make mistakes but we
- 6 never, never from a place of trust and integrity, we
- 7 will never put resources because one area is more
- 8 affluent than the other.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Well chief, you know,
- 10 over in the 7th precinct area there is a senior citizen
- 11 building right around the corner where a senior were
- 12 sexually assaulted outside the grounds of her residence
- 13 and it took police 28 minutes to arrive. And that
- 14 facility is Parkview Place and it also happens to be a
- 15 Green Light. AC White mentioned something just the past
- 16 week about putting cops on dots; citizens -- residents
- 17 want to know what do that really entail, put cops on
- 18 dots, because when they call 9-1-1 in their
- 19 neighborhood, whether it's the 7th precinct or some
- 20 other precinct across the city or say number three for
- 21 instance, there's instances where it could take officers
- 22 30, 40 minutes and sometimes residents say they call
- 23 9-1-1, busy signal. We cannot have that in a city like
- 24 Detroit. Our residents deserve better.
- 25 And then we need to start also as far as



- 1 exercise our fiduciary responsibilities to invest
- 2 heavily in public safety. We need to have -- when
- 3 residents call 9-1-1, they want to know can I depend on
- 4 our police department to come and take this matter
- 5 seriously? The citizens are counting on you as the
- 6 chief of police to lead this department and not wearing
- 7 a second hat as Deputy Mayor. We need a full-time chief
- 8 for the department --
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Burton, I'm
- 10 going to end this type of dialogue.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BURTON: -- because public
- 12 safety --
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Excuse me the chair has
- 14 already ruled that you out of order and we're going to
- 15 end --
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Public safety is a
- 17 real problem here in the city of Detroit.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: The chief is willing to
- 19 meet with any commissioner and his staff to go over any
- 20 concerns you might have in your particular precinct or
- 21 whatever you might have. We can arrange that meeting as
- 22 soon as possible. That would be available to any
- 23 commissioner if you have a specific concern, but we not
- 24 going to spend an hour back and forth on this particular
- 25 issue, so he reported it out. AC -- Assistant Chief



- 1 White reported it out and we're going to move on to -- -
- 2 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the chair, can I just
- 3 say one last thing 'cause I think it's important, I was
- 4 looking for this chart. And it's just on those two
- 5 precincts, so total officers available in the 3rd
- 6 precinct to respond calls for service both priority ones
- 7 and twos are 60. And you compare that to the 9th
- 8 precinct we have 111 officers assigned to the 9th
- 9 precinct and to the 8th precinct, the other precinct I
- 10 talked about that was busy, 103. So again, as you've
- 11 indicated, Mr. Chair, we are open. We want and we
- 12 encourage -- we have a state of the art communications
- 13 system. And we would love for folks to visit and get
- 14 explanations on how we manage calls. I think it's
- 15 important.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: So, Chief --
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Excuse me, Commissioners
- 18 Brooks.
- 19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: No, I'm Commissioner
- 20 Burton, not Brooks.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Brooks --
- 22 COMMISSIONER BURTON: To the chief, what is
- 23 your plan as far as reducing police response time?
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Chief, we're not going to
- 25 --



- 1 COMMISSIONER BURTON: -- Detroit's violence.
- 2 Detroit is still one of the most violent, dangerous
- 3 cities in America.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Brooks, you
- 5 have the floor.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: -- and when residents
- 7 call the police they want the police to show and they
- 8 want to know is my police -- do we have the stomach --
- 9 my police chief does he have the stomach for the job?
- 10 And I'm starting to question that as well because when
- 11 residents call 9-1-1 it takes up to 30 and 40 minutes to
- 12 come out, that can be the difference between life and
- 13 death with residents --
- 14 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: Out of order. I don't
- 15 believe that he was recognized by the chair.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: That is correct.
- 17 Commissioner Brooks you have the floor.
- 18 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Yes, I just want to
- 19 say a few brief words. I have sat here as a police
- 20 commissioner and listened to all of this. I applaud our
- 21 police. All our police. I know my role as a police
- 22 commissioner, but I'm here to help the police; to do the
- 23 things they need to do; to recruit. There are bad
- 24 apples in every barrel. There's nobody perfect and I'm
- 25 going to end on this, please think about the police



- 1 department and all the work they do and how they put
- 2 themselves out there to defend us.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Commissioner Brooks,
- 4 we all support the police, but we also support the
- 5 community --
- 6 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: Point of order.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURTON: -- we should bring
- 8 their concerns before this body, you know. And I think
- 9 that we as a board we need to look at the most -- -
- 10 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: I don't believe he was
- 11 recognized by the chair. Point of order.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: -- and take that
- 13 seriously.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. We're going
- 15 to move on to the city of Detroit Ombudsman, Mr. Bruce
- 16 Simpson. Thank you.
- 17 MR. SIMPSON: Bruce Simpson, city Ombudsman.
- 18 Can you hear me? I would like to respectfully and
- 19 humbly thank your honorable body for allowing me to
- 20 speak with you on such short notice. I would also like
- 21 to thank Chief Craig and the men and women of DPD that
- 22 risk their lives on a daily basis to ensure that we are
- 23 safe. For both of us the Ombudsman office and police
- 24 commission, oversight is the key function of our
- 25 respective roles in the city government. And I know how



- 1 hard you work to provide it. With that being said there
- 2 are a number of racially charged incidents that have
- 3 taken place recently. I'm sure that none of this is
- 4 lost on you. But for context purposes this is what we
- 5 have seen. The foundation hotel lawsuit filed where
- 6 allegedly some of the staff at the hotel were considered
- 7 too dark or dirty. Kid Rock restaurant, a lawsuit filed
- 8 in the case where a young black woman claims she was
- 9 fired for wearing her natural hair with a curly afro.
- 10 Eastern Market, this summer, a young black man working
- 11 as a security guard spit on in his face over parking
- 12 space. Demolition, a white contractor working for a
- 13 non-Detroit based company with a gun on his hip
- 14 attempted to assault a black Detroit building authority
- 15 field liaison and called him a racial slur. The N word.
- 16 This matter would have never come to light if the
- 17 Ombudsman office had not only received the complaint but
- 18 acted in a timely manner. This company also, the same
- 19 company, went on to demolish a house full of asbestos
- 20 adjacent to the home of an 83 year old black woman.
- 21 That's one of our seniors. This was in September. And
- 22 last but not least Mr. Gary Steele after forcing a young
- 23 woman to walk in the cold, which has been talked about
- 24 here today. He posted to his Snapchat, as if ridiculing
- and demeaning her the whole time wasn't enough, what



- 1 black girl magic looks like and I quote happy black
- 2 history month and I quote. These are all recent events.
- 3 I won't elaborate on the last because we've talked about
- 4 it extensively. And I'm sure you're aware based on the
- 5 chief's comments as well as all the reporting what's
- 6 going on with that.
- 7 This is a racially charged environment that
- 8 we are living in as a nation and as a city you can see
- 9 from the examples that I've mentioned we are not exempt.
- 10 If we are not careful, we will have a Ferguson like
- 11 incident, and I'm not certain we are equipped with a
- 12 plan, which will be necessary to address these issues
- 13 that are born out of the racial divide that currently
- 14 exists. Why do I say this? DPD is not immune to the
- 15 tension that plaques our city. I could talk about the
- 16 67 riots, but that would be too easy. Let's talk about
- 17 the Livernois-Fenkell riot that occurred in 1975. How
- 18 many of you are familiar with this particular incident?
- 19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I was involved in it.
- 20 VICECHAIR BROWN: I live over there.
- 21 MR. SIMPSON: So I've provided you with a
- 22 handout today for those of you who may or may not be
- 23 familiar with the incident. I'm not going to go into
- 24 all the details but I am going to speak about it briefly
- 25 because it speaks to the psychology of what's going on



- 1 now as well as historically. What that handout does not
- 2 tell you is that Mayor Young instructed white officers
- 3 to stand down and only send black officers to the scene.
- 4 Tragically, there were two deaths that occurred. That
- 5 is indeed tragic but the actual riot was put to an end
- 6 without one single shot being fired. My grandmother,
- 7 the honorable Barbara-Rose Collins, who was a friend to
- 8 the mayor, taught me the psychology behind the mayor's
- 9 request to ask his white officers to stand down and
- 10 dispersing of the black officers. He told her that he
- 11 knew he would not be able to resolve the riot if the
- 12 people were not able to realize they would only be
- 13 hurting themselves, if they tried to violently engage
- 14 the police.
- Now to reference something that I actually
- 16 lived through from my childhood 1992, the age of 9 I saw
- 17 the Rodney King beating that took place in Los Angeles.
- 18 The world saw the reaction to the acquittal of those
- 19 officers, which manifested itself in the LA riots. Now
- 20 conversely here in Detroit I also remember Malice Green
- 21 being beat to death by two white officers and not one
- 22 rock was thrown. Now some of you may agree or may not
- 23 agree with the fact that Coleman Young decided to fire
- 24 those officers immediately but it played back to the
- 25 psychology of the citizens that he was dealing with. He



- 1 knew his people. And because of that he had to address
- 2 it immediately. Like I said Rodney King was beaten.
- 3 Malice Green was beat to death. Not one riot. Both
- 4 incidents occurred in 1992, same year. Both cities had
- 5 black mayors but the outcomes were totally different.
- 6 After reading his biography, that's Coleman Young, I
- 7 understood that this was the mayor's biggest fear. A
- 8 racially charged incident that might spark a riot. The
- 9 mayor had been preparing for that moment concerning
- 10 Malice Green for nearly 20 years since the
- 11 Livernois-Fenkell riot that occurred in 1975, nearly 20
- 12 years, which is why he addressed it the way he did.
- Now, fortunately, for us all of the recent
- 14 minor incidents that have occurred, and I don't want to
- 15 trivialize any of them when I say minor, I mean
- 16 obviously we have some serious concerns but none of them
- 17 have boiled over as we've seen historically what can
- 18 actually happen. But incidents that have occurred have
- 19 been dealt with appropriately because of our leadership
- 20 and I thank you for that. And we are living in a more
- 21 integrated city now, more than we have in the last 40
- 22 years and we have to work together to ensure that we
- 23 protect one another.
- 24 My coming here today is to say we have to
- 25 think about how we can preemptively strike and do away



- 1 with some of the tension that exists in our city. Race
- 2 is always a sensitive subject, but it's one that we
- 3 cannot ignore. We have to have a plan. With that I'll
- 4 take any questions you may have.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I want to thank you for
- 6 conveying your concern and I think we are aware and we
- 7 are working together and we appreciate your remarks.
- 8 MR. SIMPSON: Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We're going to move on to
- 10 Dr. Polly McCalister from office of chief investigator.
- DR. MCCALISTER: Good afternoon again. So
- 12 we didn't have a presentation in December 'cause we
- 13 didn't meet the last two weeks and the report was due
- 14 last week but we moved it to this wee, so if you see
- 15 December, don't panic; we're not behind. So my team
- 16 have been talking about what could we do to reduce our
- 17 citizens complaints. From December 2017 to 2018 we have
- 18 processed 1,151 complaints. That's an average of 68
- 19 cases per person. So with that in mind we decided to
- 20 create a five-prong approach, so office of the chief
- 21 investigator we go speak to the officers and go to speak
- 22 to the recruits and we try to address their conduct. So
- 23 we want to focus on --
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Can you speak into the
- 25 mic a little more?



- DR. MCCALISTER: Is this better? So the
- 2 conduct leads to complaints and our complaints are
- 3 turning into lawsuits. So that's going to be our new
- 4 focus. So meeting with corporation counsel I was
- 5 provided with this sheet that talks about how much money
- 6 we've spent in lawsuits, so before we get to the dollar
- 7 amount you can look at that and we're going to go to the
- 8 next slide and I'm going to give you the break down. So
- 9 the allegations of lawsuits have stemmed from assault
- 10 and battery, which is a crime of threatening and
- 11 physical hitting or attacking someone, false
- 12 imprisonment, false arrests in which the individual
- 13 believes, mistakenly believes that the individual
- 14 restraining him or her possesses the legal authority to
- do so, whereas there's no probably cause. We have a lot
- of civil rights violations, rights protected by the
- 17 constitution, sometimes involving unlawful and
- 18 unreasonable searches and seizures, excessive force,
- 19 false arrest, and sometimes fabricated evidence.
- 20 Now regarding the lawsuits some of these
- 21 have been settled out of court, which means the officers
- 22 never had an opportunity to come to court and testify.
- 23 So this is the cost: 3,818,342. That's sometimes an
- 24 average for an average nonprofit but that's going to be
- 25 our focus is to share this dollar amount with our



- 1 recruits and to the officers that we go out and speak to
- 2 to say, you know, our conduct leads to a complaint and a
- 3 complaint may not be a big deal to you but when it leads
- 4 to a lawsuit it costs the city money, which takes money
- 5 out of the police budget. So we did start our think
- 6 before you speak budget training and this is just some
- 7 of our results. So we did the 7th precinct training and
- 8 they started out with four, now they're down to two.
- 9 For downtown services they were kind of high, started
- out with 12; after the training now they're down to 2.
- 11 The 9th precinct they started out with 4 and now they're
- 12 down 2, so it is making progress.
- So for December we had a 35 percent increase
- 14 with citizen complaints. Some of them have been
- 15 duplicates which we do take out of the system but 35 is
- 16 a high increase. So this is just typical of just
- 17 acknowledging which precinct got what complaints and as
- 18 always the unknown complaints are always higher. And
- 19 this just shows you for December we had 30 demeanor
- 20 complaints and we had 44 procedure complaints and
- 21 service we kind of like elevated a little which
- 22 typically service we're rather low; we average normally
- 23 about 7 to 10. This for December we had 27.
- 24 And Commissioner Bell, we're still
- 25 monitoring the profane language and the F-word. For



- 1 October we had three used profanity and five used the
- 2 F-word. For November four used profanity and three used
- 3 the F-word. And for December we had 11 use profanity
- 4 and two with the F-word so we saw a decrease. We're
- 5 also monitoring the hit and runs and even though the
- 6 numbers are not high, it may due to people don't know
- 7 that we accept those complaints and we still will
- 8 investigate that for them but as of right now they're
- 9 still rather low and we'll continue to monitor those.
- 10 So far demeanor complaints out of the 82
- 11 compared to the 92 in November, and 115 in October;
- 12 wanted to give you kind of an explanation of an admin
- 13 closure. That's a formal investigation if we can close
- it, if it's a duplicate, which means I file a complaint,
- 15 he filed a complaint, she filed a complaint and we can
- 16 close it that way or if we transfer the case to internal
- 17 affairs or the member is no longer employed or they are
- 18 deceased or it lacks merit and did not violate any law
- 19 or policy. When it's exonerated where the preponderance
- 20 of the evidence shows that the alleged conduct did occur
- 21 but did not violate DPD policies, and inconclusive where
- 22 there's insufficient facts to support or refute the
- 23 allegation. For sustained that actually means that the
- 24 officer did what the citizen accused them of and we
- 25 actually have proof of it. Unfounded is where the



- 1 investigation revealed no facts to support the incident
- 2 complained of.
- 3 So far body worn cameras we always try to
- 4 when we speak to our officers to encourage them to wear
- 5 them and out of the 82 incidents 44 out of the 53
- 6 incidents were actually captured on body-worn camera and
- 7 9 were not captured. That could have been from
- 8 malfunction of the camera or it not being on, batteries
- 9 running low or it wasn't captured within the three
- 10 second delay. So this is our new where we monitor false
- 11 allegations based on the body-worn camera whereas a
- 12 citizen will actually file a complaint that may be an
- officer used force or maybe used profanity and we were
- 14 able to prove based on the body-worn camera that it did
- 15 not occur. So we use this when we go into the academy
- 16 to actually encourage officers to wear them because out
- of all the complaints we had 1,151, 190 were proven
- 18 totally false.
- 19 So Commissioner Bell, you asked about what
- 20 type of issues had our office been seeing since the
- 21 inception of body-worn cameras, which started in August
- 22 of 2016. We did have an issue where officers were
- 23 turning their body-worn cameras off on a rate. So at a
- 24 point where they make entry into the house they get
- 25 things secured, they would turn it off and they had



- 1 somewhat legitimate reasons. After talking to Captain
- 2 Jackson, they're trying to resolve those issues where
- 3 everybody's on board and they leave the cameras on. We
- 4 get a lot of complaints of we cannot prove if the search
- 5 warrant was actually left, so we made a recommendation
- 6 when narcotics leave search warrant, shoot it with your
- 7 body cam and out the door you go, so we have the actual
- 8 proof that it's on the premises. Officers reporting for
- 9 overtime and no body-worn cameras being available, which
- 10 is a leadership issue not an officer issue.
- 11 Secondary employment officers at one point
- in time everybody did not have body-worn cameras and
- 13 citizens filing complaints after 90 days and there's no
- 14 video footage. And no video capture for body-worn
- 15 cameras not functioning or not being activated based on
- 16 the street level and this is our seniority and rank
- 17 report. For lieutenants we saw a decrease by three.
- 18 Sergeants we have an 18 -- we had 18 and we decreased by
- 19 one. And for police officers we had 101, which
- 20 increased by four. As always we talk about our goals;
- 21 we did complete our review of the SOP, we're just
- 22 putting it together for -- to present to the board for
- 23 signatures, and for your review and approval. OCI
- 24 partnered with the 11th precinct for their neighborhood
- 25 policing unit seminar on improving the relationship



- 1 between citizens and law enforcement, February 5th,
- 2 which was awesome and we're going to continue to monitor
- 3 the demeanor complaints, continue to monitor for
- 4 offensive slurs, and continue to monitor for hit and
- 5 runs, and continue to build a relationship with DPD, and
- 6 continue with our theme to improve and inspire.
- 7 And on a happier note we had an intern do a
- 8 one-day internship. Well, she returned and she's done 9
- 9 weeks with us with the Lake Shore High School Law
- 10 Enforcement Program and she's so impressed she wants to
- 11 see Lieutenant Potts again, so she comes Wednesdays and
- 12 Thursdays, so hopefully we can get her down here to meet
- 13 with you. And we've been invited to their March
- 14 luncheon because we are going to take some more interns
- 15 from the school so. I'll take any questions that you
- 16 may have.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioners? Holley
- 18 then Brown.
- 19 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Thank you so much.
- 20 Let me ask you this. Report from the (inaudible) what
- 21 was going through your mind. Let me just because my
- 22 concern is is that I read -- I have -- I talked to -- I
- 23 listened to 9 -- 12 citizens a week -- a month. I take
- 24 three complaints on. I don't see anything in there that
- 25 basically would indicate, you know, from these reports,



- 1 just me and I take them home; I read them, and I sign
- 2 off on them. So my concern, can you help me with what
- 3 your feelings is in terms of what the Ombudsman is
- 4 saying in regards to the -- his remarks; what was your
- 5 feeling?
- DR. MCCALISTER: We do live in a city where
- 7 race is a big issue. However, I think within the police
- 8 department our focus is to make sure that our officers
- 9 are providing a good service for our citizens and when
- 10 we see something that we need to address it, that either
- 11 by letting the chief know or let their command know.
- 12 The reports that he may get we may not ever get. Ours
- is just strictly about police misconduct, so we wouldn't
- 14 see or we wouldn't hear the complaints that he received
- 15 but --
- 16 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: When you report to the
- 17 chief how does he respond? How do he respond to you?
- 18 DR. MCCALISTER: We have sent letters to the
- 19 chief about frequent flyers, maybe they've had 12
- 20 different complaints within a three month period. He
- 21 has addressed it. Commissioner Bell had an issue with
- 22 two officers that were off duty in a department car and
- 23 the citizen filed a complaint; he took care of that.
- 24 And any other complaint that we've --
- 25 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: -- and I'll leave you



- 1 alone but I've been in this city for 50 years. I was at
- 2 the Livernois Dexter riot. It was about 50 preachers
- 3 between the two people. It was the preachers that
- 4 basically defused this. I'm saying to you is is that
- 5 when I listened to the chief says as soon as he went to
- 6 the NAACP about this incident, he went to a dozen
- 7 preachers and community leaders. That's one of the
- 8 things that's really making this work and I want to make
- 9 sure because we on television. I'm very emotional about
- 10 it because I love this city. I came in this city with
- 11 13 dollars in my pocket in 1969. This city's been good
- 12 to me and I'm just saying to you this chief, this chief
- is -- I can't say enough about him, about how he runs
- 14 this department and how impressed I am with the chief,
- 15 whatever the hierarchy is. Because of my stoke I get
- 16 emotional and I don't be able to talk, you know, right
- 17 but I'm saying to you is is that I look at this, I read
- 18 these complaints, I see nothing in here about the things
- 19 that -- and I'm not saying it's not true, I'm just
- 20 saying to you I feel like it is very important for us to
- 21 understand in this community -- we on television -- that
- 22 this department does everything they can and this board.
- 23 This board sits here as a review board that he works
- 24 with and I'm just saying to you is that's what defuse
- 25 whatever's going on is because his relationships and



- 1 that's what the other people don't do and didn't do in
- 2 Ferguson and LA and other places. And that I just want
- 3 to get on record not to say that the young man did not
- 4 do his job but I just want to make sure that this police
- 5 department is the top of the line. And I'll leave it
- 6 alone.
- 7 DR. MCCALISTER: Well, you know, from where
- 8 we sit they do a lot of preventing. They will call our
- 9 office and say, well, what are you seeing, what are you
- 10 not seeing. Several people on DPD staff will contact me
- 11 and say well, what can we do different. You know, and
- 12 we'll sit down with them and explain that even with
- 13 Captain Jackson we were supposed to have a meeting with
- 14 him just to go over some issues with narcotics. So he
- 15 wasn't able to make the meeting. I sent him an e-mail
- of our issues and concerns and just as of the last
- 17 complaint we got the other day the officers are leaving
- 18 their cameras on. So we may not be able to sit down
- 19 face to face but they do listen and do hear and do take
- 20 action.
- 21 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Brown.
- 23 VICECHAIR BROWN: Excellent report as
- 24 always. Thank you for your patience. And I wouldn't
- 25 worry about 2018. I know you just had your community



- 1 meeting training at the 11th precinct and I understand
- 2 it went very well. I just want to commend you and your
- 3 team for going out and talking with the officers in
- 4 selected precinct areas. Also when the commissioners
- 5 come out to the academy to speak to officers and the
- 6 public really needs to know that these initiatives even
- 7 with the chief leading things with cease fire and being
- 8 more involved with our neighborhood police officers and
- 9 everything, it's all coming together and everyone should
- 10 really just be happy at the fact that we're coming
- 11 together as a team. Everyone is doing their part and
- 12 it's really working and if I got it right, Chief -- and
- 13 chime in -- if I got it right, I think our lawsuits are
- down from 22 million dollars to 3 million. If I got
- 15 those numbers right. So if that's correct, I mean, I
- think that's a substantial decrease and everything we're
- doing as the board, your office which constantly pushing
- 18 conduct issues, the chief who constantly maintaining and
- 19 supervising the officers. I think we're doing an
- 20 excellent job. I mean, we're going to have some
- 21 hick-ups. We're going to have some hick-ups but it's
- 22 how we rebound from it and I just think everyone of your
- 23 team has done an excellent job with communicating with
- officers, and there's more diagnose now than there was
- 25 in the past and I appreciate you and I just appreciate



- 1 all the work your officer's doing and chief, I know you
- 2 got it tough; I appreciate you, too. But thank you.
- 3 DR. MCCALISTER: Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Dewaelsche.
- 5 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Yes. And I do
- 6 want to -- I totally agree with what's being said by the
- 7 two commissioners. But what I was thinking is in the
- 8 past we have asked questions about how you're
- 9 interacting with the DPD staff and how what the work
- 10 that we do is helping to improve areas with DPD and you
- 11 just said about two or three things that you have been
- 12 doing, you know, meetings that you're conducting, et
- 13 cetera; and I'm just wondering if somehow that could be
- 14 added to your report even if it's just like a list of
- 15 bullet points.
- DR. MCCALISTER: Sure.
- 17 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: You know, that
- 18 would be very helpful for us because then when we go out
- into the community and we're asked well, what are you
- 20 doing about it or what's happening, you know, we can
- 21 make reference to that.
- DR. MCCALISTER: Okay.
- 23 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And so nothing,
- 24 you know, extensive just kind of like bullet points,
- 25 meeting to discuss blah, blah, blah. You know. And I



- 1 think you know what I'm talking about, but the other
- 2 question I had with regard to your charts is, and I
- 3 think Commissioner Brown also asked it when he said he
- 4 was not sure what our lawsuit amount was last year. If
- 5 you could have some comparative numbers like at least in
- 6 the totals, you know, how many cases; for instance, I
- 7 wrote down the numbers of cases and the -- actually the
- 8 ones that were proven unfounded or that did not occur as
- 9 a result of the body-worn cameras. I think that's
- 10 significant --
- DR. MCCALISTER: It is.
- 12 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: -- information to
- 13 even have but if you could tell us what it was last
- 14 year, then we can make those comparisons. Then one
- 15 final question you mentioned there were -- there was a
- 16 35 percent increase in December. So is that compared to
- 17 November or is that compared to the same time?
- 18 DR. MCCALISTER: December of last year to
- 19 this year.
- 20 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: So I wasn't sure
- 21 if it was just a month to month comparison and that
- 22 might be helpful as well, just that having those two
- 23 columns.
- 24 DR. MCCALISTER: Okay. I will have to meet
- 25 with corporation counsel and we meet on a quarterly



- 1 basis so it may not be in the next month's report.
- 2 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Just whenever it
- 3 does occur it will be helpful. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Griffe.
- 5 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: So I think the same
- 6 excellent report. I think your team does excellent work
- 7 when I'm reading the complaints (inaudible.) I feel
- 8 like you give very un-objective detail and it's easy to
- 9 kind of follow and I usually end up agreeing with what
- 10 your investigators have said.
- 11 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: You have to --
- 12 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Can you speak into the
- 13 mic?
- 14 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: -- with what your
- 15 investigators stated in those reports. My question is
- 16 for those in the audience, and I'm listening or watching
- 17 on television who don't know how to file a complaint;
- 18 I'm thinking of this recent incident that has kind of
- 19 been discussed throughout our meeting today and
- 20 wondering in light of other incidents with Corporal
- 21 Jones where the news media has alerted us to some of the
- 22 things that have happened and I really wish that
- 23 citizens knew how to submit this information on behalf
- of other people if they feel like something is happening
- 25 and for themselves.



- 1 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Good question.
- 2 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: For you to talk to the
- 3 audience and maybe just let them know what they can do
- 4 if they have a complaint. The other recommendation I
- 5 have is I've had on my phone now this app DPD Connect,
- 6 most people probably don't know about it, but there's an
- 7 app that you can go on and it tells you about major
- 8 crimes happening in the city. And perhaps we should try
- 9 to consider putting a place there. I don't know if
- 10 there's electronic, you know, way for citizens to file a
- 11 complaint. I just want to make sure that we are -- I
- 12 agree we want complaints to go down but I think in cases
- where citizens have valid or legitimate reasons for
- 14 filing a complaint, I want them to know how to do that,
- 15 so that we can -- that's our checks and balances to make
- 16 sure that when officers are doing things that aren't on
- 17 TV, that we take precaution and take care of it
- 18 immediately, so.
- 19 DR. MCCALISTER: Okay. They can go to our
- 20 website and get our telephone number. They can file a
- 21 written complaint. They can call our office. They can
- 22 call the board secretary's office and they can file a
- 23 complaint that way. We are -- we take complaints all
- 24 day and if we're closed, the recording system goes over
- 25 and we check those messages in the morning. We have a



- 1 three day turn around in most cases where we will call
- 2 them back. We just ask that citizens allow us the time
- 3 to investigate. We have 90 days and sometimes they get
- 4 a little antsy in between the 30 days. And just know
- 5 that if we do not have proof that an incident occurred,
- 6 we just don't find people guilty. So we recommend that
- 7 people call within that 90 day process. If it happens
- 8 on Monday, call us immediately because after 90 days we
- 9 do not have the video.
- 10 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: What's that phone
- 11 number?
- DR. MCCALISTER: Off hand I can't think
- 13 right now. What is it? 596-2499. 313.
- 14 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Say it.
- DR. MCCALISTER: 596-2499.
- 16 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: And what is the online
- 17 method?
- 18 DR. MCCALISTER: You can go to our website
- 19 for the board of police commissioners and you can
- 20 actually write us letters at 900 Merrill Plaisance in
- 21 Detroit or you can send it to the headquarters down
- 22 here.
- 23 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: Awesome.
- 24 DR. MCCALISTER: I think Commissioner Bell
- 25 also announces that in his presentation as well. Yeah.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: And now Mrs. Blossom do a
- 2 great job in terms of our community; it's back there on
- 3 the table and all the precinct, police, community
- 4 relation, all 12 of them they interact in terms of the
- 5 whole process. So we've been high profile marketing the
- 6 Board of Police Commissioners and the office of chief
- 7 investigator in the last two years and that's why we
- 8 have taken it to the level and reach -- making people
- 9 that we're aware just like you aware. Okay any other --
- 10 sorry.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 12 Just want to thank Commissioner Brown (inaudible) a plug
- 13 for what we did on Wednesday through your efforts.
- 14 Would you please? Because I love -- that's my distinct,
- 15 everybody know 11th precinct. My thing is that
- 16 investigator McCalister came with her team and Inspector
- 17 Fountain, there are many upper levels of the police
- 18 department that were there. Chief -- D.C. Bettison was
- 19 there, so we had a beautiful audience even somebody from
- 20 Macomb County. They had heard about what was going to
- 21 happen at number 11. What I'm asking you to do, could
- 22 you just like bullet point what went on and then could
- 23 you do a feedback with the Commander Slappey and
- 24 yourself to see how it went and please Investigator
- 25 McCalister, Dr. McCalister, could you share about the



- 1 young lady; we had about two people under the age of 30.
- 2 They wanted to reach the younger crowd, so I wish you
- 3 would tell them a little about that lady. Just give
- 4 some bullet points on what happened last Wednesday.
- 5 Thank you.
- DR. MCCALISTER: So I can't take credit for
- 7 that. There was NPO Robinson in number 11. He sat down
- 8 with Commander Slappey and they wanted to do something
- 9 within the community to kind of like bring the community
- 10 and the police together. So he reached out to us. We
- 11 did our Power Point on discussing matters of complaints,
- 12 and how the citizens and the police officers if we work
- 13 together -- just giving them a background and
- 14 understanding of what officers go through day to day and
- 15 what we actually see in the complaints. The training
- 16 academy came out and they spoke about racist incidents.
- 17 They showed a video of some young men in Chicago
- 18 actually following a police officer who did not know
- 19 that he was being followed and they had four to five
- 20 weapons in the car and they were actually talking back
- 21 and forth about we should kill him, we should shoot him;
- 22 we should do it now. They showed that, which was quite
- 23 interesting.
- 24 And then we had the social worker from that
- 25 precinct and she actually talked about how she works



- 1 with the citizens with domestic violence as well as with
- 2 the officers. So if they go out and they have a
- 3 situation that's a little taxing mentally, they can go
- 4 to her and she'll talk them through the process. So
- 5 that was something that we didn't know ourselves. And
- 6 then the entire precinct officer Eric Hill an NPO and
- 7 Robinson closed the segment out talking about how do we
- 8 bring people together. And the whole concept was about
- 9 how do we coexist with each other. It's one, it's a
- 10 level of respect that we have to have for the police and
- 11 police have to have for our citizens and that was really
- 12 the main focus is that how do we get people to coexist
- 13 in this city? We know race is an issue. We know that
- 14 economics and social issues are an issue as well. And
- 15 what we try to do is one, we have to get to know each
- 16 other and we have to understand both sides of the fence.
- 17 Citizens have to understand what police officers do and
- 18 officers have to understand what citizens are going
- 19 through and why they call them.
- 20 So it was just really about how do we
- 21 coexist and I think they relayed the message very well.
- 22 And I did reach out to NPO Robinson about the success of
- 23 the event. We do have two other events scheduled where
- 24 they want us to come to the church and speak. So it's
- 25 just not me and my team. Supervising Investigator



- 1 Cromwell was very instrumental and he does go to a lot
- 2 of speaking engagements with me, but that was really not
- 3 us. I have to give the 11th precinct the utmost respect
- 4 for pulling that together. We were instrumental in
- 5 talking about a theme about coexisting and they took it
- 6 from there and Commander Slappey was awesome 'cause she
- 7 was like, whatever you guys need, come on over; we're
- 8 going to do it, and it was at least 50 to 60 people
- 9 there. And it was extremely cold that night so we
- 10 thought nobody was going to come out but it was packed;
- 11 we didn't have any seats left for people. But it turned
- 12 out very well. And we've made a lot of connections, not
- only with the academy but with Wayne State. He's
- 14 meeting with our office --
- 15 COMMISSIONER BURCH: That was Victor Green?
- DR. MCCALISTER: Yes, he's meeting with our
- 17 office to see if we can pull some other things together
- 18 as far as training.
- 19 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Tell the people please
- 20 about the young lady --
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I think we need to wrap
- 22 it up. We need to wrap it up. I think we have covered
- 23 11th precinct very thoroughly, if you don't mind.
- 24 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: This is taking too
- 25 long.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 2 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you,
- 3 Dr. McCalister.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We going to move on to
- 5 any standing ad hoc committee reports at this time? If
- 6 not we going hear from the board secretary.
- 7 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I do want
- 8 to draw your attention to the items listed in the agenda
- 9 and they've largely been uncovered in the meeting. I do
- 10 want to represent that on behalf of our office as
- information comes in they're immediately distributed to
- 12 the board and we do that in an effort -- we do that
- 13 really a couple of times in order to better prepare the
- 14 board for these Thursday discussions. One is you
- 15 receive the information immediately depending on what
- 16 its priority is. Secondly, you receive information in
- 17 the Tuesday package, which is prepared in advance of the
- 18 Thursday meeting and then of course you often times will
- 19 see the same information in your board packages as you
- 20 sit in front of you. What we're trying to do is to take
- 21 extra care to get this information out to you in a
- 22 timely fashion so that you have more time in order to
- 23 consider it as you discuss issues in front of the board.
- 24 With that Mr. Chair, our focus is on sharping
- 25 improvements aspects of our office. Beyond that I don't



- 1 have any other items which I'd put in front of the
- 2 board.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Any old
- 4 business? Any new business? Announcement, next meeting
- 5 going to be Thursday, February 14th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
- 6 in the 9th precinct Ford Resource and Engagement Center
- 7 15491 Maddelein in Detroit, in northeast Detroit south
- 8 of Gratiot. Our next community meeting is going to be
- 9 on Thursday, March the 7th at 1:30 p.m. at Western
- 10 International High School on 1500 Scotten. Oral
- 11 communication from the audience. I would ask that you
- 12 give us two minutes. Be respectful and concentrate on
- 13 public safety issues. Public safety, that's what we in
- 14 charge of mandating. So Mr. Brown, how many cards?
- MR. BROWN: I have ten cards.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: So we have ten speakers
- and we definitely going to enforce the two minute rule.
- 18 However, you still have opportunity if the matter
- 19 concerning the Board of Police Commissioners we have a
- 20 staff. The office of chief investigator we have a
- 21 staff. DPD we have a staff. You can talk with them
- 22 afterwards and that would be why we going to enforce the
- 23 two minute rule. So you don't have to say it all there
- 24 but get your pertinent points out.
- MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, your first speaker



- 1 will be Elena Herrada. Followed by Eric Blount.
- 2 Followed by Mr. Wylie-Killermann.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Please keep that card up
- 4 when they run out of time; don't disappear on me, so I
- 5 can know.
- 6 MS. HERRADA: Good afternoon. I wanted to
- 7 raise an issue that is a concern to me that surfaced
- 8 mildly in the report on Gary Steele, but I think is an
- 9 ongoing problem and I think that we need to look at the
- 10 number of officers who have people's cars towed. And an
- 11 example that I want to give, and I did not make a
- 12 complaint about, but a neighbor of mine -- I live in
- 13 Corktown, and around the block from me is Clement Kern
- 14 Gardens which is a segregated area of Corktown. The
- 15 police pulled over a young man who was sick. He was
- 16 like with the flu and he was on his way to buy Aspirins
- 17 at the gas station and it was very cold and he should
- 18 have walked but he didn't 'cause he was sick. And he
- 19 drove his van and two police officers pulled up with
- 20 lights blaring and checked for his license; his
- 21 insurance was expired. I really doubt that most police
- 22 officers could afford the Detroit Insurance either but
- 23 they ticketed him and they had his car towed and it was
- very devastating to the couple who didn't have a way to
- 25 get their kids to school the next day, who didn't have a



- 1 way to go to work, and who really could have just been
- 2 allowed to be left alone as many people are because
- 3 there is police discretion on these things. I just
- 4 wondered if there is some correlation between the amount
- of money that's brought in for towing and the level of
- 6 poverty that's being imposed on Detroiters who cannot
- 7 afford the Detroit Insurance that outside of Detroiters
- 8 don't have to pay. Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 10 MR. BROWN: Mr. Blount followed by
- 11 Mr. Killermann.
- MR. BLOUNT: Good afternoon, board and
- 13 chief. For the record my name is Eric Blount. I'm a
- 14 lifelong Detroiter. And I'm just concerned that we are
- 15 dancing around the race issue. Some three years ago,
- 16 Chief, you commissioned a report on race and I believe
- 17 the retired officer was John Bolden who submitted a
- 18 report two years ago and it said there was historic and
- 19 growing institutional racism within the Detroit Police
- 20 Department. Mayor Young had 25 years to prepare for the
- 21 ensuing uprising. Chief Craig, I'll give you an
- 22 estimate of three years. Three years or three incidents
- 23 something bad is really going to happen. Mayor Young
- 24 had black police officers that he could pull in to
- 25 Livernois-Fenkell but if you look at the growing number



- of nonblack officers that are hitting the streets,
- 2 you'll not have many. You worry about female officers;
- 3 you may not have many female or male black officers to
- 4 respond.
- 5 My second point is on the growing discontent
- 6 with the level of service of the Detroit Police
- 7 Department, one of the largest population densitied
- 8 neighborhoods is well on its way to becoming a SAD
- 9 neighborhood. SAD is an acronym for Special Assessment
- 10 Districts in which they assess property values -- I
- 11 mean, additional property tax so that they can have
- 12 armed private security force, and I won't be ambiguous
- 13 about it, it's the university district. They have 1,200
- 14 residents that are well on their way to approving
- 15 privately armed personal security force because the
- 16 level of service for the Detroit Police Department they
- 17 feel is inadequate. That's all I have to say for now
- 18 within my two minutes. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, sir.
- 20 MR. BROWN: Mr. Killermann followed by
- 21 Ms. Lory Parks.
- 22 MR. WYLIE-KILLERMANN: Good afternoon.
- 23 Thanks for the opportunity to speak. My name is Bill
- 24 Wylie-Killermann. I'm a retired pastor most recently
- 25 from St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Corktown. I'm also



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- 1 a member of the -- a local group of the National Poor
- 2 People's Campaign, a national call for moral revival
- 3 which addresses in many cases through direct action
- 4 issues of race and poverty. I hadn't anticipated this
- 5 morning when I got up to be speaking before you but
- 6 heard of the what would be the topic today and felt
- 7 drawn to it. The mentions or reference to black history
- 8 month and in particular the STRESS unit using decoys in
- 9 the projects and black communities to set people up and
- 10 shoot them was dismantled by Mayor Coleman A. Young.
- 11 We have another instance of black history
- 12 month in this Snapchat being used for exactly the
- opposite purpose, forcing a virtually for a STRESS
- 14 related use, where a young black woman is being forced
- 15 into the deathly cold and ridiculed and the use of
- 16 Snapchat indicates this officer thinks this will be well
- 17 received, that he has colleagues who will appreciate
- 18 this. That's the question of environment and I know the
- 19 chief is looking to and how this matter is resolved
- 20 affects the environment as well, not only within the
- 21 police force but on the street as well; how people
- 22 perceive but it's not just racial insensitivity or
- 23 racially charged incident but active racism. Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- MR. BROWN: Ms. Parks followed by Ms. Duetta



- 1 Wilcoxa.
- 2 MS. PARKS: Good afternoon. My name is Lory
- 3 Parks and I am a mother of four daughters. Three which
- 4 live in this city. And I do really want -- and 11
- 5 grandchildren. But I do want to thank the police
- 6 officers; I do think they do a frantic job. There's
- 7 always a bad bunch anywhere, so I do want to say that I
- 8 would like for the chief to resign as Deputy Mayor. I
- 9 need him to solely concentrate on the out of the control
- 10 police force that we have here. And in no other big
- 11 city like LA or Chicago the chief holds two positions.
- 12 To me it's a conflict of interest; I don't know if
- that's in agreement with everyone else but I do agree
- 14 with Commissioner Burton; and I am devastated about what
- 15 happened to that young lady the other night. It brings
- 16 tears to my eyes because I think about my daughters and
- 17 my granddaughters that live here. And the officer Gary
- 18 Steele he's on a paid vacation; I would like for him to
- 19 be terminated, you know. I understand that he might sue
- 20 the city but as you know with the Malice Green case, I
- 21 think right now we're paying the medical examiner a
- 22 thousand dollars a month for what happened to Malice
- 23 Green when Mayor Duggan decided to fire him.
- So and members of the Michigan chapter every
- 25 police officer that comes from outside the city to be



- 1 reviewed from the time they start up until the time
- 2 right now. And on Tuesday, February the 12th at 6 p.m.
- 3 the charter commission is meeting at 3451 Rivard, which
- 4 is at Sacred Heart Activity Center. We need for our
- 5 police officers and firemen to live within our city
- 6 limits. We have 140 square miles so that's a lot of
- 7 area where any of them can live. And to me when you
- 8 live in your city, you know, you know the makeup of the
- 9 people and the areas where they police.
- 10 And lastly, can you please identify anywhere
- in any city where the police chief holds two positions?
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- MR. BROWN: Ms. Duetta Wilcoxa followed by
- 15 Ms. Michelle George.
- MS. WILCOXA: Good afternoon honorable
- 17 police commissioners. I was asked to come here today on
- 18 behalf of a contingent of residents of the city of
- 19 Detroit who too think that there is a great deal of
- 20 concern relative to our police chief holding two
- 21 positions. I'm certain that the positions can have one
- 22 person occupying both in terms of skill set but we do
- 23 know that perception is a great deal of the equation
- 24 when we're dealing with issues; and if the residents of
- 25 the city of Detroit see this as a problem, at a minimum



- 1 -- and I'm glad you're still here, Chief -- at a minimum
- 2 we ought to have a discussion about how the residents
- 3 perceive the occupation of both positions. And Reverend
- 4 Holley, I agree with you in that when we're looking at
- 5 the city of Detroit versus other cities across the
- 6 country, we're looking at relationships that have been
- 7 built up over a period of time. Those relationships in
- 8 city of Detroit are very strong; they're strong for a
- 9 reason. It's because we talk to one another. We need
- 10 to continue the dialogue so that we make certain that
- 11 the residents of this city feel comfortable and feel
- 12 safe with both positions being held by one individual.
- Green Lights have popped up all over the
- 14 city of Detroit, which calls into question whether or
- 15 not the residents feel that they're safe. Safety is an
- 16 issue that I would like to ask this board to take its
- 17 weight and throw its weight behind the issue of safety.
- 18 Dialogue is extremely important. No matter what
- 19 profession and no matter what the statistics are,
- 20 whether they are good or bad, dialogue is extremely
- 21 important. People need to think that they are a part of
- 22 the discussion and they need to be valued in the
- 23 discussion. Thank you so much. Appreciate you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- MR. BROWN: Ms. George followed by Ms.



- 1 Joanna Warwick.
- MS. GEORGE: Thank you to Chairman Bell and
- 3 to this honorable board. Happy new year, Chief Craig, I
- 4 didn't get a chance to tell you that. I wanted to state
- 5 that, Chief Craig, I did see the press conference and I
- 6 was pleased how you responded to the case. Like you
- 7 stated it is troubling but it's not reflective on the
- 8 Detroit police officers that put their lives on the line
- 9 every day. And we continue to pray for them as well as
- 10 the chief and the community.
- 11 My concern is that, and I think Chief Craig
- 12 may have staved off a lawsuit, you know, reaching out to
- 13 the mom and cancelling the tow fees and everything like
- 14 that. Black girl magic, what the officer put out, to me
- 15 it was denigrate on black women. Black girl magic was a
- 16 term to celebrate the beauty and power and resilience
- 17 among African American women. This term was created by
- 18 Mrs. Thompson in 2013 but this officer tends to have
- 19 seemed to mock that and Myo Angelo made a quote, when a
- 20 person shows you who they are, believe it. And I
- 21 reference to the book of Matthew 15:18 where it says but
- 22 the things that come out of the mouth comes from the
- 23 heart. So this is the concern and I know it's not on
- 24 Chief Craig it's also on the union that may try to fight
- 25 for this officer's job. I'm very glad that the state



- 1 representative's going to do this press conference at
- 2 Focus Hope that's supposed to be planned on Friday but
- 3 I'm concerned about this officer, even if he's going to
- 4 other law enforcement stations that may be the officer
- 5 to state that I feared for my life when someone is
- 6 reaching for an ink pen in their purse when you see
- 7 white men carrying a gun and they don't shoot them, so
- 8 that's going to be my concern with that, but I'm just
- 9 stating that I'm hoping and praying with the concerns
- 10 that are going on. I know Chief Craig is doing a good
- job and we do pray for Chief Craig but I'm concerned
- 12 about the Officer Strickland with the race issue 'cause
- 13 black people we live with oppression and race every day.
- 14 Every day is black history month. And also the corporal
- 15 with the ten blows at Detroit Receiving Hospital and
- 16 also the two officers that were demoted, there's a
- 17 culture but I'm going to continue to pray for the police
- 18 department that they will try to solve these issues.
- 19 Thank you.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 21 MR. BROWN: Ms. Warwick followed by Mr. Tom
- 22 Choske.
- MS. WARWICK: Yes, hello. Good afternoon.
- 24 First of all, I'd like to say I understand police
- officers have a tough job and like teachers they often



- 1 get blamed for a lot of society's problems that, you
- 2 know, they don't have a magic wand to fix all of it. I
- 3 do live in District 5 and I am concerned about police
- 4 Chief Craig being Deputy Mayor because I think he's got
- 5 too much on his plate. Yes, I am concerned about police
- 6 times. But the more I've been thinking about that he is
- 7 Deputy Mayor, and presumably that means he know a lot
- 8 about what the mayor is doing, like work with the
- 9 Detroit land bank authority and the nuisance abatement
- 10 lawsuits; and police Chief Craiq filed a declaration on
- 11 March 20th, 2014 talking about how bad vacant buildings
- 12 are. How you can -- they can be used for illegal
- 13 gambling, prostitution, drug dealing or used to commit
- 14 and conceal violent crimes like finding dead bodies.
- 15 And, you know, I get that. But you know, this is the
- lawsuit that was filed against my neighbors. There were
- 17 no allegations of any dead bodies, any gambling,
- 18 anything. You know, and right next to me, the house
- 19 next to me was taken from my neighbor through that way
- 20 after I flagged a police officer down when there were
- 21 people going into her house and she was paying her
- 22 taxes, and he literally shrugged his shoulders and
- 23 refused to go over there. And then the land bank took
- 24 her house. And then I watched the land bank auctioning
- 25 it off going, ooo, this is going to be prime real



- 1 estate.
- 2 And so I'm not sure if you're aware of this
- 3 police Chief Craig, you might want to ask your attorneys
- 4 to take a look into it, there is a law professor at
- 5 Loyola Law School, from Loyola Law School, Professor
- 6 Yxta Maya Murray who wrote an entire law review article
- 7 about these kinds of blight takings and how they violate
- 8 the constitution, the vast majority of them; and I agree
- 9 with her. And so when I think about this like I
- 10 actually thought, wow, if he's the police chief maybe I
- 11 can get some answers from him. I did call the mayor's
- office today; I wasn't able to get through to you and
- there are people in the mayor's office who still don't
- 14 respond like that department neighbors. So I don't
- 15 know, I have concerns about that. And I would -- you
- 16 should board up -- make sure all the other houses are
- 17 boarded up, if you're going to go around taking people's
- 18 property 'cause stuff isn't boarded up. Then the rest
- 19 of the houses should be boarded up. Thank you.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- MR. BROWN: Mr. Choske followed by Ms. Cindy
- 22 Darrah.
- MR. CHOSKE: Thank you very much. My name
- is Tom Choske and I come here today to talk about the
- 25 issue of transparency, especially as it relates to data



- 1 and data relating even more specifically to police
- 2 response times and violent crime. As previous speakers
- 3 have mentioned there is in the community a lack of faith
- 4 in some areas about the effectiveness of police or about
- 5 the ability of the police to respond in a timely manner
- 6 to a crime. We see different data; we see the
- 7 department releases certain data. We see the
- 8 investigators use the city portal to get other data.
- 9 And I'm really concerned that there is this discrepancy
- 10 when the board of police commissioners has as its goal
- 11 to shed light on what's going and to be that beacon of
- 12 transparency for the community. So what I would like to
- 13 push the board on is number one, ensure that data is
- 14 readily available to the public about response times,
- 15 about the crime statistics; and then two, make sure that
- 16 it's somewhere easily accessible, potentially like a
- 17 digital database, something online. If you look at the
- 18 city of Novi, for example, they post their police
- 19 response times, the time the call is received and then
- 20 the difference between when the call is received to when
- 21 the officer actually responds to the incident. So I
- 22 would push the commissioners to do that.
- The second thing I would like to push is for
- 24 the chief and for the commission to work collectively to
- 25 come up with solutions to improve response time overall



- 1 across the city in each precinct and zip code; and I
- 2 would really want to push you guys to be more radical in
- 3 those recommendations. Possibly, we talk about the 9th
- 4 and the 8th precinct; maybe we need to redraw our
- 5 precinct lines so that those high need areas are covered
- 6 by two separate precincts. Maybe there's ways that we
- 7 can be more efficient with the resources they have and
- 8 if we need more resources, I would urge the commission
- 9 -- excuse me -- to be more active in advocating to city
- 10 council, our state legislature, and our federal
- 11 legislatures to get the resources needed to solve the
- 12 problem. Thank you very much.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 14 MR. BROWN: Ms. Darrah followed by
- 15 Mr. Scotty Boman.
- MS. HERRADA: Excuse me, Ms. Darrah had to
- 17 leave but she wrote this out. May I read it into the
- 18 record?
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: No, ma'am. Could you
- 20 just submit it to the staff?
- MS. HERRADA: Okay, I'll do that.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- MR. BROWN: Mr. Scotty Boman. Mr. Chair, it
- 24 will be your last speaker.
- MR. BOMAN: First of all, I'd like to say I



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- 1 like you, Chief Craig. I like your positions on for
- 2 instance individuals' right to self defense and groups
- 3 of civilians being able to organize to defend themselves
- 4 and things you have said in that area. And I appreciate
- 5 the fact that you called for the suspension without pay
- 6 for Corporal Jones over that beating of Lakeisha
- 7 Williams, so I appreciate a lot of what you do and so
- 8 this isn't against you but what I am saying is that I
- 9 also feel that you should be only the police chief, if
- 10 you're going to be the police chief; and I hope you'll
- 11 stay our police chief but I don't think you should also
- 12 be Deputy Mayor. There's also in addition to perhaps
- doing two things half as well, which I know you're
- 14 saying you're not doing much as Deputy Mayor but if
- 15 you're not, then there's really no big loss to resigning
- 16 that post anyway since it's effectively just kind of a
- 17 title that you're carrying around. Maybe someone else
- 18 would do a lot more in the post.
- The charter, and I got to look it over, and
- 20 I can't cite the exact section. I believe there is a
- 21 problem with having a person in a role that gives them
- 22 authority over civilian departments and within the city
- 23 who is also part of the police department. I do think
- 24 there is some clause to that effect, so I think there
- 25 maybe also be a conflict as far as the language of the



- 1 charter. But I admit I can't quote the exact language.
- 2 But again, and then there is the perception of having
- 3 split responsibilities, split roles. And the city
- 4 actually having in other words a person with two jobs
- 5 and, like I said, that gives the impression that maybe
- 6 each job is being done half as well. I know that the
- 7 job of police chief is a full-time job with a full-time
- 8 salary and so I don't think it's necessary for a person
- 9 to pick up two jobs, especially within the city
- 10 government like that. So that's really all I had to say
- 11 about it and again, I like Chief Craig. I like him but
- 12 I think he should just be the police chief.
- 13 MR. BROWN: Through the chair that was the
- 14 last speaker.
- 15 CHIEF CRAIG: I'll just close out on this
- 16 note. Appreciate the fact that you like me, I really do
- 17 but let me just be clear. The whole premise behind the
- 18 Deputy Mayor title is in the event of an emergency. I
- 19 already gave one example of that. The mayor and I have
- 20 had conversations about this. He knows that most times
- 21 in the city of Detroit if there's a critical incident or
- 22 an emergency, it's most likely that I'm going to be
- 23 managing it, so when he's away and there's a critical
- 24 incident, I go in, do what we do -- generally it's a
- 25 police incident -- and we hand this over. My full-time



- 1 job is that of police chief. As I indicated it's been
- 2 widely reported in the paper; the mayor's on vacation
- 3 I've not spent one minute making mayoral decisions.
- 4 I've not been to his office. I've been over here
- 5 dealing with police-related issues. The only time that
- 6 I've had to use that authority is when Kmak was
- 7 threatened with an explosive device; and even if the
- 8 mayor had been here, I still would have been in charge
- 9 of that incident.
- 10 So it's just for the purpose of what makes
- 11 the most sense. I'm not splitting my duties. Heck, if
- 12 that's the case, if I'm legitimately working two jobs, I
- 13 should get double the pay. But I'm not. I am the
- 14 police chief. That is what I do each and every day.
- 15 And I will continue to do it. So why don't we just move
- on and I'm -- and just let us do what we're doing
- 17 because it's nothing more. One time in the whole time
- 18 I've been doing this and I would have handled that
- 19 situation anyway. I'm not out making appointments. You
- 20 know, the mayor has the ability to marry folks. I guess
- 21 since the mayor -- does anybody here want to get
- 22 married? I'm just joking; that is joking. I don't do
- 23 anything other than public safety. That is it.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioners, I would
- like to end on a positive note. It's been I think



- 1 several commissioners have indicated, I would like to
- 2 state for the record that a vote of confidence for Chief
- 3 Craig as chief of police. The chair is going to make
- 4 that Chairman's prerogative and I would say that any
- 5 commissioners that in option to that, you can raise your
- 6 hand now.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman --
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Sir, just on that note;
- 9 don't take no speaking --
- 10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I just want --
- 11 CHAIRPERSON BELL: And there's no other
- 12 remarks to be made. Okay, therefore, I think it stands.
- 13 Is there any other business come before this body? Let
- 14 the record reflect the Chairman remarks in terms of vote
- 15 of confidence of Chief Craig.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mister --
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Any other business come
- 18 before this body? Mr. Chairman would entertain a
- 19 motion --
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman, I
- 21 recommend --
- 22 COMMISSIONER GRIFFE: So moved.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Been properly moved --
- 24 COMMISSIONER BURTON: -- federal
- 25 investigations on --



2 you.

3 (Meeting concluded at 5:29 p.m.)

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1	STATE OF MICHIGA	/N)	
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4			
5	CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC AND COURT REPORTER		
6	I, Caitlyn Mancini, do hereby certify that the		
7	foregoing meeting was duly recorded by me		
8	stenographically and by me later reduced to typewritten		
9	form by means of computer-aided transcription; and I		
10	certify that this is a true and correct transcript of my		
11	stenographic notes so taken.		
12	I further certify that I am neither of counsel to		
13	either party nor interested in the event of this cause.		
14		19 11 100	
15		(ditt Illan.	
16		The same	
17	Caitlyn Mancini, RPR, CSR-8887		
18	Notary Public,		
19	Washtenaw County, Michigan		
20	My Commission expires: August 15, 2021		
21			
22			
23			
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