

**Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners**  
**Date of Meeting: Thursday, February 20, 2020 – 3:00 PM**  
**Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Suite 767, Detroit, Mi. 48226**

**BOPC Chairperson Lisa Carter called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 PM (February 20, 2020)**

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Lisa Carter, Chairperson	Yes	
Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Vice-Chairperson	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Excused	
Willie E. Burton (3:17 p.m.)	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Evette Griffie (3:15 p.m.)	Yes	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Annie Mae Holt	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	10	

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for Thursday, February 20, 2020.**

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes: Thursday, February 13, 2020**

**Chairperson Carter** stated, “Good afternoon! I am Police Commissioner Lisa Carter, Chairperson of the Board, and I will be conducting today’s meeting. On behalf of the Board, for those in attendance and viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for joining our meeting. Commissioner Burch has asked to be excused. Today, we have invited Commander Chaplain Arthur Berry, Sr. to provide the invocation.”

**INVOCATION:** Chaplain Commander Chaplain Arthur Berry, Sr. provided the invocation.

**Introduction of Commissioners**

**The Board considered the following Business Items:**

- **Approval of the Agenda**
- **Approval of Minutes for February 13, 2020**

**Introduction of BOPC Staff**

**Introduction of Chief of Police and DPD Staff**

**Introduction of Elected Officials, VIPs, civic leaders or their representatives**

**Chairperson Carter stated,** “February 21st marks an important day in Black History and in History period. On February 21, 1965, Malcolm X, was assassinated at the Audubon Ballroom in New York City. Malcolm X and many other leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., played a pivotal role in the plight of the black movement and the progression of black and brown people. Malcolm X, a minister, leader in the Nation of Islam, and Human and Civil Rights Activist, stood for truth, justice, freedom, equality, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all people and people of color. We salute Malcolm X and his profound contributions to humanity.

As we reflect on significant achievements in Black History, we are reminded of some of Malcolm X’s teachings. He once remarkably said, “The key to our success lies in unity.” And “We need more light about each other. Light creates understanding, understanding creates love, love creates patience, and patience creates unity.”

In this same light, we are reminded of more advice from recent notable leaders, such as former President Barack Obama who once said, “Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” And Dr. Maya Angelou, a famous American Poet, writer, and Civil Rights Activist, notably said, “Nothing will work unless you do.

We urge you to take the time during Black History month and every day to reflect on those persons who have made a significant impact on your life. We also urge you to attend any of the events in the community recognizing and highlighting our story."

**Chairperson's Report: Chairperson Lisa Carter stated,** "As we do every week, I want to express the Board's concern and support for fallen and injured officers and their families. Officers' safety and citizens' protection are ranked as two of the most important priorities of the Board. Our Board receives a weekly report from the Department listing injured officers and I ask that the Chief provide us with any updates during his report.

The Board of Police Commissioners meets every week except for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday periods. We meet at Police Headquarters every Thursday at 3:00 p.m. except every 2nd Thursday of the month when we meet in the community at 6:30 p.m.

Under the Detroit City Charter, Article 7, Chapter 8, the Board of Police Commissioners is empowered to provide civilian oversight and supervisory control of the Police Department. Our Board investigates non-criminal citizens' complaints, monitors Department operations, and works with the Mayor and the Chief of Police to establish police policies, rules, and regulations. As an oversight agency, the Board has the broad responsibility to protect the citizens, protect the city of Detroit from frivolous lawsuits, and create policies to enforce strict adherence to Department policies. Additionally, the Board works to eliminate police misconduct, discriminatory police practices, and unnecessary use of force by police. The Board also believes in transparency, community input, and accountability. As a civilian oversight agency, we protect the rights of citizens. Our objective is to increase the quality of life for residents and visitors to Detroit.

Commissioners, there are several important items for your consideration and information in your board packet emailed to you on Tuesday of this week and in your packet today.

Today, we have one (1) resolution honoring the work of Corporal Renee Stanley with the Detroit Police Department. At the appropriate time, I will ask Corporal Stanley to come forward and receive their resolutions.

**Presentations:** Today on our agenda, we have one (1) formal presentation to the Board – the Chief of Police – Annual Report. The Detroit City Charter, Section 7- 806 creates several opportunities for the Chief of Police to engage the Commission. For the audience's information, Section 7-806 Subsection #1: indicates that the Chief shall administer the Department consistent with the policies, rules and regulations established by the Board and shall organize the Department with the approval of the Board. In Section 7-806 Subsection #6, it states that the Chief shall submit to the Board an Annual Report. This Annual Report is the type of report that is made available to the general public highlighting the work of the Detroit Police Department. In Section 7-806, Subsection #7, it states that the Chief submit to the Board an Annual Improvement Plan. These two items are separate and distinct. In the recent past, the Annual Report and the Annual Improvement Plan have been confused. The Annual Report highlights the Department's operations and leadership, community partnerships and endeavors, and significant achievements within the Department.

The second report is distinct. The Annual Improvement Plan is an organized review of the department and the Chief's honest assessment of the effectiveness of the department. Early copies of this plan show a detailed breakdown of each Command, Division, Section and Unit and assesses their performance and projects to improve the entire organization. The purpose of the Annual Improvement Plan is to communicate to the Board, the Mayor and the general public what must be done to improve the department. The Annual Improvement Plan shall include strategies that serve to protect the community as well as crime-fighting programs. The Plan must also include a program to increase officer and member safety as well as an evaluation of crime-fighting strategies to determine if they are effective and the new opportunities to fight crime that are more feasible and reasonable. I have asked our staff to pull a copy of one of the older operational improvement plans and share it with the Chief in expectation of our March 26, 2020, meeting report. However, for today's report, as a reminder this Annual Report highlights Department operations, community partnerships, and significant achievements.

**Chief's Report,** From the Chief's Office, I am requesting updates on city-wide crime statistics and any other critical issues facing the Police Department. I am also requesting an update on the following: "Business owner pleads guilty to tax evasion, conspiring to steal Detroit police reports" and the impacts on DPD policy and members"; "Detroit police arrest 2 men after high-powered weapon found at Greektown Casino Hotel"; "Detroit Police Make More Than 100 Arrests In Part of Crackdown on Violent Crime"; "Conviction upheld in the case of Detroit police captain who had cops stain deck"; and "Detroit Police Department works to create legal stunt driving area after several incidents."

Interim Secretary to the Board's Report: Our interim board secretary Ms. White will provide us with various updates regarding incoming correspondence.

Under Unfinished Business, we will have our Election of the Board's Vice-Chairperson today. Included in your packets today, are copies of the Board's Bylaws relating to the Nomination Process under Article IV (4) entitled: "Officers of the Board, Duties, Removal and Board Staff," Section 3 Nomination Process and Section 6 Duties of Officers Subsection b). "Vice-Chairperson."

Under New Business, we received a letter of resignation from Dr. Polly McCalister, from the position of Chief Investigator. We will take up that item at the appropriate time.

Also, I want to announce a few reminders: For your convenience, the Office of the Chief Investigator, will have the Citizen Complaint Table at every meeting to take citizen complaints from those persons interested in filing a citizen's complaint regarding alleged police misconduct. You may visit the table and speak with one of the OCI Staff Members for more information.

At the end of the meeting, we will have public comments from the audience. The time for accepting speaker's cards will be 4:00 p.m. Please make sure you print your name on a speaker's card located on the back table or from Mr. Robert Brown. He will need your card before 4:00 pm. We will hold each speaker to the allotted 2 minutes.

At this time, please place your cell phones and other electronic devices on vibrate so as not to interrupt the meeting.

Finally, in the spirit of effective communication, please treat each other respectfully and professionally. Commissioners, please be reminded not to speak until you are recognized by the Chairperson and address your comments to issues that are relevant to the agenda and to be brief to ensure we have ample time for public comments. For the attending audience, please note there is a time on the agenda for citizen input and feedback. My objective this evening is to run an orderly meeting, including public comments, and to adjourn at a reasonable time. Thank you."

**Resolution:** Commissioner Bell read the Resolution honoring Corporal Renee Stanley.

**RESOLUTION HONORING RETIRING**

**CORPORAL RENEE STANLEY**

**WHEREAS** Renee Stanley was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on February 17, 1997. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Police Officer Stanley began her career at the First Precinct; and

**WHEREAS** She dutifully served the First Precinct, Gaming Operations, Central District, Communications Operations, and Office of the Chief of Police. Police Officer Stanley displayed tremendous diligence and aptitude in her assignments. She was promoted to the rank of Corporal on March 9, 2015, her duties included reassignment to Office of the Chief of Police, and Professional Education & Training where she served until her retirement; and

**WHEREAS** During her law enforcement career, Corporal Stanley was the deserving recipient of Consent Judgment Award, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, as well as commendations from supervisors, and numerous letters of appreciation from citizenry; and

**WHEREAS** Corporal Stanley has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 23 years. Her professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity, and dedication have been a credit to the Detroit Police Department. She is highly respected as a consummate professional.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in recognition of Corporal Renee Stanley's 23 years of dedicated and diligent public service. Her professionalism, integrity, and lifelong commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

We thank and congratulate you, Corporal Renee Stanley.

**Commissioner Bell** moved for the adoption of the resolution. **Commissioner Davis** seconded the motion. Discussion.

**Motion:** Commissioner Bell                      **Second:** Commissioner Davis                      **Discussion.**

**VOTE:**                      **Yes = 10**                      **No = 0**                      **Motion: APPROVED**

**Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police’s Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information: Chief of Police James E. Craig:**

**Chief of Police Craig** reported on the following: Officers Critically Injured in the Line of Duty, CompStat Crime and Statistical Data for the reporting period ending February 20, 2020, and recent critical incidents impacting the Detroit Police Department and the community.

CompStat Data Provided: (See Full Report in Packet)							Totals:
Part Violent Crimes:	Criminal Homicides:	Sexual Assaults:	Aggravated Assaults:	Non-Fatal Shootings:	Robbery:	Carjacking:	Totals:
Totals:	14 Increase	10 Decrease	80 Increase	12 Increase	39 Increase	10 Increase	112 Increase in Incidents

**Chief Craig** discussed the Department’s crime-reduction efforts, including marihuana enforcement efforts, providing statistical data on recent drug enforcement arrests and activities.

**Chief Craig** discussed the recent terror threat where (2) suspects at the Greektown Hotel were found to have a high-powered weapon and a list consisting of a number of cities across the country. Several types of drugs were ultimately recovered, which appears that the individuals were in the City to conduct a drug trafficking operation. Chief Craig provided an update on the notable hairdresser, who was recently killed, and a primary suspect who was taken into custody within (11) hours of the incident. **Chief Craig** discussed the Department’s recent “Day of Resilience” under the leadership of Assistant Chief James E. White, Licensed Therapist, where (65) police officers attended and participated in the program to discuss critical incidents that police officers face every day. **Chief Craig** discussed the Department’s recent Ceasefire Call-In under the leadership of Chief Craig and Director Trisha Stein, Administrative Operations, recognizing Director Stein’s contributions and efforts and discussing other police departments that participated, Pittsburgh Police Department and Miami Police Department. There were (17) participants who signed up for services, which was the highest number of call-ins the Department has observed. **Chief Craig** discussed the Department’s Recruitment efforts, including the Recruitment Campaign. **Chief Craig** also noted that the Department has observed an increase of 30% in applicants for police. **Chief Craig** also discussed the Department’s hiring efforts requesting the Board’s assistance supporting to Department’s request for MCOLES to update its policies on accepting candidates whose records were expunged, similar to the U.S. Army, and law enforcement agencies. **Chief Craig** shared a story of a recent applicant, who was previously arrested for carrying a firearm illegally at the age of (17) years old, which is a felony, received a HYTA (Michigan’s Holmes Youthful Training Act), which is the equivalent of an expungement. The applicant is a current CPL holder but is still barred from becoming MCOLES Certified. **Chief Craig** referenced the City’s efforts of hiring returning citizens and urged the MCOLES policy change in this regard. **Chief Craig** questioned this outdated criteria imposed by MCOLES. **Chief Craig** and the **Board** discussed ways in which the Department could urge the MCOLES to update its policies. **Chief Craig** discussed the Department’s upcoming Ceremony to honor several iconic activists in Detroit and invited the Board to the event. **Chief Craig** reported on former Captain Rochon, who resigned under charges, where it was revealed that Captain Rochon used his position to have officers stain his deck while the officers were on duty. **Chief Craig** provided an update on identifying a location for the Stunt Car Driving activities. **Chief Craig** also provided an update on a DPD Supervisor, Sergeant Foster, who is currently in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and asked for the Board’s prayers and thoughts.

**Vice-Chairperson Commissioner Dewaelsche** inquired about the process for requesting an MCOLES policy change for accepting applications. Chief Craig discussed that a letter of support expressing the critical importance of having a Police Department that reflects our cities, the City supporting returning citizens, and discussing the Department’s autonomy would be helpful.

**Commissioner Dewaelsche** moved to submit a letter of support to MCOLES supporting Chief of Police Craig’s work to address recruiting barriers within the MCOLES policies urging the amendment of MCOLES’ policies to align its policy with the U.S. Army, which accepts applicants whose records have been expunged and who have no history of violent offenses. **Commissioner Brooks** seconded the motion. **Motion Approved.**

**VOTE: Yes = 10 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED**

**Yes:** Chairperson Carter, Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche, Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Griffie, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Holt, Commissioner Holley, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Brooks, and Commissioner Burton

**Nays:** None.

**Commissioner Brown** thanked Chief Craig for providing the updates on the recent incident at Greektown Hotel and the update on Sergeant Foster's status. **Commissioner Brown** also inquired about the Environmental Audit Investigation taking place in the Human Resources Department initiated by the Detroit Police Department and requested the audit be submitted to the Inspector General's Office and that Chief of Police Craig and the Department be recused from the investigation. **Assistant Chief James E. White** discussed that the Department has started some preliminary audit work, which entails reviewing the work environment of the employees and any trends or conditions that are inconsistent with Department policies. **Commissioner Holt** discussed the Peer Support Team and the Department providing therapy for police officers who need special services. **Commissioner Burton** inquired about whether the Department has stingray (tracking devices) and when the Department obtained such technology. **Commissioner Holley** inquired about whether the police issue tickets to parents if it is revealed that parents' actions are neglectful regarding their children. **Chief Craig and Commander Tiffany Stewart** discussed the procedural investigative steps in this regard. **Commissioner Burton** asked whether the Department works with the Michigan State Police (MSP) and Oakland County Sheriff's Department to use the tracking devices, Stingray technology. **Chairperson Carter** inquired about whether the Department has reached out to the City Council and the State of Michigan Legislature to assist with the Department's MCOLES' policy amendment efforts.

**PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD:** (A) **Chief of Police Annual Report – Executive Manager Reid Wilson, Planning, Research, and Deployment under the direction of Chief of Police James E. Craig and Assistant Chief James E. White, Administrative Operations, Detroit Police Department**

- A. Chief of Police Annual Report – Executive Manager Reid Wilson:** **Executive Manager Wilson** highlighted the purpose of the annual report is for the Department to summarize previous year's operations. Each year, the Department chooses a theme, and this year's theme will focus on "Then & Now." The report will highlight progress made by the Department over the past century, specifically focusing on the following areas: Technology, DPD Specialized Units, DPD Precincts, Department Uniforms, and Fleet from 100 years ago to today, citing the example of the Mounted Unit. **Chief Craig** also discussed Executive Manager Wilson and team's accomplishments of creating a dashboard system to track gun arrests made and court adjudications in real time. **Commissioner Brown** inquired about the Department's unit deployment during the upcoming Detroit International Auto Show Exhibition to ensure adequate protection and assistance from other Departments and agencies. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about the budget for the Annual Report and whether it has changed from previous years. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** asked whether the Department supplies reports to community groups and leaders and whether there will be a section that speaks to the Recruitment Efforts.

**Report from Interim Board Secretary/Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:** Ms. White reported on the following items:

1. DPD Facial Recognition Report #16
2. Memorandum from Captain Melissa Gardner Re: Communications Operation Presentation
3. Correspondence from citizen Re: Officer Harassment (2/18/2020)
4. Project Green Light Report Update (2/18/2020)
5. Memorandum from the Department of Innovation and Technology - Directive #2020-01 - Email Usage Policy

**Unfinished Business:**

- A. Motion to Elect the Vice-Chairperson end of term effective June 2020:**

**Chairperson Carter** recognized Commissioner Griffie. **Commissioner Griffie** nominated Commissioner Holt for Vice-Chairperson, Commissioner Holt accepted the nomination. **Chairperson Carter** recognized Commissioner Brown. **Commissioner Brown** nominated Commissioner Holley for Vice-Chairperson, Commissioner Holley accepted the nomination. **Chairperson Carter** recognized Commissioner Burton. **Commissioner Burton** nominated Commissioner Davis for Vice-Chairperson, Commissioner Davis declined the nomination. A Roll Call vote for each candidate occurred.

**Commissioner Holt: VOTE:**                      **Yes =6**                      **No = 4**                      **Results: APPROVED**

**Roll Call Vote – Six (6) Support Votes:** Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Dewaelsche, Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Griffie, Chairperson Carter, and Commissioner Holt

**Four (4) Nay Votes:** Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Holley, Commissioner Burton, and Commissioner Brown

**Commissioner Holley VOTE:** Yes =4 No = 6 Results: FAILED

**Roll Call Vote – Four (4) Support Votes:** Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Holley, Commissioner Burton, Commissioner Brown, **Six (6) Nay Votes:** Commissioner Brooks, Vice-Chair Commissioner Dewaelsche, Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Griffie, Chairperson Carter, and Commissioner Holt

**B. Motion for Reconsideration to Recommend to the Charter Commission that the Board of Police Commissioners meet bi-weekly unless a special meeting is called by the Chairperson.**

**Chairperson Carter** recognized Commissioner Bell. **Commissioner Bell** moved for reconsideration to recommend to the Charter Commission that the Board of Police Commissioners meet bi-weekly instead of weekly. **Commissioner Griffie** seconded. Discussion. **Results: Motion Failed.**

**VOTE:** Yes = 3 No = 7 Motion: FAILED

**Roll Call Vote – Three (3) Support Votes:** Vice Chair Commissioner Dewaelsche, Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Griffie

**Seven (7) Nay Votes:** Commissioner Holt, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Brooks, Chairperson Carter, Commissioner Holley, Commissioner Burton, and Commissioner Brown

**New Business:**

**A. Motion to accept Dr. Polly McCalister Letter of Resignation and concur with her recommendation for Interim Chief Investigator: Brown and Davis**

**Chairperson Carter** recognized Commissioner Brown. **Commissioner Brown** moved to accept Dr. Polly McCalister's Letter of Resignation and concur with her recommendation for Interim Chief Investigator. **Commissioner Burton** seconded. Discussion.

**Roll Call Vote – Three (3) Support Votes:** Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Burton, Commissioner Brown

**Six (6) Nay Votes:** Commissioner Holt, Commissioner Brooks, Vice-Chair Commissioner Dewaelsche, Chairperson Carter, Commissioner Griffie, Commissioner Bell

**One (1) Abstain:** Commissioner Holley. **Motion: FAILED**

**B. Motion to accept Dr. Polly McCalister's Letter of Resignation effective Friday, February 21, 2020:**

**Chairperson Carter** recognized Commissioner Griffie. **Commissioner Griffie** moved to accept Dr. Polly McCalister's Letter of Resignation effective Friday, February 21, 2020. **Commissioner Bell** seconded. Discussion. **Results: Motion Unanimously Approved.**

**VOTE:** Yes = 10 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED

**C. Motion for Supervising Investigator Lawrence Akbar to serve as Interim Chief Investigator:**

**Chairperson Carter** recognized Commissioner Bell. **Commissioner Bell** moved that Supervising Investigator Lawrence Akbar serve as Interim Chief Investigator, Office of the Chief Investigator. **Vice Chair Commissioner Dewaelsche** seconded. Discussion. **Results: Motion Withdrawn.**

**Announcements:** Chairperson Carter announced the following:

**A. Next Meeting:** Thursday, February 27, 2020, at 3:00 p.m., at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

**B. Next Community Meeting:** Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., in the Downtown Services, at WCCCD Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus, Frank Hayden Community Room, 1001 W. Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226.

**Oral Comments/Public Comments:**

**Mr. Thomas A. Wilson Jr.** spoke about drifting high powered vehicles within the city, and that no city resources should be provided for this activity. He also noted the upcoming 2024 \$400 million due in pension to the retirees and \$600 million of over taxation of city home owners, where many have lost their homes. These individuals should be made whole. The drifting vehicles should go to Detroit drag racing. **Mr. Eric Blount** spoke about last week's Board vote regarding appointed and elected commissioners to the Board. **Ms. Michelle George** spoke about federal monies used for police officers' salaries, and the Aftercare program in the Eighth Precinct and Budget. **Ms. Faith** expressed wonderful work from Chief of Police Craig and the good job the Detroit Police Department has performed.

**Adjournment:**

**Chairperson Carter** recognized Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche. **Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche** moved for adjournment. **Commissioner Griffie** seconded. Discussion. **Results:** Motion Approved.

**VOTE:**                **Yes = 10**                **No = 0**                **Motion: APPROVED**

**Chairperson Carter adjourned the meeting at 4:31 pm.**