1	DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
2	WEEKLY MEETING
3	THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019
4	3:00 P.M.
5	DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS
6	1301 THIRD AVENUE - SUITE 767
7	DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48203
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1	COMMISSIONERS:
2	Willie E. Bell - Chairperson (District 4)
3	Darryl D. Brown - (District 1)
4	Evette Griffie - (District 2)
5	Shirley A. Burch - (District 3)
6	Willie E. Burton - (District 5)
7	Lisa Carter - (District 6)
8	William M. Davis - (District 7)
9	Annie Mae Holt - At-Large
10	Elizabeth Brooks - At-Large
11	Eva Garza Dewaelsche - At-Large
12	
13	BOARD SECRETARY: Gregory Hicks
14	Robert Brown
15	
16	REPRESENTING THE CHIEF OF POLICE:
17	James White - Assistant Chief of Police
18	
19	
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- 1 Detroit, Michigan
- Thursday, May 16, 2019 2.
- (At about 3:00 P.M.) 3
- 4
- 5 CHAIRMAN BELL: I'm waiting on the hand
- 6 signal if we can proceed. He said, yes. Good
- afternoon, once again. I am Police Commissioner 7
- Willie Bell. I represent District 4. I serve as 8
- the Chair of the Board as we conduct our meeting 9
- today. On behalf of the Board, for those who 10
- 11 attend, thank you for joining us. For people
- 12 viewing this meeting on your government cable
- 13 channel, thank you for viewing our meeting.
- Commissioner Jim Holly has asked to be 14
- 15 excused from today's meeting. Today we have invited
- 16 Chaplain Glenn Hodges to provide invocation.
- 17 Chaplain Hodges.
- 18 CHAPLAIN HODGES: Let's pray.
- 19 (Prayer)
- CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, Chaplain. 20 The
- next item of business will be introduced. 21
- Commissioners, I'm going to start to my far left. 22
- 23 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: Good afternoon.
- Commissioner Evette Griffie, District 2. 24
- 25 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Eva Garza



- 1 Dewaelsche, At-Large.
- 2 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Good afternoon.
- 3 Lisa Carter, District 6.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Good afternoon.
- 5 Darryl Brown, District 1.
- MS. BROOKS: Good afternoon. Elizabeth
- 7 Brooks, At-Large.
- 8 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Good afternoon.
- 9 Shirley Burch, District 3.
- 10 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Good afternoon.
- 11 Commissioner William Davis, District 7.
- 12 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Good afternoon.
- 13 Annie Holt, At-Large.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, Commissioners.
- 15 SECRETARY HICKS: Mr. Chair, you have a
- 16 quorum.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. Moving
- 18 forward we'll approve the agenda for this afternoon
- 19 meeting.
- 20 THE BOARD: Support.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BELL: Been proper moved and
- 22 supported. Discussion. Those in favor, aye.
- THE BOARD: Aye.
- 24 CHAIRMAN BELL: Opposed. Motion carried.
- 25 The next item will be approval of the minutes for



- 1 May 9, 2019.
- 2 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: So moved.
- 3 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Support.
- 4 CHAIRMAN BELL: Been properly moved and
- 5 supported. Discussion. Those in favor, aye.
- 6 THE BOARD: Aye.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BELL: Opposed? Motion carried.
- 8 Mr. Hicks, Board secretary, would you
- 9 introduce the Board staff?
- 10 SECRETARY HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 11 Just prior to making the introductions of the staff,
- 12 I do want to indicate for the record that taping
- 13 today's meeting is Sergeant Quinn, media services,
- 14 providing the audio-visual work and Theresa Roberts
- 15 is the court reporter. And immediately to my right
- 16 is Robert Brown. And then I'll ask on the first row
- 17 for the BOPC staff, if you would introduce
- 18 yourselves.
- 19 MR. WYRICK: Jermaine Wyrick, Board
- attorney.
- 21 MS. BLOSSOM: Teresa Blossom, Police
- 22 Community Relations.
- MS. WHITE: Melanie White, Executive
- 24 Manager of policy.
- MS. JOHNSON: Faye Johnson, Board



- 1 accountant.
- DR. ANDERSON: Dr. Marcella Anderson,
- 3 police HR.
- 4 SECRETARY HICKS: It is customary, after
- 5 Dr. Anderson comes, Dr. McAllister who introduces
- 6 herself, as well as the balance of the OIC staff
- 7 that's available.
- 8 DR. McALLISTER: Good afternoon. I'm
- 9 Dr. McAllister, and attending today's meeting with
- 10 me today is Supervising Investigator Cromwell,
- 11 Senior Investigator Jones and Investigator Calloway
- 12 and Investigator Hiller.
- 13 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. It's good to
- 14 see all the commissioners and the Board staff and
- 15 OCI staff, and we'll move on to Assistant Chief
- 16 James White sitting in for Chief Craig.
- 17 ASSISTANT CHIEF WHITE: Good afternoon,
- 18 State Board. Chief Craig sends his regrets. As
- 19 you're aware, he's in Washington attending the
- 20 police memorial. I will allow our staff to
- 21 introduce themselves. Do you want the introductions
- 22 now, sir?
- CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes. Yes, sir, thank
- 24 you.
- 25 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: Lieutenant Howard



- 1 Phillips from force investigations.
- 2 LIEUTENANT HAHN: Lieutenant Jeff Hahn,
- 3 Internal Affairs.
- 4 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: Lena Purifoy, captain
- 5 internal controls.
- 6 CHRIS GRAVEL: Chris Gravel, Director,
- 7 Professional Standards Bureau.
- 8 CAPTAIN TOSQUI: Aric Tosqui, captain
- 9 Detective Bureau, president of Commanding Officers
- 10 Association.
- 11 LIEUTENANT STEFAN: Lieutenant Mark
- 12 Stefan, Crime Scene Services.
- 13 CAPTAIN CAVIN: Captain Stacy Cavin.
- 14 SERGEANT HARRISON: Sergeant Harrison,
- 15 Detroit Police Department, force investigation.
- 16 LIEUTENANT LEWIS: Lieutenant Brandon
- 17 Lewis, support operations.
- 18 COMMANDER LEWIS: Commander Mark Lewis,
- 19 support operations.
- 20 LIEUTENANT LOWERY-ROSS: Lieutenant
- 21 Lonnie Lowery-Ross, Labor Relations.
- 22 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. We move
- 23 forward with -- do we have any elected officials or
- 24 representative elected officials in the meeting this
- 25 afternoon, civic leaders or any other



- 1 representative? If not, thank all you VIPs for your
- 2 attendance. The next item would be the chairman's
- 3 report.
- 4 On behalf of the Board, I want to express
- 5 our concern. I just want to pause by acknowledging
- 6 our deputy chief, Todd Bettison, for your
- 7 attendance. Good to see you.
- 8 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Thank you, sir.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BELL: You see I paused just to
- 10 introduce you. On behalf of the Board, I want to
- 11 express our concerns and support for the fallen and
- 12 injured officers. Our concern for officer safety
- 13 and citizen protection is ranked as two of the most
- 14 important priorities of the Board. Our Board
- 15 receives a weekly report from the department listing
- 16 injured officers. I would ask the chief of police
- 17 during his remarks -- or the assistant chief during
- 18 his remarks to provide us with any additional
- 19 information related to injured and fallen officers.
- 20 The Board of Police Commissioners meets every week
- 21 except for Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We
- 22 meet at police headquarters three weeks in the month
- 23 on Thursday at 3 P.M. We also meet in community
- 24 areas second Thursday of the month at 6:30 P.M.
- 25 On the Detroit city charter, article 7,



- 1 chapter 8: The Board of Police Commission is
- 2 empowered to provide civilian oversight and
- 3 supervise control of the police department. Our
- 4 citizens are justified in asking how does civilian
- 5 oversight and law enforcement help you as a citizen
- 6 within our community. The answer is, we protect the
- 7 civil rights of citizens. The oversight
- 8 organization like the BOPC are at the forefront of
- 9 investigating, reviewing and auditing individual
- 10 cases, citizen complaints and patterns of operation
- 11 by police aiding to eliminate misconduct,
- 12 discriminatory police practice, unnecessary use of
- 13 force by police. Our work is based on developing
- 14 and supporting effective policing. Mutual trust and
- 15 respect between the police and community is critical
- 16 towards increasing the quality of life for residents
- 17 and visitors to Detroit. The Board of Police
- 18 Commission exists to provide civilian oversight for
- 19 the work of DPD. As a Board, we receive and
- 20 investigate noncriminal citizen complaints, monitor
- 21 the operations of the department and work with the
- 22 mayor and the chief of police to make and modify
- 23 police policy.
- I want to point to several important
- 25 items for your consideration and information.



- 1 Again, remind the Board that we continue to work
- 2 with NACO, National Association of Civilian
- 3 Oversight Law Enforcement, to host a national
- 4 conference on September the 22nd through the 26th,
- 5 2019 in Detroit. On the same time Detroit will be
- 6 celebrating our 45th year of being an oversight
- 7 organization on July 22, 2019. We are inviting law
- 8 enforcement and other civic-minded individuals to
- 9 join us at the conference and planning process well
- 10 on the way, and again we invite your participation.
- 11 A few months ago Detroit City Council
- 12 President Pro Tem Mary Sheffield requested input by
- 13 the Board of Police Commissions on a surveillance
- 14 ordinance developed by Detroit City Council.
- 15 Commissioner Annie Holt expressed an interest in
- 16 this topic, and we forwarded her name to the City
- 17 Council to be a participant for the workshop.
- 18 Additionally, I assigned the Board staff to also
- 19 work with the surveillance work group. In your
- 20 packet is a set of recommendations provided to the
- 21 Council President pro tem Sheffield reflecting their
- 22 input. Detroit City Council efforts are designed to
- 23 produce a comprehensive policy ordinance that would
- 24 govern the city approach to use of surveillance
- 25 technology with a special bridge to protect



- 1 citizens' privacy. In the past we have had a
- 2 problems with government spying on civil rights and
- 3 civic leaders. Remember Detroit Red files. We also
- 4 have a history of sharing inappropriate information
- 5 with employers who use this information in relation
- 6 to inform discrimination. We understand the
- 7 potential abuse of large unsupervised government
- 8 files and how they can be used to work against
- 9 people who are poor, who are a specific racial and
- 10 cultural background.
- 11 Any civilians remember the Red file?
- 12 Raise your hands if you're familiar with that.
- 13 Okay, perhaps when we conclude, we would have
- 14 Mr. Hicks sort of give us a little one-minute update
- 15 on that process. I'm familiar with it, because I
- 16 was one of the people in that Red file, among others
- 17 in terms of very prominent people and people from
- 18 all walks of life within that particular file. So
- 19 city employees -- I must have lost my spot here.
- 20 The city employs several different resources that
- 21 monitors the movement of citizens. We have
- 22 surveillance equipment in public parks,
- 23 transportation hubs like the Rosa Parks
- 24 Transportation Center, as well as, police resources
- 25 that we use to monitor crime. There is also a



- 1 network of other government agencies, like the State
- 2 Police that have surveillance equipment in and
- 3 around our freeway system. Private companies also
- 4 use surveillance equipment and interconnect to our
- 5 system.
- 6 The Detroit city council ordinance will
- 7 be designed to look at all of these items and set a
- 8 reasonable standard by city ordinance on the use of
- 9 this equipment, including how public and private
- 10 data exchange will occur. I should also note that
- 11 assistant chief -- this is a correction. I should
- 12 also note that Chief Craig transmitted several weeks
- 13 ago a companion set of proposals directed for the
- 14 Board's consideration. The DPD proposed directive
- 15 307.6 entitled, use of traffic light-mounted cameras
- 16 and facial recognition technology. I've instructed
- 17 the staff to arrange a public discussion on a
- 18 proposed directive 307.6 for June 13, 2019. This
- 19 will occur at our June community meeting. DPD would
- 20 ask to make a presentation on the directive. We
- 21 will then hear from citizens on their reaction to
- 22 the proposed directive. I would remind that our
- 23 citizens that the total directive 307.6 is posted on
- 24 our web site for review.
- I just want to clarify one point. I



- 1 guess in the next week or so I want to hear from DPD
- 2 in reference to this particular -- before we have
- 3 the public forum for making sure all the
- 4 commissioners can understand exactly what the DPD is
- 5 proposing to us. If you have it in writing they can
- 6 elaborate before we have the June 13th forum. We
- 7 won't take up the time with the commissioner. It's
- 8 just getting that rolled out. They will have a
- 9 working knowledge on that type of dialog.
- 10 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Yes, sir,
- 11 we will be prepared.
- 12 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. We encourage
- 13 citizens and other stakeholders to attend the June
- 14 13th public discussion. If you are unable to attend
- 15 or if you have extended comments that you would like
- 16 to bring to our attention, please email or send a
- 17 letter to the Board, and we will include your
- 18 information in our consideration of the proposed
- 19 directive. We will also include your extended
- 20 comments into the records.
- I note that the City of San Francisco had
- 22 recently adopted a resolution to oppose the use of
- 23 facial recognition technology indicating that it's
- 24 not an appropriate tool for balancing the privacy
- 25 rights of citizens against the law enforcement needs



- 1 of the city. Detroit City Council will take up
- 2 these types of policy recommendations in a
- 3 comprehensive ordinance. We would focus on the use
- 4 of this technology tuned to fight crime in the
- 5 street by DPD. I'm pretty sure that council's going
- 6 to have a forum of public hearing in reference to
- 7 this particular matter also.
- 8 I want to call attention to Detroit Wayne
- 9 County Mental Health Authority acknowledgement of 11
- 10 Detroit police officers. These 11 Detroit police
- 11 officers administered the life-saving opioid
- 12 reversal treatment NARCAN for several citizens,
- 13 effectively saving their lives. This guick reaction
- on the part of our public safety personnel shows the
- 15 importance of our work. I have requested a list of
- 16 the 11 public safety personnel and look to
- 17 acknowledge each of them in our next Board meeting.
- 18 Job well done. Detroit Public Safety personnel. I
- 19 know Commissioner Burch has already responded to
- 20 that particular item, so they are working it up.
- 21 Today we have several resolutions. The
- 22 first is retiring Supervising Investigator Abdullah
- 23 Nelson. Supervising Investigator Nelson has been
- 24 with the office of chief investigator for 18 years
- 25 and with the Highland Park commission of public



- 1 safety department for 25 years. His combined
- 2 service spans over 43 years. Yesterday OCI and
- 3 Board staff had a retirement celebration for
- 4 Investigator Nelson. Today, I hope we will read
- 5 into the record and acknowledge his service by
- 6 approving a resolution that we will memorialize his
- 7 dedication to service as part of the official record
- 8 of the city of Detroit. He will not be here today.
- 9 He's already started his retirement. He was there
- 10 last night to begin his celebration, so he sends his
- 11 regrets, but we did share the resolution with him at
- 12 that time. The second resolution, we acknowledge 41
- 13 years of service to Sergeant Vanessa Wyatt.
- 14 Sergeant Wyatt has a long and distinguished history
- 15 of service to the department. I want to thank Ms.
- 16 Freida Buckley, community activist and president of
- 17 the 2nd Precinct police-community relation
- 18 organization requesting the resolution acknowledging
- 19 the service of Sergeant Vanessa Wyatt. Her
- 20 retirement party is going to be next Thursday at 1
- 21 o'clock at Butzel Center on the west side, and
- 22 hopefully some of us can attend. That's 40 plus
- 23 years, it's really longevity in terms of service. I
- 24 also want to include in my report and recommend to
- 25 the Board that we take a motion of Lieutenant Sonia



- 1 Russell on May the 9th, 2019. Chief Craig submitted
- 2 to the Board a promotional recommendation to change
- 3 the rank of Lieutenant Russell to Captain Russell.
- 4 This recommendation is supported and this
- 5 recommendation was distributed to the Board two
- 6 weeks ago included in your packages today. If the
- 7 Board would review the service history and
- 8 qualifications of Lieutenant Russell, and I would
- 9 ask for a vote to approve the Chief's recommendation
- 10 at the end of my chairman's report. Today we have
- 11 one presentation. It is from professional
- 12 standards. Much of the work of professional
- 13 standards was included in the recent disciplinary
- 14 administration. However, there are still several
- 15 outstanding questions must be addressed. The first
- 16 question that on January 3, 2019 this Board approved
- 17 a resolution requiring the chief of police provide a
- 18 report to the Board on the return to service by any
- 19 personnel that had been suspended or received a
- 20 change in duty status without pay. The chief of
- 21 police had authority to suspend or change the duty
- 22 status of any police personnel with pay. The Board
- is the only authority that can change the duty
- 24 status and vote to withhold pay. The January 3
- 25 resolution requires the chief to directly report to



- 1 the Board returning officers to active duty. So the
- 2 Board can decide to lift or change the Board action.
- 3 We want to check to see if the office has complied
- 4 with the term as corrective disciplinary action
- 5 administrated by the chief of police. In reviewing
- 6 several months of HR report, it's not clear the
- 7 department is following the requirements to allow
- 8 resolution. I would ask that the chief of police
- 9 and directed police personnel to review this
- 10 practice and report back to the Board on the
- 11 compliance with our January 3rd resolution within 30
- 12 days. The second question we address, and a
- 13 continuous request that the disciplinary information
- 14 be shared with the Board, disciplinary
- 15 administration recently reported on poor
- 16 investigative procedure; OCI investigation, force
- 17 investigation and internal affairs investigation and
- 18 for command-level investigation. The Board is
- 19 prepared to ask for information on results of these
- 20 investigations and associated disciplinary action
- 21 related to these investigations. Our responsibility
- 22 brought and monitored in violation went into par and
- 23 check and see if fair and expeditious corrective
- 24 disciplinary action is administrated by the chief of
- 25 police. I hope that as of today this information



- 1 will start to be shared with the Board. On the DPD
- 2 chief report, I am requesting an update on our crime
- 3 stats and any critical issue facing the police
- 4 department. At the end of the meeting we would have
- 5 public comments from the audience. Please make sure
- 6 you print your name on the speaker's card. Cards
- 7 are located in back on the table and can be obtained
- 8 by seeing Mr. Robert Brown, the young man on the far
- 9 end. He will need your card before the beginning of
- 10 public comments, before we begin public comments.
- 11 We would hold each speaker to the allotted two
- 12 minutes. I ask that everyone turn off your cell
- 13 phone and other electronic devices. This, of
- 14 course, does not include devices held by DPD
- 15 persons, as many of you are on emergency stand by.
- 16 I ask DPD personnel to put their phones on vibrate
- 17 so that ringing phones do not interrupt our meeting.
- 18 Finally, at the very end of the meeting, I ask the
- 19 Board to go into a closed session to discuss
- 20 personnel issues related to the Board. I do not
- 21 anticipate a vote on the issue in today's closed
- 22 session. Therefore, we will return to the regular
- 23 order to close session and adjourn our meeting.
- 24 Again, no actual decision be made in this session,
- 25 only discussion on the senior personnel issue



- 1 related to our Board. And now we going to move on
- 2 to the resolution. Before I do that, I want to
- 3 interject the Red file.
- 4 SECRETARY HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 5 The Red file is really a cooperative effort that
- 6 exists between Detroit Police Department and many
- 7 local police departments across the country, the
- 8 State Police and the FBI. And it reached it's apex
- 9 during the days of the civil rights movement. And
- 10 what we had essentially was federally directed and
- 11 locally operated spying operations on citizens. And
- 12 these were citizens who were most likely active in
- 13 the labor movement, they were active in the civil
- 14 rights movement or they could be generally just be
- 15 people of concern, but not necessarily of criminal
- 16 concern. Some of the noted people who were in that
- 17 file, as of course Commissioner Bell has indicated
- 18 he was a member, and I think Commissioner Davis
- 19 indicated that he had a Red file on him, but also
- 20 Mayor Coleman Young had a Red file on him. And
- 21 there were a number of distinguished
- 22 African-American judges and members of the state
- 23 legislature and house of representatives and
- 24 congressional representatives who had Red files on
- 25 them. So this was a local use following a federal



- 1 directive to use local money and resources to
- 2 essentially spy on citizens and share information on
- 3 citizens who were not under any particular criminal
- 4 suspicion, and that's the history of that. There
- 5 was a lawsuit that was filed in that particular
- 6 case. It took several years. City of Detroit
- 7 opened up an operation, I think, in one of their
- 8 locations off of Woodward Avenue right next to the
- 9 Fox Theater and some sixty -- I believe it was some
- 10 60,000 residents were informed to come and pick up a
- 11 copy of their Red files. And I suspect about half
- of those 60,000 residents did pick up copies of the
- 13 Red file. And the city and varying police
- 14 authorities were admonished at that point and were
- 15 directed not to pursue these types of spying
- 16 operations, that one must have a criminal suspicion
- 17 and that one should follow procedures relative to
- 18 seeking a warrants for some of that kind of
- 19 surveillance activity that was going on at that day.
- 20 Needless to say, a lot of this was motivated by
- 21 opposition to the labor movement and opposition to
- 22 the civil rights movement.
- 23 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, Mr. Hicks. I
- 24 might add that the Board of Police Commissioners at
- 25 that time was charged with processing these files



- 1 out. And eventually people had an opportunity to
- 2 review them at some point in time and they were
- 3 destroyed, and this Board played a role and were
- 4 designated to help in that process. So you can see
- 5 how far we have come. But we always concerned about
- 6 issues like that as civilian population and
- 7 government intrusion in that whole process and
- 8 utilizing not just on the federal level but local
- 9 police department to engage in that type of
- 10 behavior. Thank you. Resolution and Investigator
- 11 Nelson. Do we have a volunteer? Yes, sir,
- 12 Commissioner Brown.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Resolution honoring
- 14 Supervising Investigator Abdullah Nelson, Sr.
- 15 Abdullah Nelson, Sr., was appointed to the Highland
- 16 Park Fire on December 4, 1974 as a fire fighter.
- 17 And, whereas, Firefighter Nelson dutifully served in
- 18 that position until being classified as a public
- 19 safety officer in November of 1985. As a member of
- 20 the Highland Park Public Safety Department, he held
- 21 several ranks, narcotic, vice, auto theft
- 22 investigator, police counselor, corporal team
- 23 leader, youth investigator, sergeant patrol
- 24 supervisor, sergeant chief staff, sergeant
- 25 supervisor im charge of narcotic and vice appointed



- 1 as a deputy chief of public safety and promoted on
- 2 January 1, 2000 as a lieutenant after 25 years of
- 3 service. Whereas, on November 27, 2001 Abdullah
- 4 Nelson seemed to begin a second career as an
- 5 appointee of the Detroit Board of Police
- 6 Commissioners on June 29, 2006. Investigator Nelson
- 7 was promoted as a senior investigator and several
- 8 years as a senior investigator and on July 20, 2015
- 9 he was promoted to supervising investigator until
- 10 his retirement. Whereas, Supervising Investigator
- 11 Nelson tirelessly served the Detroit Board of Police
- 12 Commissioners and the citizens of Detroit for 18
- 13 years and the citizens of Wayne County neighboring
- 14 communities. His professionalism, commitment to
- 15 public service, civilian oversight, integrity and
- 16 dedication were a credit to the Detroit Board of
- 17 Police Commissioners. He was a community activist
- 18 and was highly respected by the citizens for whom he
- 19 served as a consummate professional. Now,
- 20 therefore, be it resolved that the Detroit Board of
- 21 Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of
- 22 Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards
- 23 this resolution in recognition of Supervising
- 24 Investigator Abdullah Nelson, Sr., many decades of
- 25 dedicated and diligent public service, his



- 1 professionalism, integrity and standard of
- 2 commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens
- 3 merit our highest regards.
- 4 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you.
- 5 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Mr. Chair, move for
- 6 adoption and support.
- 7 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Support.
- 8 CHAIRMAN BELL: It's been properly moved
- 9 and supported. Discussion. Those in favor, aye.
- 10 THE BOARD: Aye.
- 11 CHAIRMAN BELL: Opposed. Motion carried.
- 12 Commissioner Davis, would you do the honor, the
- 13 resolution honor, in retiring Sergeant Ms. Vanessa
- 14 Wyatt?
- 15 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes, it would be my
- 16 honor to. Resolution honoring retiring Sergeant
- 17 Vanessa Wyatt. Whereas, Vanessa Wyatt was appointed
- 18 to the Detroit Police Department on July 18, 1977
- 19 upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police
- 20 Academy. Officer Wyatt began her career at the 7th
- 21 Precinct. And, whereas, Officer Wyatt's assignment
- 22 with the Detroit Police Department included the 11th
- 23 Precinct, reassignment to the 7th Precinct, special
- 24 duty section of 10th Precinct, mini station section
- 25 and the training academy. And, whereas, Officer



- 1 Wyatt displayed tremendous knowledge and leadership
- 2 skill as a police officer and was promoted to the
- 3 rank of sergeant on October 9, 1987. As sergeant,
- 4 she was reassigned to the training academy. Her
- 5 other assignments included the recruitment division,
- 6 2nd Precinct, southwestern district and reassignment
- 7 to the 2nd Precinct where she served until
- 8 retirement. And, whereas, Sergeant Wyatt was the
- 9 deserving recipient of the following awards:
- 10 service award, chief unit award, both consent,
- 11 judgment award, two chiefs citation and medals,
- 12 support fireworks award, the major league baseball
- 13 all-star recognition award, the Rosa Parks community
- 14 recognition award and Super Bowl 50 recognition
- 15 award, as well as, numerous letters of accommodation
- 16 from citizens and superiors. And, whereas, Sergeant
- 17 Wyatt has tirelessly served the Detroit Police
- 18 Department, the citizens of Detroit and its
- 19 neighboring communities for 41 plus years. She has
- 20 served the Detroit Police Department and citizens of
- 21 the city of Detroit with loyalty, professionalism,
- 22 integrity, dedication and is widely respected
- 23 throughout the law enforcement community and is the
- 24 consummate professional. Therefore, be it resolved
- 25 that the Detroit Police Commission is speaking on



- 1 behalf of the citizens of the great city of Detroit
- 2 recognize and honor the lifelong contributions and
- 3 commitment to excellence in public service of
- 4 Sergeant Vanessa Wyatt. Her duty and display of
- 5 courage and unwavering commitment, community spirit
- 6 has improved the quality of life of the citizens of
- 7 Detroit. We wish you all the best in your future
- 8 endeavors, and we thank and congratulate you,
- 9 Sergeant Wyatt.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Mr. Chair, move for
- 11 adoption of this resolution.
- 12 THE BOARD: Support.
- 13 CHAIRMAN BELL: It's been properly moved
- 14 and supported. Discussion. Those in favor, aye.
- THE BOARD: Aye.
- 16 CHAIRMAN BELL: Opposed. Motion carried.
- 17 Next item would be a recommendation for promo to the
- 18 rank of captain for Lieutenant Sonia J. Russell. Is
- 19 Lieutenant Russell here?
- 20 LIEUTENANT RUSSELL: Yes, sir.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BELL: Could you come forward in
- 22 the first seat, please? I'd appreciate it. I just
- 23 want the Board to see you at this particular time.
- 24 I think we all know you, and so the chair will
- 25 entertain a motion.



- 1 COMMISSIONER BROWN: So moved. Mr.
- 2 Chair, I move that we concur with the recommendation
- 3 of the chief of the promotion of Lieutenant Russell
- 4 to captain.
- 5 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: Support.
- 6 CHAIRMAN BELL: It's been properly moved
- 7 and supported. Discussion. Those in favor, aye.
- 8 THE BOARD: Aye.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BELL: Those opposed. The
- 10 motion carried. (Applause) You have the floor.
- 11 LIEUTENANT RUSSELL: Good afternoon,
- 12 Board. I am just very honored to be selected for
- 13 the rank of captain. I thank the chief, I thank the
- 14 executive team and, of course, this Board for your
- 15 support and approving this promotion. So thank you.
- 16 I look forward to it.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, thank you. We
- 18 wish you the best in that role and we have had some
- 19 great interactions over a period of time, and I know
- 20 you're going to do a great job in terms of -- there
- 21 was no doubt in terms when your name surfaced, I
- 22 said, yes, personally.
- 23 LIEUTENANT RUSSELL: I appreciate it,
- thank you, sir. Thank you, Board. (Applause)
- 25 CHAIRMAN BELL: As we move on, the next



- 1 item would be assistant chief report on behalf of
- 2 the chief of police. Assistance Chief James White.
- 3 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Once
- 4 again, good afternoon, esteemed Board. I'll start
- 5 with the crime stats report. Homicides are down 21
- 6 percent. Sexual assault uptic, 12 percent uptic.
- 7 Robbery down 8 percent, car jacking down 44 percent.
- 8 Aggravated assault, the numbers have held steady;
- 9 for the year it's a 9 percent reduction, for the
- 10 week zero percent. Nonfatal shootings, 14 percent
- 11 down and the total violent offenses year-to-date are
- 12 down one percent. As we always indicate, there's
- 13 still much work to be done. We're certainly not in
- 14 any way celebrating these numbers. As evident by
- 15 the next report I'm going to present to the Board,
- 16 and that is the three very high profile events that
- 17 have transpired over the past few days. The first
- 18 of which is a crime spree that occurred with two
- 19 suspects where they went throughout the city
- 20 committing carjackings, robberies around the
- 21 schools. Our car jacking unit or commercial auto
- theft did a phenomenal job of bringing these two
- 23 offenders to justice. I've just been informed that
- 24 a nine-count felony warrant was signed by the
- 25 prosecutor's office charging both of these



- 1 perpetrators, so two very violent offenders are off
- 2 the street. The second event or incident is a
- 3 homicide. I'm sure the Board is aware that it
- 4 occurred yesterday involving a 26-year-old female
- 5 victim was found in a dumpster. A very sad story.
- 6 We have a person of interest in custody on that
- 7 matter. I don't know how that's going to -- what's
- 8 going to happen with regards to that particular
- 9 suspect, but I know that the case is still very
- 10 active at this point. And then the third incident
- 11 is the drag racing incident involving what we think
- 12 to be three vehicles at this point. We have found
- 13 and arrested one perpetrator who was the perpetrator
- 14 who made the initial impact on the victims'
- 15 vehicles. Very, very sad circumstances, two
- 16 citizens killed, innocent citizens, makes absolutely
- 17 no sense for these three people to make the -- just
- 18 not a smart decision to what appears to be drag
- 19 racing in the middle of the day. These two citizens
- 20 leaving the market and are impacted by the
- 21 circumstance and both are dead. There was a
- 22 two-count, second degree warrant issued on the
- 23 driver prior to my arrival here today. Finally, the
- 24 Board has inquired about the injuries to officers.
- 25 Officer Wallace Johnson continues to recover in that



- 1 long-term care facility. Additional note on that,
- 2 his son is graduating from Belleville High School in
- 3 a couple weeks, and I know that the department is
- 4 doing some work with his family; is that correct?
- 5 THE BOARD: Absolutely.
- 6 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: James
- 7 Kisselberg waiting on his approval for his duty
- 8 disability. He will not be returning. Officer
- 9 Christopher Thersen is recovering from a motorcycle
- 10 accident in an occupational home therapy
- 11 environment. The other thing I want to point out to
- 12 the Board is Officer Benjamin Atkinson received a
- 13 congressional badge of bravery over the passed
- 14 couple days. It was presented by Congresswoman
- 15 Debbie Dingell, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow and
- 16 U.S. Attorney Matthew Schneider of the eastern
- 17 district for his courage and bravery in the incident
- involving the apprehension of the suspect who
- 19 fatally wounded Police Officer Collin Rose of Wayne
- 20 State University. The Board will remember that
- 21 Officer Kisselberg and Officer Atkinson were also
- 22 shot during that apprehension. So Officer Atkinson
- 23 will receive that award over the passed few days.
- 24 Any questions?
- 25 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, sir. I just want to



- 1 take the first concern. I received a call, and I
- 2 think I raised the issue a couple weeks ago. Could
- 3 you speak to how we can high profile these ATVs and
- 4 these mopeds that's roaming not just individually
- 5 but in packs? So I know it is against the law but
- 6 we had a discussion in 5th Precinct. Some parents
- 7 just don't understand that it's always been against
- 8 the law for those type of vehicles. How can we high
- 9 profile that, because young people know we not
- 10 chasing them or whatever it is. But I know we can't
- 11 allow them 20, 30, just take over Detroit. They not
- 12 going to engage in that type of behavior outside of
- 13 Eight Mile Road, they know they will be scrutinized.
- 14 But how can we get a message out there that it's not
- 15 proper, against the law and that we will enforce.
- 16 How can we handle that in some PR campaign to make
- 17 them aware?
- 18 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Through
- 19 the chair, the first thing that we're doing is we're
- 20 going to start a community education campaign. This
- 21 isn't anything new. Many, many years ago the mini
- 22 bikes were out there and then we went to the
- 23 go-karts. What's happening now with social media,
- 24 this problem originally popped up in Baltimore,
- 25 Maryland and a lot of the young people out there



- 1 decided to try to take over the road and some were
- 2 successful. The difficult issue is you can't chase
- 3 them, because they're already dangerous vehicles.
- 4 Now, you're involved in a high-speed chase with
- 5 them. So what we've decided to do is to leverage
- 6 technology to help us. And though the actual
- 7 vehicle itself isn't illegal, there are some rules
- 8 regarding the use of the vehicle, and certainly
- 9 there are rules regarding reckless driving,
- 10 misdemeanor charges, being able to hold the vehicles
- 11 on evidence. And then to your question regarding
- 12 the communication component, parents need to take
- 13 responsibility and communicate with their children
- 14 how dangerous the circumstance is, and we're going
- 15 to be enforcing it.
- 16 CHAIRMAN BELL: Can we send some
- 17 communication out to especially our police-community
- 18 relation and any other entity? You can do that and
- 19 the Board could do that. We need to make sure
- 20 that -- and these are just not teenagers. These are
- 21 young adults, as you well know, these are young
- 22 adults, that's engaging. I agree with you, the 15
- 23 year old that lost his life, the parents knew about
- 24 that type of activity, but yet they didn't respond
- 25 to that. It's like a twofold. Teenagers, but I'm



- 1 more concerned about those young adults who are out
- 2 there, really, you know, on social media coming
- 3 together. And I think the most recent incident they
- 4 went city wide, they end up on Gratiot, they was
- 5 encountered by the police. They said, we're not
- 6 doing anything wrong, we just trying to do our
- 7 thing.
- 8 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Well, you
- 9 can't impede traffic, you can't drive recklessly and
- 10 your actions can't leave others to have to evade you
- 11 and cause them a problem. We know how to manage
- 12 that process and leverage technology when they
- 13 are -- I mean, we will use air support. We will use
- 14 cameras that are already in the community. So we've
- 15 got some ways that we're going to swiftly address
- 16 this issue.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. I'm sorry,
- 18 commissioners?
- 19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I was going to ask
- 20 the same thing.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I wanted to back up,
- 22 Mr. Chair.
- 23 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Just to give a
- 25 suggestion to Chief White. You know when basketball



- 1 hoops, and I think that is still against the law
- 2 that they play with them in the streets, once you
- 3 see who has these go-karts or whatever vehicle you
- 4 want to call it, is there a way perhaps you could go
- 5 to the home of that person when you find out where
- 6 they live and perhaps take it, confiscate it, since
- 7 they won't obey what they're supposed to do. You
- 8 can start collecting them and teach them to go to a
- 9 course where they can ride safely and not damage
- 10 themselves or other people. You ever think of that?
- 11 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Through
- 12 the chair, I have not thought of that. But the
- 13 approach that we are deploying right now is really
- 14 to look at all aspects of the law, including an
- 15 older ordinance of parental responsibility for the
- 16 people who are within that age parameter. But
- 17 beyond that, we're just going to hold people
- 18 accountable to the law, and if there's any
- 19 violations to take swift action and let that serve
- 20 as a model for people who are thinking of doing it
- 21 when they see the actions of those who have done it.
- 22 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Yes, that's what I'm
- 23 saying. Like Chairman Bell said, you have to do a
- 24 high profile to let them know this might happen,
- 25 your vehicle may be taken from you. Could we say



- 1 that?
- 2. CHAIRMAN BELL: But they have the right
- 3 to own it. You can't confiscate it, they have the
- right to own it. It just matters how they utilize 4
- 5 it on the public streets. That is how we come into
- 6 being. You can't take it because they have the
- 7 right to own this vehicle, to buy this vehicle, to
- possess this vehicle. 8
- 9 ASSISTANCE POLICE CHIEF WHITE: That's
- 10 correct.
- COMMISSIONER BROWN: Mr. Chair, a couple 11
- 12 things.
- 13 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, sir.
- 14 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Those vehicles, they
- 15 do have to maintain state regulations and have
- certain lights and things like that on them to be on 16
- 17 the street, and so I mean they took my mini bike
- when I was a kid. I think that's something we need 18
- 19 to look at, and maybe look at the state and their
- regulations on what is street legal. I mean, I used 20
- to have ATVs, and I'll tell you that's why they're 21
- off-road vehicles, because they don't have brake 2.2
- 23 lights, blinkers and things like that, but I took
- those things up north. Secondly, I just want to 24
- 25 commend the men and women of the police department



- 1 for apprehending those suspects for the school
- 2 issue. I got a lot of calls that day. Another
- 3 thing that I see that's coming up, it's not just the
- 4 mini bikes, it's the Chargers. These people driving
- 5 these Chargers and Shadows. I was on Fenkell just
- 6 driving, cruising down the street and it was raining
- 7 outside and somebody just shot past me in the center
- 8 lane. And I just said, oh, man, I hope nobody pulls
- 9 out in front of him because he was going to lose
- 10 control of that vehicle. So that's another ongoing
- 11 issue that I'm witnessing every day. What can we do
- 12 as citizens to say, okay, how do we report this, how
- 13 do we -- what can we do as citizens to communicate
- 14 that message of how we are going to report these
- 15 crimes? I mean, people are running red lights, they
- 16 just blowing through them. That's an ongoing issue.
- 17 I know we can't always -- we can't be everywhere all
- 18 the time, I understand that. But I'm just saying
- 19 citizens, we've got a lot of watch dogs out there.
- 20 What can we do more to aid the police department.
- 21 You know, getting them to understand that there are
- 22 laws and rules and if you break them, you might not
- 23 get caught. But like that drag racing of innocent
- 24 civilians where people just on the road. Second --
- 25 thirdly, I'm not going to take up all your time.



- 1 CHAIRMAN BELL: Go ahead.
- 2. COMMISSIONER BROWN: It came before us a
- 3 couple months ago about how sex crimes were
- reported. I can't remember how -- because it 4
- increased the numbers. And I think it changed the 5
- way they were reported, and I just couldn't remember 6
- what it was. It was a question that came to me 7
- about it. It's not like it's increasing, like the 8
- 9 crimes are increasing, but it was just the way
- things were reported. If you can elaborate on that 10
- a little bit just so we can be reminded of what that 11
- 12 process was because I couldn't remember.
- ASSISTANCE POLICE CHIEF WHITE: 13 Through
- 14 the chair, I'll start with the last question first.
- 15 The way that we report sex crimes now is prior to
- 16 the implementation of this new process, in order for
- 17 a sex crime to be statted as a sex crime, the
- complainant themselves would have to make the 18
- 19 complaint. Now, whether it's a school teacher,
- clergy, third party, it's listed and statted as a 20
- 21 sex crime. But we're no longer holding it just to
- the actual complainant. So when we did that and 2.2
- went to that model, which makes sense, particularly 23
- 2.4 when you're talking about schools, we thought that
- 25 that was the best way to approach that. It did show



- 1 an uptic in our numbers, but it's a more transparent
- 2 way of really reporting our numbers, and also it
- 3 treats the victim appropriately.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you.
- 5 ASSISTANCE POLICE CHIEF WHITE: With
- 6 regards to the street legality of these vehicles, we
- 7 are looking at all aspects of the law. We are going
- 8 to enforce the law fairly, I'm just sure the Board
- 9 recognizes that with our police department. But the
- 10 key is as far as communication nothing has changed.
- 11 The only thing that's changed is the helmet law.
- 12 You still have to drive the vehicle safely, whether
- 13 it's an all-terrain vehicle or an off-the-road
- 14 vehicle, there are rules that are involved in both.
- 15 With regards to these Chargers, I hear that
- 16 narrative a lot. But there's always been fast cars.
- 17 I mean, whether you're talking about a '69 Nova or a
- 18 Mustang or a Charger, so it's not like the car
- 19 doesn't go the speed limit. It's people making the
- 20 poor decision to speed and we're going to hold them
- 21 accountable and we're going to enforce the law. So
- 22 what I would ask the Board and anyone else that's
- 23 willing to do it is when we enforce these laws and
- 24 we're going to be out there running traffic, have
- 25 the people who are not in the Charger slow down so



- 1 that they don't become victimized and they can be
- 2 the witnesses. What we don't want to happen is when
- 3 we're out, we don't want, a, anyone getting hurt;
- 4 but more importantly, a lot of times when people ask
- 5 for traffic enforcement the people who call us end
- 6 up getting tickets, as well. So we need them to
- 7 slow down.
- 8 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you, Chief.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you, Assistant
- 10 Chief. Move on to the next item of business,
- 11 professional standards. I want to acknowledge
- 12 Commissioner Burton joined us.
- 13 DIRECTOR GRAVEL: Good afternoon,
- 14 Chairman. So I think you all know me, I'm Director
- 15 Chris Gravel, I'm in charge of the professional
- 16 standards bureau. We were here two weeks ago
- 17 talking about disciplinary. That's just one
- 18 component of what falls underneath professional
- 19 standards. There's actually four sections that fall
- 20 underneath the bureau. First is disciplinary, which
- 21 we talked about. We also have integrity, and that
- 22 falls underneath Lieutenant Dietrich Lieber. That's
- 23 the folks who do our surveillance that's necessary
- 24 for an investigation due to some of our more covert
- 25 investigations. Then we have force investigations



- 1 which investigate category one, uses of force
- 2 throughout the city, and then internal affairs. So
- 3 internal affairs, we investigate when there's
- 4 criminal complaints or cases of serious misconduct
- 5 above and beyond what the command can handle.
- 6 Internal affairs and force investigations both fall
- 7 underneath internal controls and that is headed up
- 8 by Captain Lena Purifoy, and she's going to take
- 9 over from here to discuss what falls under there.
- 10 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: Good afternoon,
- 11 Honorable Board. My name is Lena Purifoy. I'm the
- 12 captain and commanding officer of the internal
- 13 controls. Internal controls is comprised of
- 14 internal affairs and force investigation. What
- 15 makes internal affairs cases unique is its criminal
- 16 nexus. Internal affairs accepts complaints by
- 17 phone, walk-in, interoffice memorandums, other
- departmental personnel, office of the chief
- 19 investigator, alert responses, other agencies and
- 20 via email. When complaints are received they are
- 21 reviewed for proper case assignment. If there is
- 22 evidence of possible criminality or serious
- 23 misconduct, those cases are assigned to internal
- 24 affairs. If there is not enough evidence to make
- 25 that determination, the case is assigned as a



- 1 preliminary investigation. If there is evidence of
- 2 possible misconduct, the case is forwarded to the
- 3 command for a command-level investigation. If the
- 4 complaint is more of a policy violation, such as
- 5 service or demeanor toward a citizen, that case is
- 6 turned over to the office of the chief investigator.
- 7 If it is determined that the complaint is unfounded,
- 8 it will be closed administratively as a no case
- 9 until further information is received. Typically
- 10 cases are investigated within 90 days. In some
- instances priority cases are expedited and in some
- 12 cases there is a delay with the 90-day process. And
- 13 some of those instances are: a prosecutorial review,
- 14 court proceedings, forensic DNA testing due to
- 15 statuses of officers. Currently we have 15 cases
- 16 that are being reviewed by Wayne County prosecutor's
- 17 office, 8 of those are from 2018. I will now turn
- 18 it over to Lieutenant Jeffrey Hahn of internal
- 19 affairs to cover current duty status and statistical
- 20 data.
- 21 LIEUTENANT HAHN: Good afternoon.
- 22 THE BOARD: Good afternoon.
- 23 LIEUTENANT HAHN: So when a case comes in
- 24 there is a decision made on duty status. So we
- 25 review that at the professional standards to make a



- 1 decision for our request. And some of those things
- 2 would be we might -- well, our choices are
- 3 administrative duty and currently we have two of
- 4 those, which just simply means we're working in a
- 5 capacity that's not patrol, a lot of times it's not
- 6 in contact with citizens. And then you'll also see
- 7 we have an admin no-gun; we have 21 people currently
- 8 on that. Those cases tend to be a little bit more
- 9 serious. And then if it is very egregious, we have
- 10 currently six people suspended with pay. In
- 11 addition we might request that they're suspended
- 12 without pay. That would be done through a request
- 13 to the Board. We would make the request to the
- 14 chief and the chief, if he agrees with our request,
- 15 would then request the Board to make a decision on
- 16 that. We currently have six people suspended
- 17 without pay. So for the cases, I'm going to just go
- 18 over the three-year comparison, that's year-to-date
- 19 for today, so these numbers are each of these three
- 20 years as of May 16th. So this is not the entire
- 21 year. So back in 2017 we assigned 68 new cases in
- 22 the first of that year, and then in that same time
- 23 frame we closed 71 cases. Then in the next
- 24 following year we generated 68 internal affairs
- 25 cases, while closing 65. Currently this year we've



- 1 had 60 cases assigned, and we've closed 42 of those
- 2 cases. One of the other options that my captain
- 3 explained in our decision-making process is there
- 4 are some cases where we don't really have enough
- 5 information initially to determine whether there's
- 6 criminality or not. Sometimes we have enough to
- 7 determine criminality, we'll immediately assign that
- 8 a case. However, in some cases there's cases we
- 9 know that this is not rising to the level of
- 10 criminality, so then we would dispose of those in
- 11 one of those other ways. However there are some
- 12 that we just don't have enough but we need to look a
- 13 little further, so we would assign those what we
- 14 call a PI or preliminary case. For the three-year
- 15 comparison as of May 16th of these years, we
- 16 assigned 23 PI cases in 2017, and 21 of those were
- 17 closed out in that time frame. In 2018 we assigned
- 18 32 PIs, while closing out 28 cases in that time
- 19 frame. Then this year we generated 30 PIs and there
- 20 are 17 of those that have been closed out. At this
- 21 time I will turn it over to my partner in force so
- 22 he can talk about force investigations.
- 23 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: Good evening.
- 24 THE BOARD: Good evening.
- 25 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: Once again, my



- 1 name is Howard Phillips, lieutenant newly appointed
- 2 to force investigation. We're going to be looking
- 3 at the case comparisons as far as force
- 4 investigation for a three-year comparison. If you
- 5 notice that 2017 and 2018 are very closely related,
- 6 which 2017 having 13 cases assigned and 20 of those
- 7 cases were closed. There were approximately 3 cases
- 8 that were sustained in 2017, 2 cases that were found
- 9 not sustained and 15 cases where the officer was
- 10 exonerated. For 2018 we had three cases that were
- 11 sustained, four cases that were not sustained, 12
- 12 cases that were exonerated and one administrative
- 13 closure, which means that that case didn't meet the
- 14 guidelines for an investigation for force, so
- 15 therefore it was turned back to the initiating
- 16 command. And presently for 2019 we had a total of
- 17 14 cases that were assigned with 8 cases to be
- 18 closed. Out of those cases we had 2 that were
- 19 sustained, one that was not sustained and 5 cases
- 20 exonerated, and presently we have 4 of those cases
- 21 which are at the Wayne county prosecutor's office
- 22 and we're waiting for those cases to be adjudicated.
- 23 Our three-year comparison for firearm discharge,
- 24 discharges. Once again, you can see the statistics
- 25 for 2017 where we had 3 fatal shootings, 4 nonfatal



- 1 shootings, 2 shootings -- correction, 2 shots fired
- 2 and one unintentional discharge. In 2018 our
- 3 statistics got a lot better, where we had only one
- 4 nonfatal shooting, and as of this year we had one
- 5 nonfatal shooting and one shots fired incident. And
- 6 the last category that we're going to be looking at
- 7 are the fatal and critical pursuit incidents. For
- 8 2017 we had 3 fatal pursuits and no critical
- 9 injuries. For 2018 we had one fatal pursuit, again,
- 10 no critical injuries. And for 2019 we are at zero,
- 11 zero. Do we have any questions?
- 12 CHAIRMAN BELL: Commissioner Dewaelsche?
- 13 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Thank you for
- 14 the report, it's very interesting information. The
- 15 way it's presented, I'm a little bit confused. The
- 16 question I have is your chart that talks about cases
- 17 investigated by force investigations, for instance,
- 18 you have more cases that are closed than you
- 19 actually have cases. So I'm assuming that your
- 20 carrying over cases that are like ongoing, they
- 21 haven't been closed?
- 22 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: That's right.
- 23 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: So they're not
- 24 the same cases.
- 25 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: No, they're not the



- 1 same cases, those were cases from the previous year
- 2 that got carried over.
- 3 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Right, from the
- 4 previous year. Okay. I just wanted that
- 5 clarification because when were you presenting you
- 6 said, we closed these cases and I thought it was the
- 7 same cases. That's one thing. And then, just the
- 8 other question that I have with regard to -- at
- 9 least the charts that I was looking at as you were
- 10 speaking. Firearms discharges and fatal critical
- 11 pursuit accidents.
- 12 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: Yes.
- 13 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Is this the
- 14 same period each year or are we talking about 2017
- 15 and 2018 being full years and as of this date in
- 16 2019? Is it the same period for each year?
- 17 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: Yes.
- 18 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: So it's May
- 19 2017, May 2018, so we're making the comparison.
- 20 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: That's correct.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Thank you.
- 22 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: You're welcome.
- 23 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: Thank you for
- 24 asking that question. I did have the same thing. I
- 25 assumed it was a backlog. My question is around the



- 1 closed cases. So there appears to be, just looking
- 2 at trends here, less closed cases by the internal
- 3 affairs team and preliminary investigations bureau
- 4 every year, and I just wondered if that was just a
- 5 fluke or if there is some reason for that. For
- 6 example, at this time in 2017 and '18 you closed
- 7 about 71 and 65 cases respectively, and this year
- 8 you've only closed 42. And for preliminary
- 9 investigations at this time last year you closed 21
- 10 and 28 and now we're at 17.
- 11 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: And that's for
- 12 internal affairs, correct?
- 13 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: The first one was
- 14 for internal affairs the second one was for criminal
- 15 investigation.
- 16 LIEUTENANT PHILLIPS: Okay, I'll let
- 17 Lieutenant Hahn answer that.
- 18 LIEUTENANT HAHN: There could be a lot of
- 19 contributing factors. I can't say for certain. We
- 20 are scrutinizing things a lot more. A lot of our
- 21 cases are a little different in nature and we've
- 22 been seeking out more prosecutor reviews. So when
- 23 we have that, it causes a delay generally. Our
- 24 prosecutorial review can take a little bit of time.
- 25 So that's one thing that could cause a delay. And



- 1 also these cases kind of close in sporadically
- 2 sometimes. So it could if we did this like next
- 3 month or last week or something, the numbers can
- 4 kind of shift quite a bit. We do have a lot that
- 5 have been -- I've reviewed some that have been
- 6 submitted to me that were returned for clerical
- 7 stuff. But we're trying to get this -- we want to
- 8 do a good job and we're really thoroughly looking at
- 9 this stuff. I think it's too early to say that
- 10 there's some big issue. I think it's just kind of
- 11 the nature of the beast. There's a lot of scrutiny
- 12 because we want to get it right. It's fair to
- 13 everybody to get it right. We got to get it right
- 14 for the officers but we got to get it right for the
- 15 community, too. So we're really scrutinizing these
- 16 things. And we also have structurally changed a
- 17 little bit, so we have another layer. Now we have a
- 18 director we never had before. So there's more eyes
- on it, but I think it's really going to improve the
- 20 process, which is right now maybe we're having a
- 21 little bit of growing pains.
- 22 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: So, I happen to,
- 23 in my day job, I happen to run our executive basic
- 24 complaint department and one of the questions that I
- 25 have is when we're reviewing complaints we look at a



- 1 lot of data in terms of root causing. So when a
- 2 complaint comes in, I know for example if it's, you
- 3 know, what's the root cause by type. So there's a
- 4 complaint of aggravated assault, I don't know what
- 5 the different types are. But I'm wondering if that
- 6 data would be helpful to identify trends as opposed
- 7 to looking at it --
- 8 LIEUTENANT HAHN: For instance, I looked
- 9 at some of the main allegations that we have. And
- 10 the two main ones that we seek, and it's kind of
- 11 shows through the years, but larceny is one of our
- 12 big allegations. And typically those were never
- 13 sustained. We now have body cameras within the last
- 14 few years and that's gone a long way to exonerating
- 15 officers that use it appropriately. I've seen that,
- 16 that's a great tool when they use it appropriately,
- 17 we can -- I mean, before a lot of times we're in a
- 18 situation where something is very hard to sustain or
- 19 exonerate. So we end up with not sustained. But
- 20 now we're seeing -- but it does take a little bit
- 21 more time -- the body cams are a brilliant tool but
- 22 it does cause us more things that we've got to do on
- 23 our to do list. So I think it's worth the effort,
- 24 but it may cause us a little bit more work.
- 25 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: I totally



- 1 understand why it would take more time especially
- 2 now that you have more at your disposal. I think it
- 3 would be helpful to this body, and I don't know if
- 4 my colleagues agree or disagree, to have just a
- 5 little bit more information so that we understand it
- 6 more reasonably. For me the value in a report like
- 7 this is understanding if we have problems, right?
- 8 So I'm looking at this with a lens, are things
- 9 getting better or worse. It seems like there would
- 10 have been the same kind of -- in terms of what's
- 11 coming in, the same numbers. But it would help for
- 12 me to have more information around what's causing or
- 13 driving these numbers. So is it larceny or is it
- 14 more larceny cases? What's the nature --
- 15 LIEUTENANT HAHN: Larcenies are over 25
- 16 percent, looking at the last three years, they are
- 17 over 25 percent. Actually the one above that would
- 18 be something that we would classify misconduct and
- 19 this is more stuff that could end up being criminal,
- 20 but it's a severe misconduct for us where it's a
- 21 concern about running a department type of a nature.
- 22 And those aren't necessarily a straight forward --
- 23 and that's kind of a big group because it's kind of
- 24 like a catch-all. So that's kind of hard to --
- 25 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: 25 percent of your



- 1 cases are --
- 2 LIEUTENANT HAHN: Larcenies are over 25
- 3 percent. I think another 25 percent in the last
- 4 three years, it looked like misconducts were a
- 5 little bit higher than that. But that is a
- 6 catch-all, so it's kind of -- you'd have to really
- 7 get a -- you'd have to break it up into smaller
- 8 groups maybe.
- 9 SPEAKER: There is a lot that falls under
- 10 misconduct. Larceny is one of the bigger numbers.
- 11 And misconduct covers so many areas. This is the
- 12 lady after this guy. Outside of larceny it's a
- 13 broad range of activities. But we can make that a
- 14 little more --
- 15 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: Yeah, it just
- 16 might be good if we could categorize it. There's
- 17 probably a lot of things that we can do. But, just
- 18 say this way we know what's driving behavior, what's
- 19 driving on the other side when you were closing
- 20 them. On some level I understand what's happening
- 21 with most of them but how many of the ones that are
- 22 closed for each of these types are sustained versus
- 23 not.
- [RIGHT2:] We have that information, we
- 25 can supply it for you.



- 1 LIEUTENANT HAHN: I can give you some
- 2 numbers if you want.
- 3 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: It might be better
- 4 for us to have a report.
- 5 CHAIRMAN BELL: If you could update that
- report, understand Commissioner Griffie made that 6
- 7 request, if you could update that that would be
- 8 helpful.
- 9 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: That would be
- 10 helpful.
- SPEAKER: We'll do it for a three-year 11
- 12 period.
- 13 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE:
- 14 the chair, if I am may, I think it would also be
- 15 beneficial to provide the full year number. I
- 16 understand the year-to-date comparison, but where
- 17 are we truly at this point; the full years numbers,
- 18 as opposed to the year-to-date. The year-to-date
- 19 gives you a snapshot if it were May of last year
- from January, but does it tell us what happened 20
- throughout the whole year. 21
- 2.2 LIEUTENANT HAHN: And the reason that we
- 23 did it that way is so that we could compare apples
- to and apples, because we can't really tell you 24
- 25 what's going on now, because last year it kind of



- 1 looks a little bit different. But we did it in
- 2 2017, we had 157 cases and we closed in that case,
- 3 and again these could be from previous years carried
- 4 over, we closed 167 cases. And then in 2018 we
- 5 initiated 155 IA cases and closed 162. So we can
- 6 certainly update those numbers, we have them. The
- 7 only reason for that is that we wanted to give you
- 8 apples and apples.
- 9 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Through
- 10 the chair, apples to apples is fine, but I also want
- 11 to see the entire view of the operations. For
- 12 example, when we talk about fatalities and
- 13 accidents, had the accident happened at a different
- 14 time frame, would we have captured it in the
- 15 year-to-date comparison that we presented today. So
- 16 I just want to make sure that we present it. If
- 17 we're going to update it, since we're going into
- 18 updating it, add a column with that.
- 19 COMMISSIONER GRIFFIE: One more item, not
- 20 to belabor the point, but it might also be helpful
- 21 to understand what the backlog is. So right now I
- 22 know that this year so far you've had 30 cases. But
- 23 what I'm not clear on is how many cases you have in
- 24 your workload that may have been from '18 or '17
- 25 that have not been closed.



- 1 LIEUTENANT HAHN: We currently have like
- 2 99 cases open. The oldest case we have is from --
- 3 three cases we have are from 2016. One of them is
- 4 caught up in a civil lawsuit. One is currently in
- 5 court and another one is under review at the Wayne
- 6 County prosecutor's office. In 2017 we have 7 cases
- 7 that started in 2017 that were open. Three of those
- 8 are federal. We're monitoring. There's one that's
- 9 an ongoing case, one has already been submitted to
- 10 my office. We're just waiting on going through the
- 11 process. And then there's two of them that are
- 12 currently in court. We've got 33 from 2018. That's
- 13 kind of normal because we're not all the way
- 14 through. And then the rest of the 56 are ones that
- 15 we were out of the 60 that we generated. Some of
- 16 them are easy closures. So that's where we stand.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. Commissioner
- 18 Carter was next.
- 19 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Thank you, good
- 20 afternoon. My question is in regards to when you
- 21 open a case or if you open a case with an officer
- 22 and that officer quits before the case is resolved,
- 23 is it investigated or is it closed?
- 24 LIEUTENANT HAHN: Well, there is a couple
- 25 things that could happen. We do have a case. It



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- 1 would end up being administratively closed. We
- 2 would finish up as much as we could. If that
- 3 entailed us talking to them through garity, we
- 4 wouldn't be able to force them to come in.
- 5 Obviously, if there's a criminal case that's going
- 6 to continue. We would close out administratively,
- 7 so in the case that they might try to come back to
- 8 employment, we would have a recommendation for when
- 9 they come back that discipline would do the charges.
- 10 They're not going to do the charging part of it,
- 11 because they're not here for us to discipline. But
- 12 we would make a recommendation if we have enough to
- 13 close out the case. If there just wasn't enough to
- 14 sustain it, we might sustain it pending them coming
- 15 back so we could garity them or whatever.
- 16 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: We just had a case
- 17 today that I signed off on for that exact reason and
- 18 there was nothing else we could do with it.
- 19 However, they were charged criminally, on that
- 20 portion of it, it was being handled. On our end
- 21 there was nothing else we could do other than make
- 22 sure we have the notes, make notes.
- 23 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you.
- 24 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you,
- 25 Commissioner Evette, because some of the things you



- 1 brought out I'm trying to really understand, so I
- 2 hope I can explain what I'm saying. All of these
- 3 stats that you're bringing to us, does that -- that
- 4 includes the whole city of Detroit? In other words,
- 5 every district. So is the breakdown per precinct
- 6 that you give us these numbers, because the reason I
- 7 say that, a lot of times when we do the public --
- 8 for the public to speak, some of the citizens may be
- 9 uninformed and they're given the wrong stats. So
- 10 these numbers that you have, is the breakdown of
- 11 each precinct or district these numbers that are all
- 12 together, or how does that work?
- 13 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: It's the entire city.
- 14 It's not just the police department. It's also the
- 15 fire department, so it's throughout the whole city,
- 16 and based on the circumstances will determine how
- 17 far we go into the investigation.
- 18 CHAIRMAN BELL: I think you sparked a
- 19 dialogue, you said the fire department is included,
- 20 too?
- 21 LIEUTENANT HAHN: We would handle any
- 22 on-duty city employees and all the time sworn
- 23 members. We would -- even off-duty we would handle
- 24 sworn members. But if it's working in the city,
- 25 then we would.



- 1 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: The question I
- 2 was going to ask before that was with regarding to
- 3 the assigning cases chart that you put up, you don't
- 4 have to put it back up, but you indicate that with
- 5 the flow is and I'm just wondering the first flow
- 6 goes to OCI. I mean if it's a lesser misconduct --
- 7 wait, because I just want clarification. What about
- 8 cases that OCI refers to you? Where is that on this
- 9 chart?
- 10 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: We don't have that on
- 11 there. But we also get cases from OCI, not as often
- 12 as other cases but we do get cases from OCI and we
- 13 actually do investigate those cases.
- 14 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And the reason
- 15 why I asked that is because we have asked in the
- 16 past, what happens to those cases and does OCI get
- 17 feedback, you know, on those cases. Even if it's
- 18 just a handful because I know the number is not that
- 19 significant, but if they're not even on the chart
- 20 where are they counted.
- 21 LIEUTENANT HAHN: Well, on the chart and
- 22 the complaint can come from different ways. So one
- 23 of the ways we get complaints is from OCI. Another
- 24 way --
- 25 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Okay, so it



- 1 would be the --
- 2. LIEUTENANT HAHN: The center box that
- 3 says complaint --
- 4 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Okay, so it --
- 5 LIEUTENANT HAHN: However the complaint
- 6 comes in, that's where we start with our decision
- 7 process.
- 8 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: And that's just the
- 9 distribution. That's how we process it out.
- 10 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Okay, now that
- 11 makes it a little clearer. You're saying when OCI
- 12 refers the case to you, it goes to this complaint
- 13 box, and you may refer it back to them after you do
- 14 some investigation because it's not criminal?
- 15 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: If it's not criminal,
- 16 usually when they give us something they've already
- vetted it. And so we do handle it and it may be a 17
- preliminary investigation, an internal affairs 18
- investigation or a command level investigation. So 19
- based on the information, they do a pretty good job 20
- of letting us know, giving us all the information. 21
- 2.2 So usually what we're getting from them is something
- 23 that they should handle. So we make sure it's
- 24 routed out to the proper agency.
- 25 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And I guess my



- 1 question would be the feedback because I know we've
- 2 had that question in the past.
- 3 CHAIRMAN BELL: We working on it.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And then just
- 5 real quick, since you said fire is included, so you
- 6 have 167 cases, say last year or whatever it was,
- 7 how many of those are DPD and how many are fire?
- 8 LIEUTENANT HAHN: The vast majority are
- 9 officers because that's encompassing --
- 10 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: And I quess my
- 11 question is why do you include them. I don't
- 12 understand that, I guess I'm just not understanding.
- 13 LIEUTENANT HAHN: That's just what we are
- 14 handed, that's what our charge is to handle all city
- 15 employees while they're working. That's not an
- 16 extreme amount. If we get a bus driver here or
- there, we get a fire fighter, that's a very small
- 18 number. It's not really significant but --
- 19 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: I just think
- 20 when you have numbers, they should be reflective, at
- 21 least if you're giving them to us, they should just
- 22 be the department. I know it might be
- 23 insignificant, but.
- 24 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Through
- 25 the chair and for clarification, Commissioner, are



- 1 you indicating you want to see the fire numbers
- 2 broken up or you don't?
- 3 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: No. Yeah, yes.
- 4 I want them broken up. You know, I would like to
- 5 just see DPD because that's all we're responsible
- 6 for.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BELL: But I think she wanted to
- 8 see both. Since internal affairs is involved, I
- 9 think we need to see their entire workload in terms
- 10 of reality, what you're dealing with. Okay,
- 11 Commissioner Brown and then Commissioner Davis.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Just one question on
- 13 your firearms discharge, I see on 2018 you just have
- 14 one nonfatal shooting? How are these reported
- 15 because I recall a fatal shooting in 2018 on the
- 16 west side, around October.
- 17 LIEUTENANT HAHN: These are by police
- 18 officers?
- 19 COMMISSIONER BROWN, Yeah.
- 20 LIEUTENANT HAHN: This wouldn't include
- 21 October because it's year-to-date, so if we get you
- 22 those other numbers with the entire year --
- 23 COMMISSIONER BROWN: This wouldn't
- 24 include October 2018?
- 25 LIEUTENANT HAHN: No, it's year-to-date



- 1 for each of these years so we could give you the
- 2 same period of time. So if they ask for the full
- 3 year, that will show up in those numbers, but it
- 4 wouldn't show up in my numbers here today.
- 5 COMMISSIONER BROWN: So these numbers are
- 6 just on a year-to-date comparison to where we are
- 7 now?
- 8 LIEUTENANT HAHN: So you get a look of
- 9 where we are now to compare where we were this time
- 10 last year.
- 11 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Question, like say
- 12 as it relates to internal affairs or use of force,
- 13 if you see a high number come from a particular
- 14 precinct, do you flag that or request an
- 15 investigation in general?
- 16 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: The command usually
- 17 does and we have a system in place, sir, that is our
- 18 AMASS system. So all that data is collected, so
- 19 it's being handled. So we see something that's
- 20 routine or that's occurring frequently at a certain
- 21 command, it's being addressed to all the proper
- 22 entities. So yes, there is a flag.
- COMMISSIONER DAVIS: If you get a lot of
- 24 complaints from a particular precinct, do you flag
- 25 those, too?



- 1 CAPTAIN PURIFOY: Yes, sir. Whether it's
- 2 the precinct or an individual member, yes.
- 3 COMMISSIONER HOLT: About three weeks ago
- 4 I had the opportunity to go on a ride along with a
- 5 young officer. Her name is Johnson with the 8th
- 6 Precinct. Now, the run was to the fire department
- 7 and after she and her young driver investigated the
- 8 situation, then she had to go back to the actual
- 9 precinct. So it must have taken her 45 minutes to,
- 10 I guess, investigate at the fire department, return
- 11 to the precinct and write up the incident. So I
- 12 quess that's an occasion where you would have to
- demonstrate manpower and perhaps the need. So could
- 14 that help explain why it is you're responsible for
- 15 noting incidents involving the fire department
- 16 because of the demand on manpower.
- 17 LIEUTENANT HAHN: The reason we report on
- 18 the fire department is just that's our charge to
- 19 investigate any working city employee. That's the
- 20 only reason. There's a lot of liability with the
- 21 police department and all the other city employees
- 22 while they're working. I think that's probably the
- 23 main reason for that.
- 24 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Okay, thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN BELL: If not, we're going to



- 1 move on. Thank you professional standards, we
- 2 appreciate it. Any standing or ad hoc committee
- 3 reports? Board secretary, Mr. Hicks.
- 4 SECRETARY HICKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 5 I want to remind you that if you draw your attention
- 6 to the board agenda, we, as a standard, we include
- 7 on the board agenda incoming communications to the
- 8 office. These communications are set to notify you
- 9 that information has come into the office. They are
- 10 not necessarily set on the agenda for action. But
- 11 there is also the case where you actually take
- 12 action on the same items and if there may appear to
- 13 be some duplication. But I do want to point out, at
- 14 least in the last week we've had two items that have
- 15 come into the office. Actually one has come in --
- 16 let me rephrase that. Actually two items that have
- 17 gone out of the office as opposed to something
- 18 coming in. The first one, of course, was a set of
- 19 recommendations that was put together by the members
- 20 that Chairman Bell discussed earlier, who was
- 21 working with the Detroit city council, their
- 22 surveillance work group. So that's one item that we
- 23 sent out and a copy of all of that, of the entire
- 24 recommendation, is included in your packet. That
- 25 was also transmitted to you all about a week ago by



- 1 electronic mail. Secondly, as a result of the
- 2 budget hearing in front of Detroit city council, we
- 3 had, of course, a request in for the council to
- 4 consider increasing what is generally referred to as
- 5 a stipend for the Board of Police Commissioners.
- 6 Recognizing that you all have not had an adjustment
- 7 in your reimbursements, because they're actually
- 8 reimbursements, since 2012 when the current charter
- 9 was enacted. Every other board in the city of
- 10 Detroit has received some adjustment or increase as
- 11 opposed to this particular Board. We have a
- 12 specific provision in the city charter that tends
- 13 to -- on the one hand it clarifies some things but
- 14 it also kind of stifles other things relative to you
- 15 getting an adjustment. The recommendation in
- 16 discussing this with the Detroit city council, the
- 17 leadership of Detroit city council, is for us to
- 18 seek an enabling legislation from the state of
- 19 Michigan that would allow for some language to be
- 20 added statewide. An example of that language would
- 21 be for municipalities with a police board or review
- 22 commission or oversight commission with populations,
- 23 for example, of 250,000 individuals, that and the
- 24 reason for that designation is that you really want
- 25 to go at major cities as opposed to all



- 1 municipalities and townships. In that case you're
- 2 focusing in on major cities and you would
- 3 essentially have a provision that says in addition
- 4 to the reimbursement in which you could get, which
- 5 is what you normally get now, that we also are
- 6 requesting by state law to allow for an attendance
- 7 per diem for your -- for commissioners. And the
- 8 attendance per diem is calculated, it would be set
- 9 by a state rate, but it would be calculated based on
- 10 attendance at the meeting. If we combine both the
- 11 reimbursement which you currently get and the
- 12 attendance which we calculated and the attendance
- 13 calculation in which we actually submitted
- information for \$50, \$100 and \$150 per meeting, for
- 15 that calculation it would bring you roughly around
- 16 the same area in which you are seeing other boards
- 17 in the city of Detroit in which they currently
- 18 receive. So again, the vehicle here is not to
- 19 touch, because we can't necessarily touch the
- 20 reimbursement portion that is dictated by the city
- 21 charter, but to seek a second hand here, which is to
- 22 seek the assistance of the state that would allow
- 23 for an attendance per diem. And attendance per
- 24 diems are largely recognized as normal types of
- 25 assistance that are given to volunteer boards in



- 1 order to help them really offset the kind of time in
- 2 which you're spending in connection with these types
- 3 of responsibilities. So we sent a communications in
- 4 that case to Representative Wendell Byrd asking for
- 5 a bill draft, and we also identified a member of the
- 6 state senate which we'll be asking for a bill draft
- 7 on the same thing. And the idea is to get the bills
- 8 working or moving, for example, in both of the
- 9 chambers, house and senate. And hopefully they come
- 10 together at some reasonable period of time, although
- 11 I cannot say this with a hundred percent assurance,
- 12 at least the discussion at the Detroit city council
- 13 recognize that if we were to go to the state and get
- 14 that second step taken care of, that they would --
- 15 we could come back and ask for an additional
- 16 allocation in our budget that will accommodate what
- 17 we're after. So those are the two items, and excuse
- 18 me for being long on the second one, but I did want
- 19 to make sure everybody understands. We're not
- 20 impacting reimbursements, we're talking about
- 21 attendance per diem with the state of Michigan. But
- those are the two items that had been released by
- 23 the office this week.
- 24 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. Moving on to
- 25 old business.



- 1 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I guess, Mr. Chair.
- 2 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BURCH: It would be old but
- 4 it's new, too.
- 5 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I just want to
- 7 update everybody regarding the Highland Park and
- 8 Detroit reservoir. It was very successful that we
- 9 had the press conference on the 11th and Mayor Yopp
- 10 of Highland Park attended, also Mayor Duggan. So we
- 11 made an impact on the reservoir but we still need
- 12 volunteers to come out. Just call my number
- 13 (313) 350-9622. So you can volunteer this Saturday,
- 14 we will be back out there. I want to personally
- 15 thank our Commissioner Annie Holt, she showed up in
- 16 her paint clothes and she did a fantastic job of
- 17 staining and made sure she did the columns that she
- 18 committed to do, I thank you. And then one of our
- 19 regular attendees, Mr. Chair, attended. That was
- 20 Ms. Monica, I don't know if you're out there, I
- 21 don't see her but she regularly attends, and so she
- 22 was there. We just had a marvelous time building up
- our community and that's what we're about in
- 24 District 3. And I also wanted to thank Mayor
- 25 Duggan's office for allowing me to attend the



- 1 funeral of Judge Damon Keith. It was a wonderful
- 2 homegoing Mr. Mayor. I did bring the book, Mr.
- 3 Chair, for you to look through but you can't take it
- 4 home. I'm just going to let you go through it. And
- 5 the last thing is I want to thank DC Barren,
- 6 DC Bettison and Commander Slappy and the NPOs that
- 7 showed up to protect us while we were painting the
- 8 reservoir. And I just want to thank everybody for
- 9 the love that you give and so we're about building
- 10 up our community. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 11 CHAIRMAN BELL: Did you mention
- 12 Commissioner Bell showed up in his casual clothes?
- 13 COMMISSIONER BURCH: He did, he did
- 14 everybody. He didn't come to paint. He did come to
- 15 participate and wish us the best, so that was nice.
- 16 We also had State Rep Wendell Byrd, the union people
- 17 from the engineers department, many people out
- 18 there. So we thank everybody and we thank you for
- 19 coming back this Saturday to paint. One last thing,
- 20 Mr. Bell.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 22 COMMISSIONER BURCH: One last thing. You
- 23 know that District 3 and precinct number 11, they're
- 24 going to host what they call the response to
- 25 critical incidents. That's going to be at Second



- 1 Ebenezer from 1 to 4. We invite you to come out to
- 2 that event. The more we know, the more we can
- 3 protect our people. That's it, thank you.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you,
- 5 Commissioner Burch, for your energies to get people
- 6 out as you did on Saturday. Could you take, through
- 7 the chair, a microsecond to say what is the vision
- 8 for that mural?
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you, thank you
- 10 Mr. Chair. The reason that we're doing the
- 11 reservoir is first of all, it's blighted, it's been
- 12 sitting in Detroit for over a hundred years. So the
- idea came up with our other committee members that
- 14 the purpose of doing murals on the reservoir will
- 15 start from the year of the thirties, 1930's, up to
- 16 the 1960's. So this is telling the story before the
- 17 Davison Freeway was over there on Davison, there was
- 18 no freeway. Also there was no I-75. So we're
- 19 bringing back to restore the village that we're able
- 20 to share what was in that neighborhood at that time.
- 21 What stores were vital. We did find out that the
- 22 Midway Market, which now has been demolished, that's
- 23 where Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence met her fiance.
- 24 So it's a lot of stories in there. That there was
- 25 the Davison store called Shorty Hunts. Also we want



- 1 to put the Vlasic pickle, we want to be able to put
- 2 up the people that in Highland Park, the Model T
- 3 Ford, and we want to put those buildings, Sears,
- 4 Saunders, all the things that were there during that
- 5 period of time that you don't forget your history,
- 6 but again we're rebuilding toward the future. So
- 7 Pastor Forsythe, all the people were there and
- 8 you're welcome to come aboard. But we have the
- 9 narrative to give to the artist that they're going
- 10 to paint these on panels, and then the engineer are
- 11 going to hang it on the reservoir. So when you come
- 12 down Dequindre, you're going to be visiting a
- 13 historic site. It's going to attract everybody to
- 14 come in and guess what, that's going to cause
- 15 developers and other people like you to come out and
- 16 say, hey, I want to be a part of this. How can we
- 17 take away the blight in our area? So we're just an
- 18 example. I thank you, Commissioner.
- 19 CHAIRMAN BELL: I'll be back for the
- 20 finished product. Moving on to any new business.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I want to start out
- 22 today a question to you as chair, and also actually
- 23 to the board secretary, Gregory Hicks, it says
- 24 something on here like that communications of State
- 25 Representative Wendell Byrd requesting village wrath



- 1 to allow state authorization to provide Board of
- 2 Police Commissioners an attendance per diem. Was
- 3 this something that was discussed at a Wednesday
- 4 meeting or was this something discussed at a
- 5 subcommittee?
- 6 CHAIRMAN BELL: It's something that's
- 7 been discussed since 2014. This been an item of
- 8 concern since we arrived here as elected
- 9 commissioners due to the history of the Board in
- 10 terms of the stipend. We have visited this item and
- 11 over the years and Mr. Hicks took it to another
- 12 level when he became Board secretary and had been
- 13 before the council. We had a really meaningful
- 14 meeting in reference to council president off-line
- 15 in reference to this item, how we should approach it
- 16 and working it up. So it's an issue, it's not a
- 17 Wednesday meeting, it's a Board discussion, a Board
- 18 issue budget wise overall in terms of dealing with
- 19 this issue.
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You didn't answer
- 21 the question, Mr. Chairman. I asked was this
- 22 something that was ever discussed in a Wednesday
- 23 meeting or at a subcommittee meeting?
- 24 CHAIRMAN BELL: I don't recall. Next
- 25 item.



- 1 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman, I
- 2. move that all committee meetings become open to the
- 3 public.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Second.
- Through the chair. 5 SPEAKER:
- 6 CHAIRMAN BELL: It's been properly moved
- 7 and seconded.
- SPEAKER: I'd like to move that we 8
- 9 postpone this item indefinitely.
- SPEAKER #2: Second. 10
- CHAIRMAN BELL: It's been properly moved 11
- 12 and seconded. Those in favor, aye.
- 13 THE BOARD: Aye.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BELL: Those opposed.
- 15 THE BOARD: Nay.
- 16 CHAIRMAN BELL: Motion carry.
- 17 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I'm also move that
- all Board of Police Commissioners subcommittee 18
- meetings to be posted on the city of Detroit's web 19
- 20 site along with minutes being provided from those
- 21 meetings, as well as for these subcommittee meetings
- to be able to meet regularly. So to clarify the 2.2
- 23 motion, I move that these subcommittee meetings for
- the BOPC to meet -- to be scheduled to meet 2.4
- 25 regularly, posted on the city of Detroit's web site,



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- 1 as well as minutes to be provided from those
- 2 meetings to the public.
- 3 CHAIRMAN BELL: Any other item on the new
- 4 business?
- 5 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Mr. Chair.
- 6 CHAIRMAN BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I would just like to
- 8 commend Commissioner Brown and Commissioner Holt, I
- 9 don't know if you belong to the Church Macedonia.
- 10 Our last community meeting of the facility and the
- 11 service was excellent. What a wonderful worship
- 12 home it is and I just want to thank you personally,
- 13 because I love going to places where they're willing
- 14 to share the Word. And I could tell that's what's
- 15 going on. It's so beautiful, beautiful. So I thank
- 16 you for allowing us to come to your area on the west
- 17 side, right?
- 18 COMMISSIONER HOLT: And I don't have the
- 19 honor of belonging to the church but our
- 20 association, through the chair, our association does
- 21 meet there and the same welcoming that we
- 22 experienced with the BOPC, that's the same welcoming
- 23 we experienced and we meet there every month. So
- 24 yes, it is.
- 25 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you for those



- 1 accolades. We move on to announcement. Our next
- 2 meeting going to be on Thursday, May the 23rd, 2019
- 3 at 3 P.M. public safety headquarters. Our next
- 4 community meeting going to be on Thursday, June the
- 5 13th, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. Second Precinct at Saint
- 6 John Lutheran Church, 4950 Oakman Boulevard. Now we
- 7 move on to oral communication from the audience.
- 8 Please give your name. You have two minutes to
- 9 speak. Mr. Brown going to call you up. I would
- 10 hope in the process that you respect the Board
- 11 because we are going to respect you.
- 12 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, I have four
- 13 names, Ms. Bernice Smith, followed by Ms. Faith,
- 14 followed by Mr. Eric Blunt and your last speaker
- 15 will be Ms. Michelle George.
- 16 CHAIRMAN BELL: Could all the speakers
- 17 move forward to the front row, please? Thank you.
- 18 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon.
- 19 CHAIRMAN BELL: Good afternoon.
- 20 MS. SMITH: My name Bernice Smith. I'm a
- 21 board member of the Midtown Council. We're doing a
- 22 development down there in Midtown and I'm involved
- 23 in that also. To the Chief Bettison, would you give
- 24 this to our chief, please. I got it for him.
- 25 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Thank you.



- 1 MS. SMITH: My main purpose of coming
- 2 today was to tell all of you, you have been talked
- 3 about for the last month and I wish you would stop
- 4 whatever you're doing with each other, I wish you
- 5 would just stop and be a police commissioner like
- 6 you're supposed to, at least when I was one in the
- 7 73. It doesn't make any sense. I went to a funeral
- 8 Monday and the same thing was asked of me. That's
- 9 all I got to tell you, you need to guit it, whatever
- 10 you're doing. I come to tell you also in regards to
- 11 problems that's on West Grand Boulevard, I will talk
- 12 with my officer back there in regards to the
- 13 complaints, they're doing -- the young man is doing
- 14 car repairs on the Boulevard and that's something
- 15 that's a no no. I see it every time that I come
- 16 through there. It was told to me by one of the
- 17 members of the association. I raised my kids down
- 18 there on West Grand Boulevard and I have two of them
- 19 that still reside there. They have beautiful homes
- 20 there and we want to maintain that Boulevard the
- 21 best that we can. We still have senior citizens
- 22 there. So this is a matter that I want to have
- 23 complaint about. He says that the DOP came and
- 24 didn't say anything to him about it, and he was all
- 25 right but he doesn't have any license on there. And



- 1 this Sunday, he did put some bogus license on seven
- 2 cars. So this I want to get investigated and taken
- 3 care of. Then we have a drug house that's on 1426
- 4 which is next to --
- 5 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: Ms. Smith,
- 6 please don't give out any addresses for the drug
- 7 houses.
- 8 MS. SMITH: It's one in the block where
- 9 my daughter is and I'm very upset about it. That's
- 10 one of the problems that I've been having for the
- 11 last month or so. So I will take care of it today
- 12 and hope that you will help me take care of it. I
- 13 know you will, Bett. You guys need to stop, that's
- 14 all I got to say, you're talked about.
- 15 MR. BROWN: Ms. Faith followed by
- 16 Mr. Blunt.
- 17 MS. FAITH: Welcome to the Honorable
- 18 Board. My name for the record is Ms. Faith and
- 19 happy police week to all the officers. The first
- 20 thing I want to mention is when I was over in the
- 21 area where Officer Rose was killed my heart was
- 22 broken when I found out that. But I'm glad that the
- 23 case has been solved and his family can be relieved
- 24 now and that we're going to be praying for the
- 25 family. So notices to Officer Rose's family and to



- 1 all the officers who have been injured in the line
- 2 of duty. When I mentioned -- I should say, say
- 3 about the fairness, the clarity and the -- and the
- 4 law being upheld by the commissioners when y'all
- 5 discipline the officers, when you talk to them, when
- 6 you encourage them and you also talk about the laws.
- 7 We talk about the laws being upheld and the -- also
- 8 I want to go to another subject about the church of
- 9 Commissioner Brown. It was so beautiful. I went
- 10 through there. I wanted to go two or three times it
- 11 was so beautiful. And I may visit your church some
- 12 time because I'm not connected to one church because
- 13 I believe in praying and doing things right.
- 14 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Glad to have you.
- 15 MS. FAITH: I was so impressed by it, it
- 16 was beautiful and the meeting was great. And
- 17 everybody was so happy and glad and everything went
- 18 smooth. The rules of order was held up and
- 19 everything. It was balanced. And I commend y'all
- 20 very highly on doing that every time. I tell
- 21 everybody. And I saw a female officer yesterday, I
- 22 think it was, and I said happy police week to her
- 23 and we was talking, as we was talking about the
- 24 softness of the lady officers and the hardness of
- 25 the men officers and they become broken. I would



- 1 say this. He's got the stop sign but I highly
- 2 commend y'all all officers the hard part. So when
- 3 you all broken in the soft part to help cushion you
- 4 from being broken any further. And these
- 5 commissioners hold up everybody. Y'all keep going
- 6 forward advancing all the time. I commend you very
- 7 highly and thank you for letting me speak.
- 8 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you.
- 9 MR. BROWN: Mr. Blunt followed by
- 10 Ms. George.
- MR. BLUNT: Good afternoon, Board and
- 12 assistant chief. For the record my name is Eric
- 13 Blunt, a life-long Detroiter. And as a former
- 14 accountant, statistician, economist, I'd like to
- 15 offer a simple technique we often use. It's called
- 16 a rolling 12 months, so you never lose track of any
- 17 data. So, Commissioner Brown, when you see
- 18 year-to-date and it only goes up until April or May,
- 19 if you will use the rolling 12 months you would
- 20 catch all the data all the time. My concerns today
- 21 is as many of you now know, I'm a minister at a
- 22 large inner city Catholic church, and one of our
- 23 fellow ministers is a founder of this organization
- 24 for which I wear a tee shirt. Her cries were heard.
- 25 It's an effort to prevent and eliminate violence



- 1 against women. And as a fellow minister, Sheila
- 2 White to be particular, to be exact, asked me about
- 3 my involvement in protesting out in front of the
- 4 36th District Court. She asked me to keep track of
- 5 where Officer Dewayne Jones's case is going or has
- 6 gone. Not to use him as a poster child, but he is
- 7 but a symptom of how violence against women are
- 8 accepted in this community, accepted in this nation,
- 9 accepted in this world and we've got to do whatever
- 10 we can to stop it. So I've made a commitment to
- 11 them to wear their organization's tee shirt to every
- 12 meeting for the Board of Police Commissioners until
- 13 at least this example is brought to justice. I wait
- 14 for your response.
- 15 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you. I think the
- 16 update is that this matter is still pending
- 17 administration wise, that the chief reported out a
- 18 couple weeks ago as far as Corporal Jones's status.
- 19 It's still under review and I quess at some point in
- 20 time he will enlighten the Board and enlighten the
- 21 public in terms of when the status of work
- 22 employment change, if not, whatever; is that
- 23 correct?
- 24 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Through the
- 25 chair, we're moving expeditiously and as soon as



- 1 this is concluded, and know that we're moving with a
- 2 sense of urgency, so we will update the Board and
- 3 the community, as well.
- 4 [RIGHT2:] Internal affairs has completed
- 5 our work on it and his case has been forwarded to
- 6 disciplinary at this time. And so there should
- 7 be -- it's working its way through disciplinary
- 8 right now but he's already been served with his
- 9 notice of discipline so it should be within the next
- 10 week to two weeks that we should have some final
- 11 resolution.
- 12 CHAIRMAN BELL: Going through due
- 13 process.
- 14 MR. BLUNT: Is he still a corporal and is
- 15 he still on the force? I think those answers are
- 16 both, yes.
- 17 ASSISTANT POLICE CHIEF WHITE: He is
- 18 still on the force, he is still a corporal, and I
- 19 believe he is currently on admin no-gun status right
- 20 now.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BELL: Thank you for the update.
- MR. BROWN: Ms. George.
- MS. GEORGE: Good evening to the Board --
- 24 Commissioner Bell and the Board. I was going to
- 25 make a comment Commissioner Carter but I did reach



- 1 her dealing with social justice issue in our
- 2 district, so we're going to address that today at
- 3 5:30. Just like Commissioner Burch said when I
- 4 think about Judge Damon Keith and I followed his
- 5 legacy, what a champion for civil rights. I'm going
- 6 to sorely miss him, but I thank the Lord for his
- 7 life, he gives us the courage. I also want to thank
- 8 Deputy Chief Bettison for coming to the charter
- 9 commission. We thank you for that because we know,
- 10 as Commissioner Davis said, it could have been an
- 11 issue. So thank you and the other officer for
- 12 coming, because we needed that. That's my comment.
- MR. BROWN: That was your last speaker,
- 14 Mr. Chair.
- 15 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: Move to
- 16 adjourn.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BELL: Before we entertain
- 18 closure, I just wanted to announce that some of you
- 19 are probably aware that the Dean, John Conyers,
- 20 90the birthday is today. Keep him in mind that he's
- 21 celebrating 90 years of being a living legend in
- 22 terms of not just in Detroit but throughout the
- 23 United States of America. As you well know, just
- 24 like Damon Keith, he has a tremendous history. The
- 25 chair will entertain a motion for the adjournment



1	for the closed session.
2	COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHE: So moved.
3	CHAIRMAN BELL: The motion was moved and
4	properly supported. Discussion, those in favor,
5	aye.
6	THE BOARD: Aye.
7	CHAIRMAN BELL: Those opposed. Motion
8	carried and thank you.
9	(Proceedings concluded about 4:41 P.M.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC - COURT REPORTER
2	
3	I do certify that the attached
4	proceedings were taken before me in the
5	above-entitled matter; that the proceedings
6	contained herein was by me reduced to writing by
7	means of stenography, and afterwards transcribed
8	upon a computer. The attached pages are a true and
9	complete transcript of the proceedings.
10	I do further certify that I am not
11	connected by blood or marriage with any of the
12	parties, their attorneys or agents, and that I am
13	not an employee of either of them, nor interested,
14	directly or indirectly, in the matter of
15	controversy.
16	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
17	my hand and affixed my notarial seal at West
18	Bloomfield, Michigan, County of Oakland, this 29th
19	day of May 2019.
20	7 4817
21	Theresa J. Roberto
22	Theresa L. Roberts, CSR
23	Certified Shorthand Reporter - CSR-4870
24	Notary Public - Oakland County, MI
25	My commission expires 10-04-2020



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