



Board of Police Commissioners

March 25, 2020

For Immediate Release:

Lisa Carter, Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners, issued the following statement on the COVID-19-related death of Capt. Jonathan Parnell:

"We are devastated by the loss of Captain Jonathan Parnell to the COVID-19 outbreak and join with the Police Department and the Detroit community in extending deepest sympathy to his family and loved ones.

"As a Board and as individual Police Commissioners, we had the honor to work with him throughout his career and greatly respected his service and dedication to our community. He showed great leadership each step of the way, from police officer to captain.

"The coronavirus outbreak was certain to hit our Police Department and other first responders, but that does not lessen the very deep pain in our Department and community. We now mourn the second loss in DPD related to COVID-19, and we continue to pray and hope for the best for everyone infected by or exposed to this new and dangerous disease. The Board appreciates all the steps by Chief James Craig and the command team to keep sworn and civilian employees safe.

"Our community clearly sees the high risks to health and life posed by COVID-19, and we must strongly commit ourselves to take every safety precaution urged by public health and medical officials to stop the spread and the toll of COVID-19 now."