04/22/2021

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11	CITY OF DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS BOPC VIRTUAL MEETING April 22, 2021 at 2:57 P.M.	
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- 1 MS. WHITE: Good afternoon again Honorable Board, DPD
- 2 executives and all meeting attendees. We will move right
- 3 meeting announcements at this time if it is your pleasure
- 4 before you begin your official business meeting. Good
- 5 afternoon again and welcome to the Detroit Board of
- 6 Commissioners meeting. Please note the following
- 7 reminders for virtual meeting on Zoom.us. A message
- 8 regarding zoom policies: attendees do not need to
- 9 identify themselves unless they would like to make a
- 10 comment. Attendees can phone in to the meeting and phone
- 11 numbers will be masked by zoom.
- 12 If attendees join in by computer without a zoom
- 13 account, they may be prompted for a name and email. The
- 14 email is not visible to panelists or attendees. This is a
- 15 prompt from zoom, not the city of Detroit. Additionally,
- 16 the email address does not need to be your true email
- 17 address. It can be none@none.com or anything similar will
- 18 be fine for logging in.
- 19 A reminder about the meeting forum. As a reminder,
- 20 please adhere to the Board's Bylaws and zoom's policies
- 21 of using this forum appropriately. Failure to adhere to
- 22 the policies will result in dismissal from the meeting.
- 23 Accessing zoom platforms requires adherence to all
- 24 policies.
- 25 Regarding BOPC contact information, for



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1 administration please dial (313) 596-1830. You may email

- 2 the board of commissioners at bopc@DetroitMi.gov.
- 3 Regarding complaint investigations, please contact the
- 4 office of the chief investigator, the board's
- 5 investigative division, to file a non-criminal complaint.
- 6 And the 24-hour complaint line is: (313) 596-2499. The
- 7 fax number is (313) 596-2482. And please visit the
- 8 board's website at detroitmi.gov/BOPC.
- 9 BOPC information resources, the city's website at
- 10 detroitmi.gov/BOPC to find the meeting calendar minutes,
- 11 reports, presentations, draft policy directives, video
- 12 links and much more. Please also join the email list for
- 13 weekly agendas. And you may contact us at
- 14 BOPC@Detroitmi.gov, or you may call (313) 596-1830 and
- 15 provide your email address to get the draft agenda,
- 16 distributed each Tuesday to over 360 people. Also
- 17 subscribe to GovDelivery where there are over 6,800
- 18 people now receive BOPC news alerts and draft agendas.
- 19 Please also sign up on the Detroitmi.gov homepage for
- 20 more information. Also the BOPC Zoom link and other
- 21 information is also available on the Board's Facebook
- 22 page.
- 23 Regarding public comments instructions, the virtual
- 24 meeting will use a forum for public comments and you can
- 25 sign up on Smartsheet without an email address. The board



- of police commissioners allows one hour from 3:00 to 4:00
- 2 PM for the public to request to speak during public
- 3 comments or oral communications on the agenda. To make a
- 4 request without Smartsheet, meeting participants may use
- 5 the "raise hand" icon on the website, or they may press
- 6 star nine (*9) on the telephone.
- 7 Important reminders for public comments. Upon
- 8 joining the meeting, participants will join the meeting
- 9 muted. Please do not start your video unless invited to
- 10 do so by the host. Video, images, or unprotected speech
- 11 deemed inappropriate by the Chair will result in your
- 12 dismissal from the meeting. Please remember that you may
- 13 complete the Smartsheet form. Remember you may use the
- 14 Zoom controls on your computer screen to "raise hand," or
- 15 you may dial star nine (*9) from a mobile device. You may
- 16 use any one of these options by 4:00 PM to be
- 17 acknowledged for public comments.
- And lastly regarding public comment, each speaker
- 19 will have two minutes to speak. The BOPC staff will
- 20 acknowledge each speaker. We ask that you remain
- 21 respectful and professional and refrain from violating
- 22 the Board's Bylaws, zoom's terms of services, and other
- 23 relevant laws and ordinances, which are posted on all
- 24 meeting access forums.
- 25 At this time, please silence your phones and other



- 1 background sounds to prevent interrupting the meeting.
- 2 Thank you. Honorable Board please note you have
- 3 received various email correspondences and that concludes
- 4 the intro announcements. At this time Chairperson Bell.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Ms. White. Good
- 6 afternoon to all the Board members and to Chief Craig.
- 7 Unfortunately, I cannot see you until you speak. So I'm
- 8 going to ask Ms. Holt to really help me out. I am on my
- 9 iPad. For some reason, they wouldn't let me on in terms
- 10 of my computer. So, I just want you to be aware that I
- 11 can only see you when you speak or when the cameras is
- in that process, but we're going to go forward. We
- 13 have Chaplain Anthony Estes for invocation, please.
- 14 CHAPLAIN ESTES: Thank you, Chair Bell. Let us pray.
- 15 We fervently asked you, almighty God, to pour your
- 16 blessing upon this Board of Police Commissilrs and all
- 17 Detroit Police Officers and their brass, especially Chief
- 18 James Craig. Give them insight and leadership,
- 19 discernment in policy-making and application. And a good
- 20 sense of what is right for the common good, so that in
- 21 the dispatch of their duties, they may serve faithfully,
- 22 and with integrity. May your peace rule in every heart
- 23 that this meeting might be productive and conducive to
- 24 the hearing of all. Amen.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Chaplain. We move on to



- 1 the introduction of the Commissioners starting with
- 2 District 1, District 2.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Good afternoon, everyone.
- 4 Attorney Linda Bernard representing District 2.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, District 3.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Good afternoon, everyone. And
- 7 welcome back to Chief Craig, and to all the citizens of
- 8 the City of Detroit. My name is Commissioner Shirley,
- 9 Burch of District 3. Love where you live.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. District 4. Willie
- 11 Bell, present. District 5. District 6. District 7.
- 12 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm
- 13 police Commissioner William M. Davis of District 7.
- 14 Officers, love where you work.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. At-Large, Commissioner
- 16 Hernandez.
- 17 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: He's on mute, but he's here.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: At-Large Commissioner Jones.
- 19 COMMISSIONER JONES: Good afternoon, everyone, and to
- 20 our Detroit Police Executive team and all of our
- 21 community members. Thank you and welcome to another show
- 22 through the Board of Police Commissioners.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON BELL: At-Large, Commissioner Holley.
- 24 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Good afternoon, present and
- 25 accounted for.



1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Last but not least our

- 2 Vice-Chair.
- 3 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Good afternoon. Yes. I'm
- 4 Commissioner-at-Large, Vice-Chair Annie Holt, and I'd
- 5 like to please extend a heartfelt thank you to the men
- 6 and women in blue who participated in the celebration of
- 7 our neighbor, who is 105 years old, Mrs. Luneita Height.
- 8 The leadership at the 8th Precinct, under the command of
- 9 Commander Peterson, the NCO, Crystal John, as well as the
- 10 Police Chief, Deputy Chief Davis, along with Commissioner
- 11 Darryl Brown, were able to celebrate Mrs. Heights 105.
- 12 And it was definitely a community effort and we really,
- 13 really enjoyed it. So thank you again.
- 14 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: That's a long name.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, that was an announcement.
- 16 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I'm sorry.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Please, follow the script
- 18 Commissioner.
- 19 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Yes, sir.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: The next item would be approval -
- 21 I'm sorry, Ms. White, we have a quorum?
- MRS. WHITE: Yes, sir, you do have a quorum. And
- 23 also, we received an excused absence from Commissioner
- 24 Lisa Carter. Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We move on to the approval of the
- 2 agenda for this afternoon meeting.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So moved.
- 4 COMMISSIONER JONES: So moved.
- 5 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Second.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It been properly moved and second.
- 7 Discussion. Those in favor, Aye.
- 8 ALL: Aye.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed. Motion carries. The
- 10 next item will be the approval of Minutes for April 15,
- 11 2021. Is there any correctional addition to the minutes?
- 12 I'll entertain a motion.
- 13 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I move that we approved the Minutes
- 14 for April 15th, 2021.
- 15 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Support.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It's been properly moved and
- 17 supported. Any other discussions. Those in favor, Aye.
- 18 ALL: Aye.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Those opposed? Motion carries.
- 20 Thank you. The next item would be Ms. White introduction
- 21 of the Board staff.
- 22 MRS. WHITE: Yes. Through the Chair, the Department
- of Innovation and Technology is monitoring and recording
- 24 the Board's meeting today and our court reporter is Mr.
- 25 Don Handyside. And the following Board staff members are



- 1 in attendance today. Mr. Robert Brown, Administrative
- 2 Specialist, Ms. Teresa Blossom, Community Relations
- 3 Coordinator Ms. Jonya Underwood, Administrative
- 4 Assistant, Ms. Tiffany Stewart, Investigator, Director
- 5 Katrina Patillo, Police HR Division, Interim Chief
- 6 Investigator Lawrence Akbar, Supervising Investigator
- 7 Ansley Cromwell, Supervising Investigator LiSonya Sloan,
- 8 Senior Investigator Rosalia Madrigal and Assistant
- 9 Corporation Counsel, Ericka Savage Whitley are all in
- 10 attendance today. Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Ms. White. A warm
- 12 welcome to the staff and OCI staff and our Corporation
- 13 Counsel. And we're going to move on to a warm welcome,
- 14 which you'd already extended, but we're going to extend
- it again to the Chief of Police James E. Craig.
- 16 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you.
- 17 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I sorry, Chair Bell.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 19 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I don't know, but Commissioner
- 20 Hernandez hand is raised.
- 21 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Oh, I just wanted to note
- 22 that I was present.
- VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Oh, okay. I'm sorry.
- 24 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: I was following the virtual
- 25 hand rule.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Commissioner Hernandez.
- 2 As I stated, I'm on my iPad. I can't see the hands but
- 3 Vice-Chair Holt is going to help me out with that
- 4 problem. I only see you when you speak and we appreciate
- 5 your attendance.
- 6 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you. Chair Bell, I appreciate it.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Good to see you Chief.
- 8 CHIEF CRAIG: Good seeing you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: And would you do the honors or
- 10 some flow of introduction of your staff please?
- 11 CHIEF CRAIG: I sure will. If Ms. White could assist
- 12 me in that process. I can't see everyone. I know some of
- 13 my staff are on.
- MRS. WHITE: Yes, sir.
- 15 CHIEF CRAIG: All right, thank you.
- MRS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Through the Chair, Director
- 17 Christopher Graveline, Director Katrina Patillo,
- 18 Commander Samina Russell, Commander Daryl Patterson,
- 19 Commander Kyra Joy Hope Captain Lena Liddell, Captain
- 20 Brian Harris, Captain Keith Williams, Captain Eric
- 21 Tosqui, Captain Michael Parish, Captain Ian Severy,
- 22 Lieutenant Sharon McClure, Sergeant Gwendolyn Stokes, and
- 23 Senior Corporal Douglas Bartell are in attendance today.
- 24 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the Chair. Thank you, Ms.
- 25 White. And I want to thank my staff for being here with



- 1 me today. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Chief. Ms. White, do we
- 3 have any VIPs, we all VIPs but do we have any outstanding
- 4 or official elected or representative of officials.
- 5 MRS. WHITE: Yes. Through the Chair. First, I do see
- 6 where Commissioner Willie Burton and Commissioner Darryl
- 7 Brown have joined the meeting and also DPO Vice President
- 8 Ron Thomas is here and Ms. Maria Overall of State
- 9 Representative Tyrone Carter's Office is here. Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you for the attendance. The
- 11 next item would be my report and I'm going to move to
- 12 that area. The verdict rendered in the criminal case of
- 13 the State of Minnesota, I'm just going to say to the
- 14 former police officer, I'm not going to dignify, you know
- 15 exactly what I'm speaking of, the former police officer
- 16 with Minnesota PD, bringing measure accountability for
- 17 George Floyd's death. We hope his family finds some
- 18 comfort in the jury of affirmation that Mr. Floyd's life
- 19 mattered and still does. Today also show that a court of
- 20 law can and should hold Police Officers accountable for
- 21 unprofessional, unnecessary, and deadly act of violence
- 22 that violates the law and oath to protect and serve and
- 23 human decency. America has still a lot of work to do to
- 24 stop the pattern of excessive and fatal force use by
- 25 Police Officers, especially against people of color in



- 1 case of minor offenses.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Law enforcement has many fine
- 3 professional, but the lack of consistency standards,
- 4 accountability, and objective review means that we
- 5 continue to see Traumatic death like Mr. Floyd in
- 6 resounding calls for police reform. National action
- 7 remains essential to any police practice that is biased
- 8 and unfair in every community. And I want to really speak
- 9 to Chief Craig. He's one of the first police chiefs to
- 10 speak out on this matter that it leaves a whole lot to be
- 11 desired. I think this was something less and proper
- 12 conduct, this was murder. So I just want to commend Chief
- 13 Craig and I also want to commend, I think the Acting
- 14 Chief in Minnesota took the stand to condemn this type of
- 15 behavior. I think that's unique when the police chief
- 16 responds appropriately, what they have witnessed on black
- 17 and white in terms of the cameras.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Resolution. We have a Resolution
- 19 supporting the US Congressional approval of the George
- 20 Floyd Justice and Policing Bill to ensure the Board
- 21 continues to support these and other policy forums. I
- 22 think we sent out copies of that's pending now, passed by
- 23 the House, but it's still stuck in the Senate that we
- 24 know. We have a presentation from drug forfeiture,
- 25 Captain Michael Parish, and his team was scheduled on our



- 1 Board's calendar. Unfinished business. We take up the
- 2 matter of MARS, Michigan Auto Recovery Service, DPD
- 3 towing monitor. Captain Parish will be reporting out on
- 4 that. And attorney Jermaine Wyrick who represents MARS
- 5 will be in that process. We also have Assistant
- 6 Corporation Counsel, Ms. Ericka Whitley, who will also
- 7 provide a legal opinion to the Board for consideration.
- 8 Today's towering matters only regard MARS towing. We are
- 9 scheduled to receive other updates next week regarding
- 10 towing and general update regarding the RFP process,
- 11 which again will take place next week.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Today we're scheduled to go into a
- 13 closed session this afternoon to discuss personnel
- 14 matters. In new business, Article 11 speaks of conduct at
- 15 a meeting. As a reminder, we adhere to the Board's bylaws
- 16 and conduct a meeting, Article 11. Commissioners waiting
- 17 to be recognized to speak must raise their hand. You may
- 18 physically raise your hand or use the zone control on
- 19 your computer screen the raised hand. I will knowledge
- 20 you to speak. Vice-Chair Holt will be the primary
- 21 responsible person for that because I cannot see you
- 22 collectively. Please remember, you must wait to be
- 23 recognized by the Chair. You must speak to the Chair. If
- there are any violations of the Board bylaws, I would
- 25 move forward with the proper procedure providing warnings



- 1 and entertaining motioning alignment with Article 11
- 2 about conducting a meeting. Also, Board members have
- 3 received copies once again, a Robert I'm sorry, the
- 4 Board bylaws, Robert rules of order in a document
- 5 speaking of meeting forum. Hopefully that we can abide by
- 6 if you have questions for any panel, you can restrict
- 7 your marks to a question and within that three minutes
- 8 timeframe, if we can abide by that.
- 9 MRS. WHITE: Through the Chair, Madam, if I can, for
- 10 the record I do have indication and I intended to
- 11 indicate this earlier. Deputy Chief Mark Bliss, Deputy
- 12 Chief, Elaine Miles and Captain Derek May are also in
- 13 attendance. Thank you.
- 14 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you, Ms. White.
- VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Chair, Bell, are you ready? Who's
- on mute? Chair Bell, you on you're on mute.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Are we good now?
- 18 VICE-CHAIR: Yes, sir.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I apologize for that. I guess I
- 20 didn't hear Ms. White silence your phone. We move on to -
- 21 I think this will finish my point. I just want to -
- 22 hopefully we can do a two-hour meeting and we can do it
- 23 in a timely manner. We can do it in a prophet manner. So
- 24 I just ask for your cooperation, your support. So we move
- on to the next item would be for Chief Craig.



- 1 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you, Chairman Bell. And I'm going
- 2 to give you a special thank you for not just your
- 3 support, but your acknowledgment. As many of you know, I
- 4 was one of the first police chiefs, if not the first
- 5 police chief in a nation that came out and explicitly
- 6 said that Mr. Floyd's killer should have been arrested by
- 7 the agency he worked once they became aware of the events
- 8 that we now know unfolded. And so again, I thank you for
- 9 that. I start with crime and then I'll get an update on
- 10 two of our officer-involved in shootings and then closing
- 11 it out with a very short video. So in terms of our
- 12 violent crime, starting with homicides, we're now at a
- 13 17% increase. It's been fluctuating since the beginning
- of the year between 15 to 25%. And Detroit is,
- 15 unfortunately, no different from most major cities that
- 16 have all seen up crease except on our up crease, uptick
- 17 hasn't been quite as high as some cities have experienced
- 18 in 30, 40, 50% increase in homicides. Our sex assaults
- 19 were up 7%, aggravated assaults were up 38%, non-fatal
- 20 shootings, 44%, and robberies we are down 33%.
- 21 Carjackings are up 31% with an overall violent crime
- 22 increase of 22%. Our property crime, on the other hand,
- 23 we're down 26%. So our overall part one crime in the City
- 24 of Detroit is down 11%.
- 25 CHIEF CRAIG: So I'll go right into the two



- 1 shootings. As you know this has been a very tough week
- 2 for the department. Two officer-involved shootings both
- 3 resulting in fatalities. You've heard me report out in
- 4 recent weeks about the aggressive behavior by some
- 5 suspects we've had. One week where there were four
- 6 instances where our Police Officers were either shot at
- 7 and then I think it was a fourth incident a suspect was
- 8 approaching an officer with a long rifle. But starting
- 9 with the first one, 8- mile in Mohegan. So on April 18th
- in the evening at 10:50, officers were on West McNichols
- 11 and Ward Street. They were investigating a non-fatal
- 12 shooting involving five victims. Connected to that non-
- 13 fatal shooting, there was a vehicle accident that
- resulted in a fatality of a 64-year-old male.
- 15 CHIEF CRAIG: So as the officers arrived at the scene
- 16 both from the fatal squad, and also from the Precinct to
- 17 do the investigating involving shootings, roughly around
- 18 2:38 in the morning, the officers were still blocking the
- 19 streets, conducting their investigations when a 27-year-
- 20 old driving a late model, Yukon SUV drove up into the
- 21 crime scene, firing one shot in the direction of the
- 22 officers. The round did strike one of the scout cars and
- 23 he continued to travel through the crime scene. Officers
- initiated a high-speed pursuit based on the suspect's
- 25 actions the pursuit traversed from the Westside into the



- 1 downtown area, and then on the Eastside and culminated at
- 2 Gratiot and 8-mile. Just a note, there were points during
- 3 this pursuit that the vehicle reached in excess of a
- 4 hundred miles an hour. Fortunately, it was the middle of
- 5 the night, so it was very little traffic, pedestrian, or
- 6 vehicle traffic on the street at that hour.
- 7 CHIEF CRAIG: But needless to say, it was clear that
- 8 this was armed and dangerous suspect who was focused on
- 9 taking the life of a police officer. At some point when
- 10 his vehicle came to arrest, it was because he had damaged
- 11 the vehicle. The suspect pulled into a parking lot as he
- 12 got out of the car, he began to fire rounds at the
- officer. The officers returned fire at that point. There
- 14 was a brief exchange of gunfire, the suspect then began
- 15 to run a short distance, maybe a half-mile or less, an
- 16 officer pursuing him ended up another exchange of
- 17 gunfire, and it was at that point that we believe the
- 18 round fire was the fatal round. That individual was
- 19 pronounced at the hospital. Officer's quickly went into a
- 20 life-saving mode. In fact, the officer's transported.
- 21 They didn't wait for EMS, transported, the subject to the
- 22 hospital. We don't really know a motive. The one thing
- 23 that we did find out that on the day prior his 21-year-
- 24 old friend by the name of Malik Douglas was killed in a
- 25 dice game. He was deeply depressed over that incident,



- 1 according to his family and this 21-year-old was one of
- 2 three victims in that shooting in the 10th Precinct.
- 3 CHIEF CRAIG: And so a month before that he had
- 4 another loss he had a loss of a five-month-old cousin,
- 5 not sure what that was. There was no indication that he
- 6 had any history of mental illness, but his mother did
- 7 indicate that he did have bouts with depression at times.
- 8 So that's that first shooting. The second shooting, which
- 9 happened a couple of days ago in the 2000 Block of
- 10 Hannah, officers around 4:30 on April 20th responded to a
- 11 male having a violent mental crisis in the 11th Precinct.
- 12 Four officers arrived at the location. I spoke with a
- 13 caller who stated that the subject, a 32-year-old white
- 14 male had locked himself in the bathroom and had inflicted
- 15 serious injury to himself with a very large knife. It
- 16 appeared more to be like a butcher knife. As the officers
- 17 made entry into the house they wanted to make sure to get
- 18 anybody in the house safely to the front so that there
- 19 would be no injury. As the officer traverse through the
- 20 house, a very small space and went into the restroom
- 21 area. I mean, it's hard to describe this was a and let
- 22 me just say this this was a very horrific scene. This
- 23 suspect had self-inflicted a number of injuries,
- 24 including it appeared as if his intestines were coming
- 25 out of his midsection.



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- 1 CHIEF CRAIG: They were self-inflicted wounds to his
- 2 neck. And so as the officers made entry, he was not
- 3 holding a knife at that point. In fact the officers, you
- 4 could see, I had a chance to review the video several
- 5 times. You could see the officers trying to pull him up
- 6 and they did get him standing up. He was in a bathtub
- 7 that was full of blood and he was resisting. The officers
- 8 continued to try to help him, they continued to
- 9 communicate with him that we just want to help you, we
- 10 don't want to hurt you. And he would say, I just want to
- 11 die, shoot me now, just kill me. And the officers kept
- 12 the conversation going. It was clear that he seemed to be
- 13 under the influence of something. He was not very
- 14 responsive. So as they assisted him from getting out of
- 15 this bathtub, as he got out, he quickly reached down on
- 16 the floor and retrieved the knife that he had used to
- 17 inflict injury. As he did that one officer went into
- 18 approach in an effort to try to disarm him. There was a
- 19 struggle. And during that struggle, the officer was
- 20 stabbed in the upper thigh. And the struggle continued
- 21 one of the officers at the scene in a very small space
- 22 initially fired several shots. But unfortunately, it
- 23 appeared that that first or second shot struck the
- 24 officer who was in the struggle with this officer. As the
- 25 officer was continuing to struggle on the ground fighting



- 1 over the knife at this point an officer fired several
- 2 more shots striking the suspect. And from that, he then
- 3 succumbed to his injuries. I know there have been some of
- 4 those questions that well, let me stop and say this, in
- 5 talking to the mother and the girlfriend they indicated
- 6 that the subject was suffering mental illness, but was
- 7 also a drug abuser.
- 8 CHIEF CRAIG: So out of respect for the family, and I
- 9 don't know if I made it because it was in such a
- 10 horrible scene, we did not release the video. The subject
- 11 was also nude and bloody, and it was probably one of the
- 12 worst things I've seen in some time. So again, we're not
- 13 sure, I guess the medical examiner will rule as to
- 14 whether or not he succumbed to his self-inflicted
- 15 injuries or from the shots that we fired. And so before I
- 16 open it up for questions if I could have Sergeant Quinn
- 17 start the video, and this is a video depicting, just so
- 18 you know, in advance, some of the events of last summer,
- 19 including the Hakim Littleton, I think it's important to
- 20 show you in some level of detail, what our officers
- 21 experienced on those few days where there was violence.
- 22 And so with that, Sergeant Quinn, if you could roll the
- 23 video.
- 24 VIDEO PLAYED.
- 25 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you, Sergeant Quinn. And so I



- 1 just want to make one note before opening it up for any
- 2 questions the Board might have, that one officer that was
- 3 given a description of the injuries he sustained, he is
- 4 still off work, hoping to return and to recover from
- 5 those injuries. So with that, I'll take any questions you
- 6 might have.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Ms. Annie, can you see my hand?
- 8 Oh,
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Burch, go ahead.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you, Chief Craig. Sir, I
- 11 appreciate you showing the past, in the 20 the
- 12 protestors, myself, I've seen all of those videos that
- 13 you've seen. Sir, I'm asking you today, what's going on?
- 14 And I'll say, where I live. In 11th Precinct it
- 15 continuously keeps on getting worse and worse. With the
- 16 gentleman that got killed on Hanna, I'm asking if the
- officers were there as they helped him to get out of the
- 18 bathtub, right? So at that time, while they had him under
- 19 control wouldn't, they have handcuffed him. So he
- 20 couldn't reach the floor to get the knife. And so I'm
- 21 just looking at how our police are trained to take care
- 22 of themselves, but look like the trigger happy gun, just
- 23 like the young girl, 16-year-old. She had a knife too,
- 24 Chief, and they shot her.
- 25 COMMISSIONER BURCH: So I'm looking at how there are



- 1 other ways to stop these people that have issues. And,
- 2 and so it looked like the gun is the first thing they
- 3 use. They don't taser. They don't shoot in the leg or the
- 4 arm because they're trained to be SpotShotters, Chief
- 5 Craig. So in number 11, we have more issues with
- 6 speeding. And I know you hear about it, but what's going
- 7 to happen with ordinary citizens like myself and others
- 8 that don't have the opportunity to speak with you. And
- 9 they speak to their commanders, their captains, and all
- 10 of these people, but nothing is changed. I'm just asking
- 11 you, what is your plan to stop the lawlessness of what
- 12 these people are trying to take over Detroit? I thank you
- 13 for your answers.
- 14 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the Chair. Two parts, and let
- 15 me deal with the issue of the officer-involved shooting.
- 16 It's so sad to hear you focus on what we didn't do when
- 17 if you had seen the video, these officers were struggling
- 18 with a very violent male mental, full of blood, self-
- 19 inflicted. You can only imagine what that scene looked
- 20 like. Those officers came in there, not trigger happy as
- 21 you would describe, but when they saw the condition that
- 22 he was in an officer quickly went out to the police
- 23 vehicle to retrieve a medic kit so he could start
- 24 applying pressure to stop the bleeding. He was bleeding
- 25 profusely. Unfortunately, because he was aggressive. And



- 1 if you've ever had a chance to deal with someone who is
- 2 under psychosis or under the influence of some type of
- 3 intoxicant, sometimes they have tremendous strength.
- 4 CHIEF CRAIG: This individual was very strong and
- 5 violent. And yes, as I said, in my opening remarks, the
- 6 officer got stabbed, not by a pocket knife. So in a
- 7 perfect world, we would have been able to gain control.
- 8 And certainly, that was the officer's intent, get him
- 9 medical aid and apply whatever medical treatment they
- 10 could apply as he was being transported to the hospital.
- 11 Unfortunately, that didn't happen. In terms of an [28:51]
- inaudible] report out every week. Every week, we run a
- drag racing, drifting detail. The officers are out to
- 14 early mornings of the hours. They put in tremendous
- 15 effort, we're using the helicopter, we're using
- 16 undercover cars so that we can stop the reckless
- 17 behavior. And to the violence, specifically to the
- 18 violence, as I reported out, the violence is going up all
- 19 over, but let me just say this. This is not just a police
- 20 issue is a reason why violence is up in all of these
- 21 major cities, around America, and not an excuse, but just
- 22 fact. These officers who are still engaged, who feel
- 23 supported in this department, because if you look around
- 24 this country, places like New York, Chicago, Los Angeles,
- 25 because of the lack of support, those officers are taking



- 1 a position of not wanting to engage. What these officers
- 2 do every day, they are putting themselves in harm's way,
- 3 they're making anywhere between 60 to 100 carrying
- 4 concealed weapon arrest a week, because we know more
- 5 times than not the violent crime, the suspect has a gun.
- 6 And on this last week we saw, we saw more incidents who
- 7 had these shooting scenes, there were multiple incidents.
- 8 So I would hope that you would say to these men and women
- 9 who go out every night, thank you for putting your lives
- on the line for me, my neighbors, and the city. And I'll
- 11 conclude on that point.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Can I respond to what she just
- 13 said, Mr. Bell?
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: No, ma'am, we're going to move on
- 15 to the next question. If you don't mind.
- 16 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I believe Chair Bell, Commissioner
- 17 Davis, then Commissioner Bernard, and then Commissioner
- 18 Hernandez.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. In that order, please.
- 20 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: My question, sir, is this, I
- 21 keep hearing about a lot of hits and runs, and do you
- 22 know if the hit and runs are up; because that's what it
- 23 sounds like, and are we investigating hit and runs. and
- 24 have we closed any cases dealing with some of these hits
- 25 and runs?



CHIEF CRAIG: Through the Chair, Commissioner Davis, 1 I can't specifically tell you how many hit and runs. One 2. 3 of the things I'm deeply concerned about that I've seen an increase in, many of you probably saw the recent high 4 powered charger that had an accident at the intersection 5 6 of Jefferson and Connors and the young man. I think he was 21 years old. It was a fatal traffic accident. We 7 8 investigated. It started because it was a pursuit coming 9 out of Grosse Pointe Park that ended in our city when he hit a tractor-trailer truck. After looking at that we've 10 seen other reports of these individuals driving through 11 12 our streets at very high speeds and we don't chase for 13 misdemeanor or traffic infractions. So in addition to the 14 efforts, we're making to abate the drag racing and this 15 other foolishness, that's going on with these drivers, we 16 deployed a helicopter up, we've gotten a commitment from 17 Michigan State police to assist us in the air. CHIEF CRAIG: And we will deal with the activity on 18 19 the ground. We are deploying anywhere roughly on an average of 64 officers on those nights to abate this kind 20 of behavior. But we can certainly get the hit-and-run 21 2.2 information. One of the things I'm going to direct my staff to do, I am very curious. I know traffic accidents 2.3 24 are up year-to-date that I'm aware, but I want to know 25 how many of them end in fatality. We've seen more and



- 1 more this year. I don't know if some of it's pandemic-
- 2 related because of the mental health piece associated
- 3 with the pandemic, but certainly, we have had an
- 4 increase.
- 5 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Also is home invasions up,
- 6 because I heard about a home invasion this morning?
- 7 CHIEF CRAIG: Right now year-to-date our burglaries
- 8 are down 37%. Property crimes overall down with a 26%
- 9 reduction in property crimes. So that's not and then
- 10 the crime of robbery of violent crime is down 33%. Our
- 11 areas of concern right now certainly are the criminals
- 12 with guns, people who can't settle disputes, domestic-
- 13 related type situations.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 15 CHIEF CRAIG: You're welcome.
- 16 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Commissioner Bernard.
- 17 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I thank you, Vice-Chair Holt.
- 18 First of all, thank you for the video and the report
- 19 Chief, but I did want to follow up on about three
- 20 different little things. First of all, with respect to
- 21 Commissioner Burch, I don't think that she was saying
- 22 that the officers were trigger happy or anything else
- 23 like that. The point of her comments was that in a closed
- 24 bathroom situation where a person is naked, and as you
- 25 say, had a knife and they didn't have a knife, actually,



- 1 it was on the floor and as they got him out, he had the
- 2 knife and the officer was injured, of course, with the
- 3 knife, but he was actually shot by his fellow or sister
- 4 police officers. As you said, he was shot by friendly
- 5 fire. So his injuries appear to be more related, I'm sure
- 6 to gunfire than to the leg wound that you say he incurred
- 7 with the knife. And I think her point was that in a
- 8 situation like that, why would you have your gun drawn at
- 9 all and fire five or six shots or whatever number shots
- 10 there were and not just use a taser. The person's right
- in your face. I think that was the import of her
- 12 statement that there's just too much gunfire in general.
- 13 Secondly, you indicated, in terms of the video, I would
- 14 be interested in receiving a copy of the after-action
- 15 report that the department actually filed in this issue,
- 16 as well as probably a copy of the training manual. I
- 17 think that the issues that we've seen nationally of
- 18 course relate directly. They can talk about training and
- 19 training and training, and even the new George Floyd Act
- 20 has all this money for training.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So I just am interested in and
- 22 what our training is. And then finally, we, of course,
- 23 are very supportive of our officers. I think that
- 24 Commissioner Burch is. I know that all the Commissioners
- 25 are supportive of our officers, but that doesn't mean



- 1 that we don't have a different point of view regarding a
- 2 particular, you know, facts or circumstances, but it's
- 3 not meant to be not supportive of our officers. I
- 4 personally, and I think you would agree with this Chief
- 5 Craig, am committed to our Police Officers being peace
- 6 officers and safety officers. The whole word police now
- 7 have such a negative connotation in general, because you
- 8 know, all you can think of is billy clubs and guns and
- 9 bulletproof vest, but the role of the sheriff and
- 10 certainly the role of the police department has
- 11 traditionally been that of peace officers, and as you
- 12 say, public safety officers to keep us safe. And I know
- 13 that sometimes that's a difficult situation. Like you
- 14 say, it was the other night on 8-mile when the guy went
- 15 crazy, who commits a murder and then returns to the
- 16 scene. I mean, that was unbelievable. I couldn't believe
- it, but I'm so glad that you were able to address that
- 18 situation, and unfortunately, we'll never know what
- 19 really caused it, but I'm glad that our officers are safe
- 20 from all of these encounters. No one has been killed and
- 21 not in terms of our police force, but I just wanted to
- 22 make those points regarding certainly the community at
- 23 large.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Report to chief answer.
- 25 I guess I'm going to have to monitor the three minutes



- 1 remark. I'm not doing it to help in that area. We have
- 2 been talking in extensive timeframes. So if we abide by
- 3 it, that would help us out. I know you've got a broad
- 4 state, but hopefully within that three minutes. Chief
- 5 Craig.
- 6 CHIEF CRAIG: I kind of touched on it before,
- 7 officers and I appreciate a difference of opinion. You
- 8 know, officers sometimes have a hair of a second to make
- 9 a decision whether or not to use fatal force. This
- 10 certainly was that incident when he was in the bathtub,
- 11 as you appropriately indicated Commissioner Bernard. He
- was not armed, he was overpowered; they didn't even know
- where the knife was at the time. They knew he had self-
- inflicted knife wounds, and clearly with the nature of
- 15 the injury without being too descriptive he might've
- 16 succumbed to his injuries. We as yet don't know and that
- 17 will be up to the medical examiners to make that
- 18 determination. It was a very small space you indicate but
- 19 he was able to retrieve his knife and he was able to
- 20 injure the officer. And as you point out, yes, the
- 21 officer was shot by friendly fire, but it was a very
- 22 aggressive encounter that happened very quickly. And so
- 23 I'll end on that.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you,
- VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Commissioner Hernandez.



- 1 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: I appreciate the time, I
- 2 appreciate your report out today, Chief Craig. A very
- 3 quick question just the NPO program has received quite a
- 4 bit of coverage recently in terms of its success in the
- 5 community. Curious if you could share any insights into
- 6 plans that you might have to enhance that program and
- 7 continue to strengthen just the relationship with
- 8 policing in the community.
- 9 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you. Through the Chair. I thank
- 10 you, Commissioner Hernandez, for that. I'm very proud of
- 11 the work that those men and women do. I just had a
- 12 meeting with all of them and thank them for the bridge-
- 13 building they do. I mean, if I were in a perfect world I
- 14 would enhance the program. We had one enhancement. I
- 15 think we started out with something like 42 and we're now
- 16 up to 56. And it's based on redefining or divide the city
- 17 up by geographic area. And if we were to expand it, it
- 18 would give those officers a smaller footprint thereby
- 19 they could have spent more time in a more effective way.
- 20 I'm very satisfied with what they're doing now but it
- 21 doesn't mean they're not things we could do. Of course,
- 22 they are budgetary constraints. And so trying to expand
- 23 right now probably would be difficult.
- 24 CHIEF CRAIG: But that's one of the programs that I
- 25 very seldom get any cause of complaints of quality of



- 1 life issues because they handle them. As you, you might
- 2 also know last year in response to a lot of the
- 3 complaints on traffic. I know Commissioner Burch has
- 4 brought up a lot of traffic complaints. So what we did in
- 5 response to that, we initiated two traffic neighborhood
- 6 police officers. One for the West and one for the East
- 7 and their sole purposes is to go out and just address
- 8 traffic. So that's a big focus for us because most of the
- 9 complaints we get, even though violence is up, we are
- 10 never ignore traffic. And certainly, we are putting a
- 11 real substantial focus on it. In addition, I mean, in
- 12 addition to the NPO program, I would love to have funding
- 13 to really expand our traffic enforcement unit as well.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Commissioner Jones.
- 15 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Excuse me Chair Bell.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I saw Commission Jones hands up,
- 17 go ahead.
- 18 COMMISSIONER JONES: Good afternoon, Chief and thank
- 19 you for reporting up. I did actually was able to make
- 20 that scene on Hanna and 8-mile. And then talk with some
- 21 of the officers right there and one of the things you
- 22 have to realize is that when a suspect is nude and he's
- 23 bloody and he's sweaty, You have to understand that it
- 24 would be extremely difficult to try to bring somebody
- 25 like that under control, especially if they were on some



- 1 kind of a street pharmaceutical as they say to begin
- 2 with. So I imagine the officers pretty much had their
- 3 hands very full in trying to even contain and control
- 4 that suspect, especially not knowing where the knife is.
- 5 So it seems to me that that would be understandable
- 6 circumstances trying to hold somebody that's sweaty and
- 7 bloody, especially with them looking at his injuries.
- 8 They would probably think that he probably would not even
- 9 represent a danger at that point. Is that correct?
- 10 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the Chair, Commissioner Jones.
- 11 That's absolutely correct. You know, there's certainly a
- 12 lot of concern when you're talking about dealing with
- 13 blood. And so again, having seen the video and it was
- 14 like I said, it was horrific. Many of the officers were
- 15 traumatized by the encounter because of what they saw,
- 16 and I don't know if I articulated it throughout, as he
- 17 stood in the bathtub, as they were assisting him. He
- 18 said, several times, please just shoot me, shoot me,
- 19 shoot me in the head. It was not a situation the
- 20 officers again, went into the situation, knowing that at
- 21 one point he had a knife. They didn't know where the
- 22 knife was. And so when we make statements like trigger
- 23 happy it is concerning. This is not trigger happy, these
- officers went into preserve life, and even when we talk
- 25 about the incident from a couple of days prior, when that



- 1 suspect had just shot at police officers, not once, but
- 2 three separate occasions they very quickly transitioned
- 3 into a life-saving mode to that young man and then
- 4 transported him to the hospital.
- 5 COMMISSIONER JONES: Thank you, Chief.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Vice-Chair Holt.
- 7 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Yes, Commissioner Brown and
- 8 Commissioner Burton.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: In that order. Thank you.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Good afternoon, Chief, it's a
- 11 pleasure having you before us today. And I just want to
- 12 just express my thanks and just happy that none of the
- officers were hurt fatally. I know it's a tough job that
- 14 they're doing today, but on a happier note, I was just
- 15 wanting to ask you a question about the MSU report on
- 16 Greenlight studies. And I was reading it, and I saw some
- of the things that I thought were not in the report. The
- 18 question was what, if you know off the top of your head,
- 19 or may have it in the data before you, is what were our
- 20 numbers on carjackings at gas stations before Greenlight
- 21 and the expansion of the program and what it is today,
- 22 and the same thing with arm robberies and things like
- 23 that. You know, if we have those numbers, I think that
- 24 was something that they really missed to capture in their
- 25 study.



- 1 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the Chair. Thank you,
- 2 Commissioner Brown. I don't have those numbers with me,
- 3 but I can tell you, one of the things I thought to report
- 4 missed. I didn't review it probably in the level of
- 5 detail that you did. You know, it's hard for anybody to
- 6 say how much crime was prevented. You can show where when
- 7 crime goes down and as you all know, the Greenlight was
- 8 birthed, because when I got here it just seemed that the
- 9 carjackings were out of control. The department, the
- 10 community was kind of desensitized to it. In other cities
- 11 I've worked carjacking was a big deal. I mean, we talked
- 12 about people going to get gas or going to a variety store
- 13 having guns pointed at them and snatch out of cars, it
- 14 was horrific. So I thought if we could find a way to make
- 15 these locations safe havens, then it be less likelihood
- of a violent crime by carjacking, I can tell you without
- 17 having the data that and up until just recently, but the
- 18 carjackings are not happening at Greenlight locations
- 19 because suspects know. Early on, when we made a few high-
- 20 profile arrests associated with Greenlight locations,
- 21 whether it was a shooting people respond. So what a
- 22 police chief or a police department, or a criminologist
- 23 can say is how much crime did we prevent? I mean, nobody
- 24 can really say definitively. So how many carjackings did
- 25 we prevent at Greenlight locations? These scientists



- 1 can't tell you that, chief can't tell you that. But we
- 2 know that crimes have been prevented. So when I talk
- 3 about the 60 to 100 carrying a concealed weapon arrests
- 4 that we make, how many shootings have we prevented or
- 5 murders? Nobody can tell you.
- 6 CHIEF CRAIG: We just know that if we certainly go
- 7 out and focus on individuals who are illegally carrying
- 8 guns, that certainly can have an impact. And I didn't
- 9 really articulate this very well in one of my earlier
- 10 responses, but the other concern is once we arrest them
- 11 and understand bail reform, and there is a need for bail
- 12 reform, but we have to be thoughtful because if we're
- 13 arresting say a violent criminal who is illegally
- 14 carrying a gun, he laughs at our officers and says, no
- 15 big deal, I'd be out before you get off work today. That
- 16 would be a problem, but there was no incentive not to
- 17 carry a gun, no incentive to prevent a shooting if there
- 18 are no consequences. That's just my view, my opinion
- 19 based on my years as a practitioner. But thank you for
- 20 the question.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you, Chief.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 23 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Yes. Good afternoon, Chief. Few
- 24 questions real quick. Pertaining to the situation that
- 25 took place on Hanna Street, is DPD going to look at



- 1 providing mental health training to our members in our
- 2 community. I know that you mentioned something in the
- 3 past about COVID, how a lot of crimes are being committed
- 4 here in the City of Detroit since the start of the
- 5 pandemic, but we know that officers have training when it
- 6 comes to crisis intervention, but our community has zero.
- 7 I just want to know, is there any discussion for, later
- 8 this summer to provide training to residents, whether
- 9 it's by Zoom or within the Precincts with neighborhood
- 10 police officers or anything of that nature?
- 11 CHIEF CRAIG: Through the Chair, Commissioner, Burton
- 12 that's a great question. As you know, I know we both are
- 13 passionate relative to how do we fix this mental health
- 14 crisis? And believe me, it's a crisis. it's exacerbated
- 15 since the pandemic. I think it ties into the violence. It
- 16 ties into the way people drive, but you're absolutely
- 17 correct. And I like what you just said. And certainly, I
- 18 know that Commander Hope is on the line, and who oversees
- 19 our neighborhood police officers. But I think this is a
- 20 great opportunity to host a form, a community forum,
- 21 talking about mental health and what can community
- 22 members look out for? How can they be helpful? You know,
- 23 I do believe with the number of crisis calls we receive
- 24 and the fact that on some occasions, our special response
- 25 team responds out.



- 1 CHIEF CRAIG: What would it be like if a family
- 2 member or community member knows that someone is going
- 3 through a crisis? And if we can proactively work with
- 4 this new co-respond work that we're doing with DWIHN and
- 5 the Detroit Police Department, what can we do
- 6 proactively? So I think this is a great opportunity. I
- 7 will have Commander Hope and Captain Leonard Gilbert, who
- 8 oversees this new initiative we're launching and see if
- 9 we can't put together a community forum and maybe
- 10 Commissioner Burton, you can assist us in hosting that
- 11 effort. I think we might have to do several forums like
- 12 that. I think it would be a great, great first start if
- 13 you will.
- 14 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Sure. I'll be honored. Thank
- 15 you.
- 16 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you.
- 17 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Commissioner Holley.
- 18 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Thank you, and through the
- 19 Chair, and Chief, thank you so much for all you do. I
- 20 know people, get on us about the fact that we support you
- 21 but we should. You represent us very well nationally, and
- 22 I want to thank you.
- 23 CHIEF CRAIG: Thank you.
- 24 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: My concerns are two little
- 25 things. Can you let the community know how do you guys



- 1 tell the difference between a gun and a taser? Is it
- 2 uniformly across the country the same way? Is it yellow,
- 3 red, blue, and black? Just help us with that in a brief
- 4 way. The other thing, I hope you got my message about the
- 5 old roll call and how you handling this stuff that goes
- 6 on all over this country now. And because our guys have
- 7 to know they have capital punishment on their side, their
- 8 gun is capital punishment, and when they use it, that's
- 9 what it is. I want to hope that you got my message and
- 10 somehow you'll come back at a later date with the Chair's
- 11 permission to talk about the roll call and how you deal
- 12 with this with the officers and you see what's going on
- 13 out there so that we might get an understanding what
- 14 you're saying to them. Thank you so much. Mr. Chairman,
- 15 can I be responded to, sir?
- 16 CHIEF CRAIG: Okay. Through the Chair. Thank you,
- 17 Commissioner Holley. You know this is a very serious
- issue that I personally take very seriously. I know my
- 19 executive and command team we're reinforcing constantly
- 20 the importance of when deadly force is used. And I will
- 21 tell you what's alarming to me is the number of very
- 22 dangerous encounters our officers are facing today. I use
- 23 the illustration of the 60 to 100 plus guns that we take
- off of people carrying illegally, and it happens without
- 25 incident. And when you really break it down to the number



- of calls that we go on each and every day and broaden it,
- 2 even in this country, the vast majority of police
- 3 officers get it right. And so you know, one shooting
- 4 that's classified as a criminal act is one too many. But
- 5 what we oftentimes miss out on in this conversation is
- 6 when an officer uses deadly force, it's not always
- 7 considered criminality.
- 8 CHIEF CRAIG: It's just not. No officer wants to use
- 9 it, but it has happened, but that's a very small
- 10 percentage where it's determined that the officer's use
- of deadly force was criminal. And as I pointed out
- 12 earlier in my remarks that Mr. Floyd's killer was a
- 13 criminal and justice was served. But now going to your
- 14 specific point about the difference between a firearm,
- 15 handgun, and a taser. Our officers like most departments,
- 16 you know train for that. There's a reason why the taser
- 17 and so out in Minneapolis or Battle, known as Buffalo
- 18 Center, if you notice the video, the taser was on the
- 19 opposite side it was inverted, not in a holster like a
- 20 handgun, and that's done for a reason because once you're
- 21 trained, you understand and know when you reach, you
- 22 know, if you're reaching for a firearm or you reaching
- 23 for your taser. If you reach for your taser, you've got
- 24 to cross your body. Instinctively you know that. When you
- 25 reach for your handgun, you're going on your strong side,



- 1 you instinctively know that. And so training does play a
- 2 key role. I know there's a lot of conversation about it
- 3 being an accident is certainly gross neglect. The other
- 4 thing when you pick up a taser, the taser's weight in
- 5 comparison to a firearm is significantly different. And
- 6 so when you take your firearm out of your holster, you
- 7 are acquiring a target. You're looking at your sites
- 8 unless you're point shooting, but you should know that
- 9 you're holding a firearm and not a taser. But the one
- 10 question I had, and I talked about this on national news.
- 11 When I saw the video, and I know, I don't know all the
- 12 facts, but just based on the video I saw, I even had a
- 13 concern. Why we even deploy a taser, now.
- 14 CHIEF CRAIG: Granted the young man was walking away.
- 15 I don't know if at the time they knew he had a felony
- 16 warrant, they said he had a felony warrant for robbery
- 17 but did they know it at the time? Probably not. I mean,
- 18 you're not going to approach a car in that fashion, and,
- 19 you know, someone has a felony warrant, at least by
- 20 training, you shouldn't. But that said, the resistance
- 21 was to a point, why didn't they just handcuff him or the
- 22 other officer walk around the car and put hands on him,
- 23 take control of him and handcuff him. Those I don't have
- 24 the answer to, but it just seems like common sense. I
- 25 want to divert for a minute, and then I think it was



- 1 Commissioner Bernard that had this question. I did see in
- 2 the video initially I'm going back to the Hanna incident.
- 3 The officers did have the handcuff out and they were
- 4 making an effort to put the handcuffs on him. He was
- 5 bloody, they couldn't secure a cuff and he was still in
- 6 the bathtub when they were doing this. And then because
- 7 of how aggressive he was moving, he obviously knew he
- 8 needed to get to that knife. It's just the officers
- 9 didn't know, but I'm glad I was able to remember it and
- 10 touch on that. So I hope Reverend Holley, I answered your
- 11 question.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Chief. We're going to
- 13 call close this session out. We have about 19 speakers
- 14 who want to do public comment. As you see, we have a long
- 15 agenda, but I think the Chief needs to make one more
- 16 statement. I want the Board to know that we work with the
- 17 Chief in terms of recommending a yellow taser, which is
- 18 different from the gun color. But I think that people
- 19 need to know, the Commission needs to know, it is not our
- 20 job to try to scrutinize what all took place. That is not
- 21 our role, but I think the Chief needs to speak to what
- 22 happened after the shooting. There's an internal
- 23 investigation, the second investigation if I might be
- 24 using my past, but you speak to how you, in reviewing
- 25 these particular matters. And the Chief stated the 1,001



- 1 instance where there is no gun used that they handled
- 2 this job, whether you hear about the highlights all the
- 3 time. So Chief Craig, could you speak to what takes place
- 4 after the shooting by a police officer.
- 5 CHIEF CRAIG: Right. Thank you Chairman Bell for
- 6 bringing that up because it is a process. You know,
- 7 certainly, we started our investigation. What we do, we
- 8 have the good fortune of having the Michigan State Police
- 9 embedded. And one of our teams when we have an officer-
- 10 involved shooting as by protocol, the Michigan state
- 11 police takes the lead on that officer-involved shooting
- 12 investigation. And so that's important to know. Once we
- 13 get through our investigation or just before we complete
- it, I have instituted something that didn't exist before
- 15 you may have heard me mention it, but we do something
- 16 called a 72-hour briefing and what we do at that
- 17 briefing, we call and tactical experts. We call them the
- 18 commanding officers of the officers involved in the
- 19 shooting. Our executive team is present.
- 20 CHIEF CRAIG: And what we're also doing now is we're
- 21 bringing in new sergeants like on this one we're
- 22 conducting on Monday. We're bringing in the entire new
- 23 lieutenants and sergeants class. It's important for them
- 24 to understand the issues. So we don't wait until there's
- 25 a complete investigation that happens several months down



- 1 the line. In 72-hours, we have enough information to get
- 2 an assessment. What I want to know is were the tactics
- 3 used in that situation appropriate, and if not, why not?
- 4 And if they weren't used appropriately, do we have
- 5 misconduct; is it a practice that we're teaching or
- 6 that's improper? I'll give you an example. And this is
- 7 why the 72-hour briefing is so important. Before I was
- 8 appointed as Chief here, you may remember one of our
- 9 officers, he was affectionately known as Wolverine.
- 10 CHIEF CRAIG: Wolverine was working a high-profile
- 11 unit that went after murder suspects. They were going
- 12 after a murder suspect and what they did, tactically they
- 13 boxed in the suspect. Now boxing in is where a police car
- 14 comes up behind, and a police car comes to the front.
- 15 That is horrible and very dangerous tactics because what
- 16 you create is what we call a crossfire situation. So if
- 17 that suspect who's boxed in decides to shoot it out with
- 18 the police, which in this case it did happen. The
- 19 officers in front are shooting, officers in the rear are
- 20 shooting, and now you expose these officers to friendly
- 21 fire. Wolverine was killed by friendly fire. So when we
- 22 have this 72-hour briefing and again, that predates me,
- 23 is so that we can look at and scrutinize whether or not
- 24 this was a proper shooting, were the tactics used. And
- 25 even though the investigation may not be complete, I want



- 1 to be able to in a very swift way, assess whether or not
- 2 we need to retrain those officers or retrain the entire
- 3 department. And so we put in place so much scrutiny on
- 4 the situation that happened where the individual drove
- 5 through our crime scene. Again, we'll be examining the
- 6 issues in that one to see if the tactical response was
- 7 appropriate. And then like this one involving the bathtub
- 8 and the subsequent shooting, we'll be examining that very
- 9 thoroughly and certainly render whatever training if we
- 10 determine training as appropriate. And then lastly, after
- 11 the actual investigation is complete that then goes over
- 12 to the Wayne County Prosecutor, and this is an all
- 13 officer-involved shooting incident. It goes to the
- 14 Prosecutor, the Prosecutor then conducts an independent
- 15 review and investigation and her office will determine
- 16 whether or not the actions by the officers represented
- 17 criminality. And so there are a number of layers that are
- in place that frankly just don't exist in every
- 19 department.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Chief Craig.
- 21 CHIEF CRAIG: You're welcome.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: And thank you for reporting out
- 23 and entertaining and all the questions and concerns.
- 24 We're going to have the George Floyd Justice Bill read by
- 25 Assistant Chair, Vice-Chair Holt. Thank you.



- 1 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you, Chair Bell. Draft
- 2 Resolution supporting US Congressional approval of the
- 3 George Floyd Justice in Policing Bill. WHEREAS the
- 4 residents of the City of Detroit created the Board of
- 5 Police Commissioners through the 1974 City Charter for
- 6 civilian oversight and control of the police department
- 7 to help public transparency and accountability; and
- 8 WHEREAS one of the Board's mandates include the review
- 9 and approval of policy directives integral to the best
- 10 organizational practices, procedures, and culture, by the
- 11 core community, policing, crime reduction, and public
- 12 safety. In this role, the Board routinely suggest
- 13 revisions to policy directives and frequently is at the
- 14 forefront of police reform; and WHEREAS, the Minneapolis
- 15 police killing of George Floyd on Memorial Day 2020
- 16 caused global outrage and led to protests against police
- 17 brutality. As a mature oversight Board, the Board quickly
- 18 took action to ban strangleholds and to require a duty to
- 19 intervene among other vital policy updates that help
- 20 Detroit provide concrete changes very quickly and
- 21 reassure the public that its voices were heard; and
- 22 WHEREAS, the Board of Police Commissioners have called
- 23 for federal action to provide consistent standards,
- 24 accountability, and objectives, and objective reviews of
- 25 all law enforcement agencies. The Board has supported



- 1 that all actions as vital to stopping fatal police
- 2 encounters, like the one that killed Mr. Floyd and ending
- 3 non-fatal patterns of racial profiling and police
- 4 brutality and racial profiling; and WHEREAS, the George
- 5 Floyd Justice and Policing Bill has supported by the US
- 6 Representative Karen Bass on June 8, 2020, and approved
- 7 by the House on March the 3, 2021, will achieve many of
- 8 the Board's goals. House Bill 7120 will increase
- 9 accountability for law enforcement misconduct, enhance
- 10 transparency and data collection and help eliminate
- 11 racial profiling and other discriminatory policing
- 12 practices. The Bill also facilitates federal enforcement
- 13 of constitutional violations like excessive use of force
- 14 by state and local enforcement. Among other things, the
- 15 Bill limits qualified immunity as a defense in civil
- 16 cases against a law enforcement officer or a state
- 17 correctional officers, and authorizes the Department of
- 18 Justice to issue subpoenas in an investigation of the
- 19 police department, for a pattern or practice of
- 20 discrimination. HB 7120 also creates the National Police
- 21 Misconduct Registry to compile data on complaints and
- 22 records of police misconduct; so THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
- 23 that the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners support
- 24 Congressional passage of House of HB 7210 known as the
- 25 George Floyd Justice and Policing Bill as vital to 21st



- 1 Century Policing and to help ensure the federal
- 2 standards, accountability, and review for law enforcement
- 3 agencies.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you Vice-Chair Holt, and
- 5 Mrs. White, and the team. Commissioners, what is your
- 6 pleasure?
- 7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So move.
- 8 COMMISSIONER JONES: Support.
- 9 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Support.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It has been properly moved and
- 11 supported. Discussion. Those in favor, Aye.
- 12 ALL: Aye.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. The motion pass. We
- 14 move on to Captain Parish, doing forfeiture.
- MRS. WHITE: Yes. Through the Chair, Captain Parish
- is present, and also Sergeant Darchell Brown, who will be
- 17 presenting out on forfeiture. Captain Parish. Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 19 CAPTAIN PARISH: Through the Chair. Thank you for
- 20 having me. Sergeant Darchell Brown is the officer in
- 21 charge of the forfeiture section and she did an
- incredible job during forfeitures, the last presentation
- 23 on forfeitures. So we are having her back again and I
- 24 trust her presentation is going to be just as good as the
- 25 last one. Sergeant Brown. Go ahead.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 2 SERGEANT BROWN: First of all, let me say can you
- 3 guys hear me?
- 4 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Very well.
- 5 SERGEANT BROWN: Okay. First of all, let me say last
- 6 time I did this presentation, Commissioner Holley
- 7 corrected me on my terminology and I just want to say
- 8 thank you so much. We no longer use prostitute, we use
- 9 sex worker. So again, thank you so much. I and my team
- 10 has changed our vocabulary. We do want to be politically
- 11 correct. Can we bring up the PowerPoint, please?
- MRS. WHITE: Yes, we can. We have designated both you
- 13 and Captain Parish as co-hosts, but we can bring it up at
- 14 this time. Thank you.
- 15 SERGEANT BROWN: Okay. First slide. Actually, can we
- 16 go to the second slide, please? Forfeiture is a
- 17 recognized method of combating illegal drug trafficking
- 18 and curbing lewd and other wanton behavior. It should be
- 19 noted that this is a form of deterrence. This should
- 20 never be used as harassment. Next slide, please. This is
- 21 just a slide to show where forfeiture falls in the
- 22 hierarchy of the department. Of course, we are led by our
- 23 Chief of Police, James E. Craig. Then it falls on the
- 24 support side of the house under David, correction,
- 25 Assistant Chief David LeValley. Under AC LeValley is



- 1 special services led by Commander Samina Russel. Under
- 2 Commander Russel, we have management services led by
- 3 Captain Michael Parish, which forfeiture falls under led
- 4 by myself. Can we go to the next slide, please?
- 5 SERGEANT BROWN: The role of the forfeiture section.
- 6 Forfeiture is responsible for receiving and processing
- 7 all forfeiture petitions. So we ensure that all reports
- 8 and forms are completed are accurate before we submit the
- 9 petitioners to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.
- 10 Next, we serve as a liaison between the Detroit Police
- 11 Department and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office or
- 12 any other prosecuting agency. So if anything is needed to
- 13 make sure we can move forward with the case, we make sure
- 14 that that prosecuting agency has everything that they
- 15 need. For an example, if they need a body cam we will
- 16 make sure that they have the body cam to move on with the
- 17 case. Next, we track the status of all forfeiture cases.
- 18 We maintain statistics that's required by law and
- 19 department policy. So that also entails us completing
- 20 state and departmental audits. We serve as the final
- 21 repository for all forfeiture case files and we provide
- 22 information, guidance, and training in all matters
- 23 pertaining to civil asset forfeiture. Next slide, please.
- 24 SERGEANT BROWN: So what is civil asset forfeiture?
- 25 It's a legal process that involves divestiture without



- 1 compensation of property that was used in a manner
- 2 contrary to local state and federal law. So in other
- 3 words, to break it down, it's the illegal taking of
- 4 another's property without compensation because they use
- 5 that property illegally. The types of civil asset
- 6 forfeiture, the drug asset forfeiture an example of that
- 7 would be a narcotic case. A vehicle used to carry illegal
- 8 drugs. The nuisance abatement. An example of nuisance
- 9 abatement would be the offer to engage case where someone
- 10 would try and pick up a sex worker in that vehicle. Of
- 11 course, the crime is against the property and not the
- 12 person, but this is to protect public health. Next, we
- will have the OWI repeat offenders. So a person
- 14 previously convicted or has entered a guilty plea.
- 15 SERGEANT BROWN: Next we have the drag racing
- 16 forfeiture, which is so popular right now because it is
- 17 so dominant in our city. And I'm going to touch on that
- in my next slide. So next would be the felony identity
- 19 theft. Then we have the omnibus forfeiture. The omnibus
- 20 forfeiture is special because it's so many different
- 21 crimes that fall under it. So just to name a few home
- 22 invasion, criminal sexual conduct, dogfighting, robbery,
- larceny that's just to name a few, but we have a lot of
- 24 crimes that fall under the omnibus forfeiture but
- 25 regardless of what type of forfeiture it is, the goal is



- 1 deterrents. Next slide, please.
- 2 SERGEANT BROWN: So in November of 2020, the Wayne
- 3 County Drag Racing Ordinance was amended to include the
- 4 drifting. If you look at just the yellow part, I'm not
- 5 going to read the whole thing because I know I have only
- 6 10 minutes, but it includes things such as drifting,
- 7 sliding or donuts involving loss of traction and or
- 8 repeatedly driving the vehicle in circles or figure
- 9 eights or in a sideways motion in circles or figure
- 10 eights. So this was amended, so it would be easier for
- 11 the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office to fight these types
- 12 of cases. Next slide, please.
- SERGEANT BROWN: The process of forfeiting property.
- 14 So the first thing is the investigation. The officer
- 15 comes in contact with a subject while he's doing his
- 16 investigation, he has probable cause to believe that the
- 17 property was used illegally. Again, it's the property,
- 18 not the person. Be it the proceeds of a crime, the
- 19 substituted proceeds of the crime, or an instrument of
- 20 the crime. Once that probable cause is established, then
- 21 the property seizure and notice of intent to forfeit is
- 22 completed at the scene and serve to the person who
- 23 initially possessed the seized property. Once the
- 24 forfeiture office receives all the paperwork the
- 25 department will petition the Wayne County Prosecutor's



- 1 Office to bring the appropriate forfeiture action against
- 2 the property. If a person's property is no longer subject
- 3 to forfeiture we're put on notice, we take prompt action,
- 4 and we release that property according to DPD protocol
- 5 and under normal circumstances it usually takes place
- 6 within a 14 day period.
- 7 SERGEANT BROWN: Forfeited cash assets are deposited
- 8 into the Department's forfeiture account. This account is
- 9 managed by the Office of Departmental Financial Services.
- 10 Tangible Property is sold at auction. The funds are
- 11 subsequently deposited into DPD forfeiture account.
- 12 Commissioner Bernard, I know that you were particularly
- interested in the drag racing portion of the process, so
- 14 break it down, the investigating officer observes someone
- 15 drag racing. Once he makes his observation, that's the
- 16 probable cause right there that the property is used to
- 17 facilitate the crime. Then the officers prepare the case,
- 18 it's brought over to the Forfeiture Office. Everything is
- 19 checked by my team and then everything is checked through
- 20 supervision. I take a look at everything and then it's
- 21 submitted to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. But
- 22 ultimately it's up to the Prosecutor's Office to move
- 23 forward to set or waive redemption fees. It's up to them,
- 24 what cases they want to move forward with again. But even
- 25 though we do get a lot of forfeiture cases submitted to



- 1 us, there's no guarantee that we're going to win all
- 2 forfeiture cases. Next slide, please.
- 3 SERGEANT BROWN: Are forfeiture dollars used for. As
- 4 a general matter, they are used for anything that can
- 5 help us enforce the law. So training, equipment,
- 6 facilities supplies, or other programs that may help us
- 7 combat crime. Prohibit uses would include general
- 8 government uses, personal gain, or place law enforcement
- 9 budgeted allowance. Next slide, please. How does I'm
- 10 sorry, I'm lost here. How does civil asset forfeiture
- 11 help the community? Once again it's a form of deterrent.
- 12 It dissuades criminals from committing crimes and
- 13 disrupts the illegal enterprise. Civil asset forfeiture
- is helpful by removing property used to facilitate
- 15 illegal conduct and placing it back into a legitimate
- 16 stream of commerce. So for example, if a vehicle was
- 17 forfeited for transporting illegal drugs and that vehicle
- 18 is forfeited, then we auction it off to someone who uses
- 19 that same vehicle to get back and forth to work every
- 20 day, or that vehicle could go into our fleet and be used
- 21 as an undercover vehicle, which also helps combat crime.
- 22 Next slide, please. Some significant events. In 2019,
- 23 there were some changes in the forfeiture laws where it
- 24 prohibited forfeiting a person's property unless the
- 25 owner was convicted or enter a guilty plea. The marijuana



- 1 laws changed in Michigan, made it legal to possess no
- 2 more than 2.5 ounces in public, 10 ounces, or 12 plants
- 3 in your home. And then once again, in November 2020 the
- 4 Wayne County Drag Racing Ordinance was amended to include
- 5 drifting. Next slide, please.
- 6 SERGEANT BROWN: The forfeiture stats I included
- 7 three years on these stats because we are still in our
- 8 current fiscal year. And in fiscal years, 2018 and 19, we
- 9 seized a little over 1.6 million in currency, seized
- 10 1,059 vehicles, file 1,742 forfeiture petitions, and the
- 11 F case and DET that you see down there is just a
- 12 breakdown of that 1,742 cases. The F cases will be the
- 13 drug cases and the DET would be the nuisance abatement.
- 14 And in the fiscal year 2019 to 20, we seized almost
- 15 \$800,000 in currency, seized 372 vehicles, and file 658
- 16 forfeiture petitions. Next slide, please. Again, this is
- our current fiscal year. So this goes from July
- 18 correction, yes, July 1, 2020, to current. So, far we
- 19 have seized 724,000 in currency, seized 301 vehicles,
- 20 file 768 forfeiture petitions. And again, that's the
- 21 breakdown. The F cases, drug cases, DET will be the
- 22 nuisance abatement. The 18 would be the omnibus again,
- 23 that's the statute where a lot of different crimes can
- 24 fall under and one OWI case. And that will complete my
- 25 presentation. If anyone has any questions feel free.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Any questions for Sergeant Brown?
- 2 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Commercial Bernard.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you for your report. It
- 4 was an excellent report. Just a couple of really quick
- 5 questions. When you said in your initial remarks that
- 6 this process is not to be used for harassment. If people
- 7 have complaints about the forfeiture process, they would
- 8 bring that to our office, to the OCI, or to you?
- 9 SERGEANT BROWN: Well, no. The forfeiture process is
- 10 set in place by law. So we only go by what is legally
- 11 deemed for us to do.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: As filing an impoundment?
- 13 Correct. You impound the vehicle, correct, at the scene
- 14 and then you start the forfeiture?
- 15 SERGEANT BROWN: Correct.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: And finally, do you have any
- 17 houses or other property? I mean, I know you have a lot
- of personal property jewelry, things like that, but do
- 19 you also forfeit houses?
- 20 SERGEANT BROWN: Houses? Yes, we do. We have been
- 21 working with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office to go
- 22 after more real property because it has been so many drug
- 23 houses that have been hit time and time and time again,
- 24 and it's a real nuisance. So we've been working closely
- 25 with the Prosecutor's Office to move forward with some



- 1 real property cases.
- 2 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Sergeant Brown,
- 4 outstanding.
- 5 SERGEANT BROWN: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We move on to the Interim Board
- 7 Secretary report, Ms. White.
- 8 MRS. WHITE: Chair, Honorable Board, if you could
- 9 please refer to the meeting agenda today for the incoming
- 10 correspondence and they are as follows. The weekly DPD
- 11 facial recognition technology report for the week of
- 12 April 12th, 2021 through April 18, 2021, Detroit alumni
- 13 chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated
- 14 submitted their flyer regarding the children's mental
- 15 health awareness for the date of April 28, 2001, from,
- 16 excuse me, 2021 from 7 to 9:00 pm. Also, the Board
- 17 received the Detroit news article entitled; Has Detroit
- 18 Controversial Project Greenlight Work Findings and Study
- 19 Offer Clues. And the date was for April 18, 2021.
- 20 MRS. WHITE: The Board received chief James E. Craig
- 21 letter of recommendation to promote police officer
- 22 Bashawn Gaines to the rank of Sergeant also the National
- 23 Prescription Drug take-back day 2021 flyer is included in
- 24 this week's packet for the date of April 24th from 10:00
- 25 am until 1:00 pm at the 2nd Precinct memorandum on behalf



- of MARS and the request for oral testimony dated April
- 2 20, 2021. Also, the Board received a letter from the law
- 3 offices of Jerome and McLean on behalf of the Detroit
- 4 Towers Association dated April 21. Also, correspondence
- 5 from the City Law Department regarding the recommendation
- 6 concerning the MARS Tow Company and the Honorable Board
- 7 also received written correspondence from Director
- 8 Katrina. Patillo from the DPD HR Bureau regarding written
- 9 responses and responses to the Board's questions posed
- 10 during the human resources presentation and the Honorable
- 11 Board. We see various other staff reports for your
- 12 consideration, and that concludes this week's incoming
- 13 correspondence. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Ms. White.
- 15 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Mr. Chair.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes ma'am. Could you pause for a
- 17 second? I'm going to ask the Board to modify the agenda
- 18 for the Chief Craig letter, speaking to the promotion of
- 19 Officer Bashawn Gaines to the rank of Sergeant, a person
- 20 that you all know but the letter dropped out. That person
- 21 has been added to the class, and that class is crucial to
- 22 processing to the rank of Sergeant. So Vice-Chair Holt,
- 23 now you can entertain.
- 24 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you Chair Bell. Yes, I move
- 25 to approve.



- 1 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Excuse me. Mr. Bell, Pastor
- 2 Holley had his hand up.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Okay. You have a question for
- 4 Sergeant Brown?
- 5 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: No, sir Mr. Chairman. There was
- 6 a mistake in the report for Ms. White. She's using word
- 7 tours other than towers. Okay.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Okay. Thank you. Vice-Chair Holt.
- 9 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you. Again, I move to approve
- 10 Chief Craig's recommendation to promote to the rank of
- 11 Sergeant Police Officer Bashawn Gaines.
- 12 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Second.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It has been properly moved and
- 14 second. Discussion.
- 15 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Madam Vice-Chair, would you be
- 16 willing to entertain a friendly amendment to add to your
- 17 motion, to put that on the agenda that we postpone to
- 18 next week the personnel item, since the Chief's report
- 19 was about an hour, and this meeting is going to last a
- 20 lot longer than usual.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Could you elaborate; what are you
- 22 saying?
- 23 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Oh, you had mentioned Mr.
- 24 Chairman, when you initially opened the meeting that we
- 25 were going to have an executive session today, and you



- 1 also stated you want to leave the meeting to two hours. I
- 2 was six simply suggesting that maybe we would move the
- 3 executive session to next week because it's because
- 4 you're already at almost two hours and we're not there
- 5 yet.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Well, let us pause on that, and
- 7 let's move on to the promotion of the Sergeant.
- 8 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Well, I said that but it's not
- 9 that. I don't have any problem with promoting the
- 10 Sergeant. I mean, I agree with that, Mr. Chairman, I'm
- 11 saying amending the agenda. I'm saying why don't you
- 12 amend the agenda for both reasons?
- 13 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I'm not ready at this time because
- 14 we have people prepared to come before us on that
- 15 session. So I don't want to postpone that. The motion's
- on the floor, the motion of rank of Sergeant. Any
- 17 discussion?
- 18 COMMISSIONER BROWN: So moved.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: It's been properly moved and
- 20 supported. Those in favor, Aye.
- 21 ALL: Aye.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BELL: The motion carries. Thank you,
- 23 Vice-Chair Holt. We move on to any unfinished business
- 24 Michigan Auto Recovery, sir. Is that Ms. White?
- MRS. WHITE: Yes, sir. To the Chair. Captain Michael



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- 2 recommendation on that item. Also, attorney Jermaine
- 3 Wyrick is present to represent his client the Michigan
- 4 Auto Recovery Services and Assistant Corporation Counsel,
- 5 Ericka Savage Whitley is also present from the Law
- 6 Department and has also provided her legal opinion to the
- 7 Honorable Board for your consideration.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes ma'am. Thank you.
- 9 MRS. WHITE: Captain Parish, to the Chair, I believe
- 10 you are muted.
- 11 CAPTAIN PARISH: Can everyone hear me?
- 12 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Yes, sir.
- 13 CAPTAIN PARISH: I thank you. Through the Chair,
- 14 thanks for having me back just moments later from the
- 15 forfeiture presentation to discuss this important matter.
- 16 As the Board is well aware the department filed a very
- 17 extensive referral investigation that contains 4 grounds
- 18 for termination against Michigan Auto Recovery, the tower
- 19 ad issue. I'm not going to reiterate the investigation in
- 20 its entirety. I'm going to go through the charges that we
- 21 believe are points of referral to this Board are grounds
- 22 for termination and just highlight the most key elements
- 23 associated with those points of referral. The first point
- 24 of referral and ground for termination is that MARS had
- 25 towed vehicles without authorization from the DPD's



- 1 Dispatch Center. Let me just talk about why this is
- 2 important for a moment.
- 3 CAPTAIN PARISH: Okay. The Board passed rules in
- 4 2010. One of those rules was that vehicles would not be
- 5 towed by private towers unless those towers were properly
- 6 filtered through the authorized tow rotation. And that
- 7 was also to prevent officers from calling their friends
- 8 to tow vehicles for them. Towing opportunities were to be
- 9 equitably distributed amongst private towers. So the
- 10 Board created a rule to ensure that that happened in that
- 11 rule is simply this no vehicle shall be towed without
- 12 authorization from the Detroit Police Departments
- 13 Dispatch Center. They are the keepers of the towing
- 14 rotation. In 2019, the DPD received information
- 15 suggesting that an officer assigned to the 6th Precinct
- 16 was contacting tow companies directly for tows. The two
- 17 tow companies were V&F, which this Board already issued a
- 18 decision on back in 2020 and the other tow company was
- 19 MARS. The Board will recall that V&F received a 45 day
- 20 suspension for its violations. Following receipt of the
- 21 information, the DPD commenced as required an
- 22 investigation into the activities of the towing company.
- 23 CAPTAIN PARISH: This involved an investigation of
- 24 the officer by personnel assigned to Internal Affairs.
- 25 Officer Tonti was interviewed. He was the Officer that



- 1 was reaching out directly to the tow companies. The
- 2 officer came clean, he specifically stated, made it very
- 3 clear that he was contacting the tow companies directly.
- 4 He was friends with the owners of the tow company,
- 5 including the owner of MARS. You would call them directly
- 6 for tows. And he had a relationship with them that
- 7 spanned for quite a while. Okay. Officer Tonti was later
- 8 issued a suspension for his role in these violations. The
- 9 suspension was a three-day suspension and that was in
- 10 part due to the fact that the officer came clean was
- 11 honest from the get-go. As part of the investigation, the
- 12 owner of MARS, Mr. Gregory Rdio was called in for an
- interview. And to be honest, I thought during the course
- of the interview, that MARS would simply state that it
- 15 made a mistake, acknowledged that it made a mistake, and
- 16 this referral would have looked much different.
- 17 CAPTAIN PARISH: That is not the case. MARS denied
- 18 any knowledge that it was receiving calls directly from
- 19 officer Tonti, despite the fact that there was an
- 20 incredible amount of evidence to that fact. So this was
- 21 somewhat shocking, but it was revealing. In the OIGs
- 22 because as I stated to the Board in a prior referral,
- 23 when a tow company is being investigated by the DPD, we
- 24 also turn over investigative material to the OIG because
- 25 the tow companies that tow for us may also tow for other



- 1 entities [01:34:36 inaudible] over those forms and
- 2 independent finding the OIG noted that MARS contradicted
- 3 itself, contradicted it's statements that it had given
- 4 the DPD and found that the inconsistent statements were
- 5 made to hide the tow company's involvement in these
- 6 activities. The second ground for termination is the
- 7 improperly assessed rates. One of the deepest concerns of
- 8 towing.
- 9 CAPTAIN PARISH: And again, this is just by way of
- 10 background, why we think this is important, why the
- 11 referral to the Board. One of the deepest concerns is to
- 12 make sure that when people do have to go and get their
- 13 vehicles or their insurance companies have to go and get
- 14 their vehicles that the towing charges itself are fair.
- 15 And in fact, represent services that were in fact
- 16 rendered. There were several incidents that gave rise to
- 17 adding this to the referral. The first incident involved
- 18 a rental company that attempted to pick up a car from
- 19 MARS. We have the recording of the telephone call that
- 20 was provided by the rental company. We know exactly what
- 21 happened. Okay. The rental company called to get the
- 22 rates that it would need to pay in order to pick up the
- 23 vehicle. And a representative from MARS, not only charged
- 24 the authorized rates but added fees that were a
- 25 prerequisite to be a rental company, picking up the



- 1 vehicle.
- 2 CAPTAIN PARISH: In other words, not only had to pay
- 3 the standard fees, the authorized rates, but it also had
- 4 to pay fees that MARS unilaterally imposed. This is a
- 5 clear violation of the rules, my office intervened. And
- 6 we were able to get that situation corrected. MARS
- 7 attributed the issue to employee error, but what the
- 8 owner of MARS didn't realize was that we had already
- 9 talked to the employee and the employee had told us that
- 10 the order to add the additional unauthorized fees had
- 11 come from Mr. Rdio, the owner of MARS. DPD responded by
- 12 conducting an audit of invoices to see if there were any
- 13 similar situations. We found at least several that had
- 14 charges that appeared to be out of the ordinary. A deeper
- 15 look into those invoices revealed that there were charges
- on the invoices reflecting services that, in fact, had
- 17 not been rendered.
- 18 CAPTAIN PARISH: For example, we have a situation
- 19 involving a young lady. I won't quote her name out on the
- 20 record. It is contained in the referrals, so the Board
- 21 can review it at its leisure. We had a young lady whose
- 22 vehicle was impounded and on the invoice attached to that
- 23 vehicle, there was a quote personal belongings fee. Now,
- 24 this fee was added, the assumption being that this person
- 25 had the ability to go and get their personal belongings



- 1 from the vehicle. That was why the fee was added. So that
- 2 activity should have in fact taken place. But when we
- 3 talked to the lady, she made it clear that she, in fact,
- 4 had never gone to the tow company to pick up the personal
- 5 belongings. And there were several instances that
- 6 involved unusual assessment of charges, such as the one I
- 7 just stated. And those are contained in the referral,
- 8 which the Board may review at its leisure. The third
- 9 ground for termination is MARS' use of unapproved
- 10 subcontractors to carry out, work for the DPD. Again, by
- 11 way of background. Let me say why this is important. The
- 12 Board issued permits to specific towers to perform
- 13 services on behalf of the DPD. It did not issue permits
- 14 for other towers to perform towing and recovery services
- on behalf of the DPD. A provision of the towing permit, a
- 16 term, and condition of the towing permit, which was
- 17 established in the application packet, published by the
- 18 department when the permits were the first issue made it
- 19 very clear. And Mr. Rdio signed off acknowledging that
- 20 any subcontracting relationship had to be approved by the
- 21 Detroit Police Department in order for that
- 22 subcontracting agreement to be lawful. Again, why is this
- 23 important?

24

25 CAPTAIN PARISH: Because we want to know who is going



- 1 to be towing vehicles for the Detroit Police Department.
- 2 We want to make sure that is not a tower in disrepute. We
- 3 want to make sure it's not a tower that was debarred from
- 4 performing services for the city, by the Office of the
- 5 Inspector General. And we assuredly want to make sure
- 6 that it was not a tow company that this Board said could
- 7 not tow any longer. We also need to know who was towing
- 8 the vehicles because of the towers that tow vehicles for
- 9 the DPD in part, represent the DPD. We want to know in
- 10 advance, who we're employing to perform these services.
- 11 That's why it's important. And that's why the rule was
- 12 created. In October 2019, evidence surfaced that MARS had
- 13 utilized the subcontractor Shatila Towing to perform DVD
- 14 towing services. When we found this out, we issued a
- 15 warning letter. We warned MARS. This is a violation, you
- 16 cannot do this. Not only that, but the DPD invited MARS
- 17 to submit a subcontracting agreement. Subcontracting is
- 18 not prohibited. We just need to know about it, and we
- 19 have to approve it. We have to vet the tower that you
- 20 intend on hiring to perform services.
- 21 CAPTAIN PARISH: We never received a subcontracting
- 22 agreement, at least not at that time, and we assumed that
- 23 MARS had just decided not to subcontract. Two months
- 24 later, MARS was dispatched to 15777 Dolphin Street to
- 25 provide towing and recovering services. This was on the



- 1 midnight shift. The scout observed Four Kings towing,
- 2 respond to the scene, and provide the requested services.
- 3 Four Kings Towing was not an authorized tower and we had
- 4 no subcontracting agreement on file authorizing MARS to
- 5 use Four Kings Towing to perform towing and recovery
- 6 services. This was an unauthorized use of a subcontractor
- 7 despite the fact that just a couple of months earlier,
- 8 the DPD warn MARS don't do this and gave MARS an
- 9 opportunity to get a subcontracting agreement on file.
- 10 CAPTAIN PARISH: Several months later, it was also
- 11 discovered that Goch & Son's Towing had towed the DPD
- 12 vehicle on behalf of MARS. Goch & Son's is not an
- 13 authorized tower, and there was no subcontracting
- 14 agreement on file authorizing MARS to utilize Goch & Sons
- 15 to tow vehicles. The detective involved in the case,
- 16 Detective Katherine Gilman contacted MARS and infer
- 17 matter order the company to stop using unauthorized
- 18 subcontractors. You assume MARS would in fact simply
- 19 acknowledge the fact that it did and apologize, but in
- 20 fact, MARS had claimed that it was not using
- 21 subcontractors. That was its response. This was very
- 22 concerning. Now, at the same time MARS was saying it
- 23 doesn't use subcontractors there's an email to a
- 24 subcontracting agreement that was dated months earlier.
- 25 So that is very critical evidence to let us know that



- 1 MARS had been using subcontract agreements on
- 2 unauthorized, despite the fact that the DPD had warned it
- 3 not to do this. The OIG conducted an independent
- 4 investigation of this and the OIG confirmed that MARS had
- 5 been using subcontractors without proper authorization.
- 6 According to its report, and this is a quote MARS
- 7 repeatedly violated the terms and conditions of its tow
- 8 permits and in doing so, it noted that MARS had provided
- 9 false statements to the OIG.
- 10 CAPTAIN PARISH: The final ground for termination is
- 11 the fact that throughout the investigation, MARS was not
- 12 being forthright, it was not being honest. Two
- departments noted false and consistent at the very least
- 14 misleading statements issued to the respective
- departments, the DPD and the OIG. So to emphasize MARS
- 16 was investigated by two departments. The findings of the
- 17 two departments were substantially similar and only I'm
- 18 sorry, excuse me. The two findings were substantially
- 19 similar and both recommended discipline. In DPDs case
- 20 referral to the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners.
- 21 The penalty. DPD believes that these grounds constitute
- 22 grounds for termination. First, the offenses are serious
- and they took place over a long period of time. Moreover,
- 24 the activities had a direct connection to the owner of
- 25 the company and not merely an employee. The owner was



- 1 involved in these activities and that's important because
- 2 the owner above all, it's expected to know the rules and
- 3 procedures of the DPD, and it's supposed to have the
- 4 highest interest in respecting those rules as issued by
- 5 the Board.
- 6 CAPTAIN PARISH: Moreover and perhaps the most
- 7 important is MARS' failure to be honest and forthright
- 8 during the course of an investigation, I read Mr.
- 9 Wyrick's brief, and he noted that Officer Tonti only
- 10 served a three-day suspension and that should have a
- 11 bearing but the reason why Officer Tonti only got a
- 12 three-day suspension was because he came clean from the
- 13 very beginning, which limited the amount of charges that
- 14 could be levied against them. MARS did not. Both the DPD
- 15 report and the OIG report noted MARS' lack of candor
- 16 during the investigation MARS did much worse also than
- 17 V&F. The Board will remember being, I've got a 45-day
- 18 suspension if that case did not involve false statements.
- 19 There was a point where V&F refused to answer questions.
- 20 They didn't provide false statements during the
- 21 interview, at least those weren't cited as points of
- 22 referral. What MARS did was worse, they issued false
- 23 misleading, contradictory statements. This would not be
- 24 tolerated by an officer, the DPD, nor should it be
- 25 tolerated by a contractor, working for the DPD. Based on



- 1 this, I'm asking the Board to resolve today to terminate
- 2 MARS permit, to tow for the Detroit Police Department
- 3 subject, any rebuttal comments that I may feel are
- 4 appropriate at this point, our Department rests its case.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 6 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Attorney Wyrick has his virtual
- 7 hand raised.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Pause for a minute. Ms. White, is
- 9 there any other reporting out before we entertain
- 10 concerns or the attorney?
- 11 MRS. WHITE: Also Assistant Corporation Counsel
- 12 Whitley is on the line through the Chair. So excuse me,
- 13 attorney Wyrick and Ms. Whitley are still part of this
- 14 presentation or this report.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We'll take Ms. Whitley's reporting
- 16 out before we go to the attorney.
- 17 MRS. WHITE: Yes, sir.
- 18 ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL WHITLEY: Good
- 19 afternoon to the Board. I didn't actually have the
- 20 reports, forgive me. I have a lot of them right here. I
- 21 was actually just listening to the presentation along
- 22 with the Board. I issued the [01:46:25 inaudible]
- 23 confidential correspondence to the Board after receiving
- 24 attorney Wyrick's memorandum. There was a recommendation
- 25 at the end of the memorandum. So therefore I'm just here



- 1 to provide any answers to questions as they come up
- 2 illegally. I do have some questions regarding the prayer
- 3 for relief from MARS at this time, and I expressed my
- 4 concern in the correspondence. So I will address any
- 5 questions as it relates to the legality of what the Board
- 6 does as they arise. But I would suggest we go forward
- 7 with Mr. Wyrick's presentation.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. We'll hear from Mr.
- 9 Wyrick.
- 10 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: You're muted attorney Wyrick.
- 11 ATTORNEY WYRICK: Oh, thank you, Vice-Chair person
- 12 Holt for noting that. Good afternoon. May it please this
- 13 Honorable Board. I will speak to you all this evening
- 14 from basically two different themes here. No harm, no
- 15 foul, and quite frankly, the Department is making a
- 16 mountain out of a molehill here. There's a saying in life
- 17 that to err is to be human, we all make mistakes. MARS
- 18 has made some mistakes in the past, but to warrant
- 19 termination in this matter is tantamount to George Floyd
- 20 being killed for having a counterfeit bill. The
- 21 punishment does not fit the mistakes that MARS has made
- 22 in the past in terms of how they have run their business,
- 23 all of which has been rectified, corrected and are no
- longer a problem whatsoever, as noted in my writing, and
- 25 most importantly, as noted in the Inspector General's



- 1 report. Very specifically, MARS has been towing honorably
- 2 in the City since 1983, as part of their honesty as part
- 3 of their efficiency as part of their effectiveness in
- 4 towing here they've received commendations from Detroit
- 5 City Council, from great individuals, like Mayor Coleman
- 6 Young and Rosa Parks, because they tow honorably, and
- 7 honestly, not dishonestly, as previously stated. I also
- 8 want it to be noted as well, this is not a case in which
- 9 MARS has been accused of any fraud or any criminal
- 10 conduct whatsoever, which would automatically warrant
- 11 termination. This is a case whereby, as I said, they made
- 12 a few mistakes that they have corrected. And very
- 13 specifically, I would note that when Captain Parish
- 14 references this relationship between officer Tonti and
- 15 MARS Towing very specifically, and I've noticed in
- 16 Provision 13 page 3 of my response. Officer Tonti stated,
- 17 and I quote this, his motive for contacting them- about
- 18 them, he means my client MARS directly was limited to the
- 19 company's quick response time. He went on to say that if
- 20 he notified dispatch this is Officer Tonti, it would
- 21 take about an hour and a half usually, or two for a tow.
- 22 ATTORNEY WYRICK: It took over an hour for a tow to
- 23 arrive. So our company was contacted by Tonti, not
- 24 because of a friendship, there's no indica here of a
- 25 bribe or any graft or corruption or anything of this



- 1 nature. They were contacted because they do the job
- 2 quickly and effectively consistent with even the Detroit
- 3 City Ordinance on this, which calls for functional
- 4 operational streets that are safe for all the citizens of
- 5 Detroit. That's why they were caught not based upon any
- 6 friendship or relationship. And part of the reason
- 7 Officer Tonti didn't receive an excessive fine or
- 8 punishment as some in the past have [01:50:18 inaudible]
- 9 matters including within the Detroit Police Department is
- 10 because there was no indication of a bribe whatsoever. I
- 11 would also note that one of the things, interestingly,
- 12 the Captain Parish mentioned and wants this Board to
- 13 penalize MARS for is based upon a BOPC Resolution.
- 14 ATTORNEY WYRICK: He mentioned the fact that my
- 15 client MARS had charged the citizen for retrieving
- 16 personal belongings. That's true. But what he didn't tell
- 17 you about that is that the reason that my client charged
- 18 an individual for personal belongings is based upon a
- 19 BOPC Resolution that actually authorized that back in
- 20 2013. And I referenced that in page 5, paragraph 27 of my
- 21 writing, and based upon that Resolution that was passed,
- 22 my client was then misinformed by a member of the CCR
- 23 Unit, Ms. Bridgette Gray, that he could charge \$75 for
- 24 personal belongings. It took that situation that'd be
- 25 sorted out beyond my client's control for him to rectify



- 1 that. So he shouldn't be penalized for something that he
- 2 was told to do that was actually a mistake within the
- 3 TCRU based upon the BOPC Resolution. Also notably, one of
- 4 the things that Captain Parish did mention was very much
- 5 in favor of my client, I would say that there are two
- 6 things here from OIG and I listed this in paragraph 28 on
- 7 page 5, the OIG, the Office of Inspector General found
- 8 that all, and I emphasize, I'm going to say this very
- 9 slowly.
- 10 ATTORNEY WYRICK: If you're not reading it, and I
- 11 hope you are. All non-authorized fees were for private
- 12 toll services distinct from the DPD tows and not charged
- in an effort to inflate the DPD tow fees. That's
- 14 favorable for the Inspector General on my client's
- behalf, moreover, on paragraph 29, the very next
- 16 paragraph, same page, page 5. On September 4, 2020. This
- 17 was from the Office of Inspector General. MARS informed
- 18 the OIG of the specific policy changes it made to ensure
- 19 compliance with the ordinances and rules governing toll
- 20 rates. MARS now issues separate invoices for police
- 21 authorized tows and with implacable private towing and or
- 22 recovery transactions.
- 23 ATTORNEY WYRICK: I would also find very disturbing
- 24 and troubling and Captain Parish's contention that MARS
- is just as bad, if not worse than V&F. That's not even



- 1 true. You have even in his memorandum undisputed and
- 2 uncontroverted that when Officer Tonti was calling from
- 3 the 6th Precinct violating the policy and dispatch in
- 4 each and every instance, and I even delineate them on
- 5 page 3, at the bottom of my brief on page 17, V&F got far
- 6 in excess of the number of tows that MARS got. It was at
- 7 least 3 times and each year delineated between 2017 and
- 8 2019. So the real favoritism here was not going to MARS.
- 9 The real favoritism was going to V&F.
- 10 ATTORNEY WYRICK: Our client in good faith realizes
- 11 the mistakes. They have been towing in this City for
- 12 almost 40 years now, and quite frankly, want to continue
- 13 to offer efficient and effective service in this regard
- 14 to rectify the situation. We did propose a solution. We
- 15 have not seen a copy of the Law Department
- 16 recommendation, so we can't speak to what we haven't
- 17 seen, even though that may be somewhat of a due process
- 18 violation as it relates to my client. But we would submit
- 19 that this Board issue a minor discipline for situations
- 20 that are now in the past. And we propose that a minor
- 21 discipline in your discretion, be it some type of
- 22 community service requirement where my client would be
- 23 willing to tow free for a specified period of time that
- 24 you all would come up with. And we also asked that my
- 25 client be fine in addition to that community service



- 1 requirement. Thank you for your time and your attention
- 2 this afternoon.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, attorney Wyrick.
- 4 Commissioners.
- 5 CAPTAIN PARISH: I'm sorry. May I respond just
- 6 briefly?
- 7 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, sir.
- 8 CAPTAIN PARISH: I think I have the final opportunity
- 9 to respond. First of all, I am taken aback by Mr.
- 10 Wyrick's attempt to compare this to the George Floyd
- 11 incident, which was a truly, truly tragic incident. And I
- 12 think the Board should admonish Mr. Wyrick for making any
- 13 attempt to draw a parallel between this and the George
- 14 Floyd incident, which, thank God we've received at least
- 15 some closure on. But that aside, first of all, Mr. Wyrick
- 16 stated that remarked that that Officer Tonti was only
- 17 contacting MARS and V&F because of their quick response
- 18 time. First of all, I think that there are about four
- 19 other towers on that rotation that would disagree that
- 20 their response time is that bad. I know that I would
- 21 disagree with it because I know those other towers and I
- 22 don't believe they're taking an hour an hour and a half
- on one run's, save any very special or unique
- 24 circumstances.
- 25 CAPTAIN PARISH: And I'm sure that if they were on



- 1 the line, they would dispute the point that Officer Tonti
- 2 was trying to make. Bottom line, Officer Tonti identified
- 3 these people, his words as his friends. The Board will
- 4 need to decide how much credence it is to give. With
- 5 respect to the personal belongings Mr. Wyrick totally
- 6 dodged the point that I was making. The OIG found and the
- 7 Department's not going to dispute that at the time, it
- 8 was acceptable to charge a \$75 personal belongings fee,
- 9 but that's when the personal belongings are actually
- 10 picked up. The issue here is that we had a citizen who
- 11 never picked up her belongings, and yet the bill recorded
- 12 a \$75 personal belonging fee. So it wasn't the fee on its
- 13 face, it was the fact that the fee represented a service
- 14 that was in fact never performed. And that was something
- that was not addressed by the OIG in its report. We're
- 16 not exonerating MARS, it was an area that they didn't
- 17 address. And it was something that the department
- 18 addressed and that's when it found additional evidence of
- 19 it. Okay. With respect to the specific policy changes
- 20 that were enacted by MARS, these were policies that
- 21 should have been in place in due recognition of the
- 22 Board's rules from the very get-go. Okay. And again, if
- 23 MARS had come to its interview, had come clean, the
- 24 referral would probably have been drafted much
- 25 differently, and we would have a much different case



- 1 before the Board, but both the OIG and the DPD noted
- 2 false misleading or at least inconsistent statements on
- 3 the part of MARS. The OIG issued a scathing report. Mr.
- 4 Wyrick highlighted only parts of the report that
- 5 benefited MARS. I would encourage the Board to review the
- 6 OIGs report in its totality, even the OIG recommended
- 7 discipline and stated that MARS had issued false
- 8 statements. That's all I have in rebuttal.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Captain. We are going
- 10 to close this out. We have confidential information from
- 11 Corporation Counsel Whitley on this matter, so the floor
- 12 is open to entertaining a motion.
- 13 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Through the Chair.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Oh, yes, ma'am. Hold on. I think
- 15 Commissioner Holley had a question first.
- 16 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Alright, I'm sorry. Yes, Chair
- 17 Bell. His hand has been raised a long time.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 19 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Mr. Chairman, is it okay for me
- 20 to ask a question to the attorney?
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, sir.
- 22 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Mr. Wyrick, are you saying to
- 23 us that Captain Parish, all seven things he's saying are
- 24 lies?
- 25 ATTORNEY WYRICK: No, I mean, respectfully, you know,



- 1 as an attorney and I believe Captain Parish is one at
- 2 this point, we disagree on the facts. I'm not the type of
- 3 person that calls people chronicle liars.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: I'm sorry. Maybe I use the
- 5 wrong word. I know you've got to explain things, but are
- 6 you saying these are accusations are not true?
- 7 ATTORNEY WYRICK: The way I would characterize it,
- 8 Commissioner Reverend is, I would say that certainly
- 9 there are disputed facts here. And the facts that we
- 10 delineate in our favor are controverted facts. The fact
- of the matter is V&F for example received three times the
- 12 number of tows that MARS has. I don't think Captain
- 13 Parish disagrees with me on that.
- 14 COMMISSION HOLLEY: Thank you, sir. Thank you, Mr.
- 15 Chairman.
- 16 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Through the Chair. Commissioner
- 17 Bernard.
- 18 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: My colleagues on the Board, I
- 19 would recommend that we support attorney Wyrick in terms
- 20 of his recommendations concerning this. And I'll tell you
- 21 why. Number one, and with all due respect, Captain
- 22 Parish. You're a hard worker. I knew you when I worked
- 23 with the Board and we met when you were in law school.
- 24 But you have attempted now more recently to dispossess
- 25 the Board of all of its authority regarding towing. In



- 1 terms of the new RFP that you have worked with the
- 2 Department of Procurement concerning and trying to take
- 3 the Board out of the process. I can't support your
- 4 recommendation on this yes you are, and any other
- 5 recommendation, because I read, so yes, any other
- 6 recommendations. Secondly, the fact that Mayor Young had
- 7 endorsed this tower and Rosa Parks is enough for me,
- 8 right there. And thirdly, I'm opposed to you imposing or
- 9 had there been an imposition of a 45-day fee, I mean,
- 10 excuse me, a period during which he would be suspended so
- 11 that he could not respond to the RFP that you've
- 12 initiated, which incidentally, I think should be
- 13 suspended and extended. I think all the permits should be
- 14 for six months and the RFP put on hold until the Board
- 15 can address this issue systemically.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Because your position here has
- 17 totally compromised the Board of Police Commissioners and
- 18 all you have to do is read the RFP and this, your
- 19 recommendation, even here takes this tower out of the
- 20 rotation. These are minuscule things. This is nitpicking,
- 21 it wasn't a fraud. It wasn't illegal. It wasn't immoral.
- 22 It wasn't fattening. So I mean, he made some mistakes.
- 23 He's corrected those mistakes on the record. He's
- 24 corrected those mistakes. So I cannot support your
- 25 recommendation that this tower be if you are barred



- 1 from continuing in our toll rotation after 40 years.
- 2 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Through the Chair, Commissioner
- 3 Brown hand is raised, and then Commission Burch.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We're going to take the motion,
- 5 please go ahead, then we're going to entertain
- 6 discussion.
- 7 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I move that we accept attorney
- 8 Ericka Savage Whitley's recommendation that MARS be
- 9 suspended for the remainder of the term of its tow
- 10 permit, which is 39 days.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: That eliminates him from being
- 12 able to tow for 5 years. That eliminates him permanently
- from our rotation until 2026. So that's why I can't
- 14 support that recommendation.
- 15 COMMISSIONER BURCH: We cannot speak anymore, we
- 16 cannot speak about it.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: I'm sorry. Commercial Holt, finish
- 18 your statement and then I'll go to -
- 19 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I don't recall receiving a second.
- 20 I don't, I don't know.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BURCH. You didn't get a second. You did
- 22 not.
- 23 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Okay.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Okay. Commissioner Burch.
- 25 COMMISSIONER BURCH: I just like to say that this



- 1 company has been in existence. I think what that they
- 2 say, 38 years. The part that I appreciate that the way to
- 3 punish them, I think would be community service. Mr.
- 4 Wyrick did say they wouldn't be willing to do that. Am I
- 5 right? Is that what you said, Mr. Wyrick that we could
- 6 give him community service?
- 7 ATTORNEY WYRICK: Yes, Commissioner Burch, and not
- 8 only that. We would leave it to this Honorable Board's
- 9 discretion in terms of the amount of community service
- 10 and amount of a fine.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you.
- ASSISTANT CORPORATE COUNSEL WHITLEY: Through the
- 13 Chair.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, ma'am.
- 15 ASSISTANT CORPORATE COUNSEL WHITLEY: So I just
- 16 wanted to clarify a couple of things. So, first and
- 17 foremost, this isn't like a court. So it's the Tow rules
- 18 are governing the proceedings today and the Tow rules
- 19 give the Board's discretion for the tow permits and
- 20 disciplining the companies regarding the tow permits.
- 21 There are two different areas where it says the Board can
- 22 have a hearing and there is one for the breach of the tow
- 23 permit. And then the second one that's been referenced as
- 24 it relates to fraud and criminal conduct. So I don't
- 25 believe that there have been any allegations of criminal



- 1 conduct. However, there may be, you know, there are a
- 2 couple of allegations of dishonesty, misleading
- 3 statements. I'm not certain if we want to get into the
- 4 areas of fraud, but that's a matter of the police. So
- 5 then if we take that one out of contention, we get into
- 6 the other cause for hearing, which is a breach of the
- 7 terms of the tow permit, which gives this Board an
- 8 opportunity to have a hearing and to see whether there
- 9 should be any full termination or any suspension or any
- 10 shorter term.
- 11 ASSISTANT CORPORATE COUNSEL WHITLEY: So I just want
- 12 to make it clear that there is no legal authority
- 13 whatsoever to give fines or community service as in a
- 14 court hearing. That's not imposed on any of the rules,
- laws, or regulations of the Board. So that was my only
- 16 issue when reading it. I noted that to the Board. There
- 17 are no alternative sanctions. The Board's purview was
- 18 pretty black and white. So the Board can affirm what the
- 19 DPD is recommending they can rescind what the DPD is
- 20 recommending, or they can provide a suspension time.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you for that clarity.
- VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Chair Bell, we still have
- 23 Commissioners that are asking to speak on this matter.
- 24 Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner
- 25 Jones.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Go ahead.
- 2 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you. Vice-Chair, Holt. I,
- 3 like my colleague, attorney Wyrick was very disappointed
- 4 to hear you compare the issue with George Floyd to this
- 5 towing incident. That was a very poor choice of words and
- 6 comparison situations. But along with my colleague,
- 7 Captain Parish, I did read all the information and I
- 8 believe she is correct and on point and there are
- 9 discussions that we need to have about everything. I
- 10 think the guidelines and what you're proposing are just a
- 11 little too strict. And I believe that the recommendation
- of attorney Wyrick needs to be looked at. And that's all
- 13 I have to say.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 15 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Well, Corporation Counsel, she
- 16 basically asked what I was going to ask. I would think
- 17 perhaps we should propose a very limited suspension maybe
- 18 three days. That's my comment.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 20 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Commissioner Jones and, and I saw
- 21 Commissioner Burton. Commissioner Jones.
- 22 COMMISSIONER JONES: Thank you. Through the Chair, I
- 23 too was rather disappointed that it had been an issue
- 24 like the George Floyd case would find its way on the
- 25 table on this Board being used by a former attorney of



- 1 the Board to try to justify his findings for a company
- 2 that he's working for. I was really disappointed to hear
- 3 that. I think they're reaching back also to bring up
- 4 Coleman Young and to bring up Rosa Parks was improper as
- 5 well. I did not find that favorable at all. I took notes
- 6 on all of the violations that Captain Michael Parish had
- 7 delineated in his presentation to the Board, whatever,
- 8 and I would go with the findings of DPD as far as what
- 9 they seek as an alternative; nor have I heard anybody
- 10 offer what their punishment should be, as opposed to what
- 11 the punishment would be from this Board or from DPD. I
- 12 found that to be rather kind of bizarre myself also. So I
- would go with the recommendation from DPD about
- 14 terminating the contract.
- 15 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Commissioner Burton.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Yes, madam Chair. I call to
- 17 table this until next week to the next meeting.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioners, there is no second,
- 19 so the motion is not on the table. What I'm going to do
- 20 is for the sake of time and clarity, we would post this
- 21 and take it away next week. So we're going to move on.
- 22 Thank you.
- 23 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you Chair Bell.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Vice-Chair Holt.
- 25 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you Mr. Chair.



- 1 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Any new business?
- 2 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Can I go to the bathroom?
- 3 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Yes. That's an announcement. You
- 4 said, announcement.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Announcement, and then we're going
- 6 to take a break. Hold on a second. Announcement.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chair.
- 8 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Okay. It's okay to speak?
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Commissioner Burch, you've got the
- 11 floor. Announcement.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Oh, okay.
- 13 VICE-CHAIR: Commissioner Burch, yes, Commissioner
- 14 Burch.
- 15 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you, Ms. Annie. Thank you.
- 16 I just want to share this, and we do need a break, but
- 17 the good news is that I was awakened by construction
- 18 trucks at 8:00 am this morning, and they were installing
- 19 a new fire hydrant. We thank God, because all that time
- 20 that fire hydrant has been broken at the corner of
- 21 Dequindre and State Fair. I mean Dequindre and Lance. It
- 22 could have been a fire so that the fire trucks wouldn't
- 23 have anything to hook it to. Do you see what I'm saying?
- 24 So, because of Gary Brown's Office, we're painting all of
- 25 the fire hydrants for Motor City make-over. That means



- 1 that now Mr. Brown has to send a crew out to check the
- 2 fire hydrants before we can paint them. Okay. That's one
- 3 thing, and the other thing I wanted to say is that we
- 4 need to go back to just being neighbors, and what I mean
- 5 by that one person called me and said, Ms. Burch, do you
- 6 know anybody that would donate a wheelchair? I did -
- 7 maybe 10 people. I got back a wheelchair the same day.
- 8 That's what we used to do back in the day Commissioner
- 9 Bernard. You called your neighbor, if you needed
- 10 something, you got it. We had to go through all these
- 11 departments to get one thing done. When all we got to do
- 12 is call your neighbor. So I just want us to remember old
- days are good days. I'm a person that believes in going
- 14 forward, but you cannot forget your past. I thank you,
- 15 Mr. Bell.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Any other announcements?
- 17 COMMISSIONER BURTON: To the Chair.
- 18 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Commissioner Burton.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, sir, go ahead.
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Thank you. Madam Chair. Mr.
- 21 Chairman, I want to put something out there for new
- 22 business. You did call for unfinished business, and we
- 23 were into a discussion and then you didn't call for new
- 24 business. And then one of our colleagues said, are you
- 25 going to call for any more new business or whatever? I



- 1 have something on the table. I like to put on there for
- 2 new business, Mr. Chairman.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Well, I'm going to pause on that
- 4 because we need a break sir. We are going to take a 5-
- 5 minutes break.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman, I'm here on the
- 7 behalf of the residents.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Sir, we are going to take a 5-
- 9 minutes break.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You did not call new business.
- 11 But you did call for unfinished business and I have
- 12 something that I'd like to weigh in on the behalf of
- 13 Detroit residents.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We are going to take a 5-minute
- 15 break.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Are you denying our voices at
- 17 this time?
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Yes, sir. We're going to take a 5-
- 19 minute break. I'm denying it. We're going to take a five
- 20 break. We are taking a 5-minute break. What I'm going to
- 21 do is take a Chairman privilege. We're going to go to
- 22 those 19 people to give them an opportunity to speak
- 23 before we continue the rest of the agenda. The time now
- is 5:30 and that's one of the biggest complaints. We go
- 25 on and on and they have an opportunity not to drop off



- 1 the call.
- 2 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Okay, Mr. Chairman.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Good idea. Mr. Chairman.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Commissioner Bernard. I
- 5 think it's only fair to give these people the opportunity
- 6 to speak.
- 7 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Mr. Chair, I second your motion
- 8 to move to public comment.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, sir. I appreciate that.
- 10 (SHORT RECESS WAS TAKEN)
- MRS. WHITE: Excuse me, Mr. Chair. it appears that
- 12 all of the Commissioners are back. And also for your
- information, Deputy Chief Mark Bliss will be representing
- 14 Chief Craig. Chief Craig had to leave the meeting.
- 15 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Oh, he did.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you. Mr. Brown?
- 17 MR. ROB BROWN: Yes, sir.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BELL: We're prepared to do public
- 19 comments at this time.
- 20 MR. ROB BROWN: Yes, sir.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- MR. ROB BROWN: Mr. Chairman is currently 19
- 23 speakers. Your first three speakers would be District 4,
- 24 Community Advisor Council President Mr. Scotty Bowman,
- 25 followed by Ms. Bernie Smith followed by Minister Eric



- 1 Blunt.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you.
- 3 MR. ROB BROWN: Mr. Bowman.
- 4 MR. BOWMAN: Thank you. I was here when the meeting
- 5 started, but I was not acknowledged until now as the
- 6 District 4 Community Advisor Council Chairperson. This is
- 7 a slap in the face to the 20,357 District 4 residents who
- 8 elected me, onward. The DPD counter lawsuit has alleged
- 9 that protestors were part of a civil conspiracy and
- 10 should be held collectively liable for the alleged acts
- of violence and vandalism committed by a few individuals.
- 12 Collective punishment is anathema to civil society. I
- 13 wouldn't paint all other police officers with the same
- 14 broad brush that I would use to characterize the likes of
- 15 Dwayne Jones or Derrick Chauvin. That would be unfair, a
- 16 few bad apples don't justify taking down the orchard.
- 17 Stop this bigoted profiling and shame on the DPD for
- 18 using our tax dollars to propagandize this meeting with a
- 19 movie, designed to push an anti-trans formation agenda.
- 20 MR. BOWMAN: We need to look to Minneapolis, as an
- 21 example of what accountability looks like. If they follow
- 22 Detroit's lead, they will give Chauvin probation and a
- 23 promotion. Thankfully, I don't think they will. We need
- to hold officers accountable when they do wrong, and we
- 25 need to give those who are doing right, which is pretty



- 1 much everyone else. The big juicy rays we need to make
- 2 good on those pensions that were lost or those retirement
- 3 benefits that were lost in the bankruptcy deal. Okay. We
- 4 need to reward the good actors and we need to punish the
- 5 bad actors we needed the carrot and the stick. That is
- 6 the way that true accountability works, reward and
- 7 punishment. Recognition of good deeds, condemnation of
- 8 bad deeds. Thank you for your time.
- 9 MR. ROB BROWN: Ms. Bernie Smith.
- 10 MS. SMITH: Good evening. I'm not going to be long.
- 11 I'm just going to be very brief. I want to let you know
- 12 that what I feel about our Detroit police compared to
- 13 what happened recently and what we've all seen on the
- 14 news. I think we can say, God bless our Detroit police
- 15 because of the fact that they do know how to police us. I
- 16 don't find that there's too much of a dispute about them.
- 17 And I just want to let them know that I appreciate them.
- 18 And I want them to continue to do the things that they're
- 19 doing and respect the people in the way that they're
- 20 doing it. Why the police are not using this taser? I
- 21 cannot imagine. And it's sad. It's really sad, but we can
- 22 say hello, and God bless our police department here in
- 23 Detroit. And Chief, next time you come out in the air
- 24 with all that snow hanging down on your head, you better
- 25 put a hat on because I'm going to tell you when I see



- 1 you. Take care of everybody, I'm gone. Be safe. Bye.
- 2 MR. ROB BROWN: Minister Eric Blunt.
- 3 MINISTER BLUNT: Yes, can you hear me, Board?
- 4 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Yes, we can.
- 5 MINISTER BLUNT: Yes, this is Minister Eric Blunt.
- 6 Again, this week, this meeting's purpose is diabolically
- 7 intended to avoid police misconduct and today's video
- 8 from the Chief was another one-sided false narrative. As
- 9 it never came close to including police officer's
- 10 chokehold on Detroit Will Breathe Leader Ma'kia Wallace.
- 11 Again, if the countersuit against Detroit Will Breathe
- 12 case was thrown out by a federal judge as lacking
- 13 criminal evidence. Chief Craig, are you trying this case
- in the court of public opinion? If so, this will not
- 15 work. In the case of Mr. Littleton, when black men do
- 16 comply, we are killed when we don't comply, we're killed.
- 17 So although it is always wrong to shoot at the police,
- 18 many can understand some of the possible thoughts that
- 19 may have been going through Mr. Littleton mind being in a
- 20 surprising situation.
- 21 MINISTER BLUNT: This case does reveal how body-worn
- 22 camera footage can be released within hours. So each
- 23 minute that goes by and Chief Craig does not release the
- 24 footage. The lack of trust of DPD in the community leads
- 25 everyone to assume that you are hiding and or editing the



- 1 video for your benefit. At the 2019 NICOLES conference
- 2 here in Detroit, we were taught how videos can be edited
- 3 by highly trained professionals to falsely present a
- 4 recorded situation. The session was entitled: Unmasking
- 5 the Truth Behind Video Driven Investigations. I yield my
- 6 time.
- 7 MR. ROB BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next three speakers
- 8 will be I don't see, Miss Angela Hattaway, Yvonne Jones
- 9 followed by Ms. Lory Parks followed by Northend resident.
- 10 MR. ROB BROWN: Ms. Jones.
- MS. JONES: Yes, I am really appall at this meeting.
- 12 The Board of Police Commissioner is supposed to be an
- independent body to make sure that we have police
- 14 transparency and accountability. And yet it seems like it
- 15 is a dog and pony show for police Craig. I want to ask
- 16 this Board, did you investigate the killing of Hakim
- 17 Littleton; Did you investigate the police treatment of
- 18 the protestors this summer and the fact that they were
- 19 counter suing the protestors causing us more money to be
- 20 spent; Did this body investigate that? Until the two
- 21 young men who were killed this week, both had serious
- 22 mental health issues. Are you going to investigate those
- 23 killings? Because it seems to me that there are some
- 24 wrongdoing by the police, some missteps by the police. If
- 25 the police were called to the site for the man in the tub



- 1 with a knife, the first thing basic training would have
- 2 been to look for the weapon. So I just think that this
- 3 Board needs to review your mission. And I think we need
- 4 to call for Craig's resignation because he does not know
- 5 what the people need or want. And I think we need to look
- 6 into defunding the police.
- 7 MR. ROB BROWN: Ms. Lori Parks.
- 8 MS. PARKS: Thank you. Listen. I don't know, but we
- 9 have asked several times for the Board of Police
- 10 Commissioners to give us their duties, what they are
- 11 supposed to be doing, not on a slide show, not on any I
- 12 need to hear from each and every one of the Board of
- 13 Police Commissioners, what their duties are on the police
- 14 commissioner. Also, I would like to know from Chief
- 15 Craig, have any of those officers had mental first aid
- 16 training, also a social diversity training and Chief, you
- 17 may have been the first one to say that the George Floyd
- 18 homicide was a homicide, but here in the City of Detroit,
- 19 we know that you are now trying to sue the Black Lives
- 20 Matter protestors for exercising their right to protest
- 21 because of the George Floyd killing. Also, I think that
- 22 Chief Craiq asked for representative Maxine Waters,
- 23 resignation. What we need to do here with that statement
- is you need to examine why what (Audio distortion)
- 25 through the Chairperson, Maxine Waters, for our



- 1 demolition funds that we got. That's the committee that
- 2 she sits on. So when you ask for her resignation, you're
- 3 asking her to take money away from the City of Detroit.
- 4 So I thank you for taking my call.
- 5 MR. ROB BROWN: North end.
- 6 NORTH END: Can you hear me?
- 7 MR. ROB BROWN: Yes.
- 8 NORTH END: Okay. Great. Thank you. Well, so I wish I
- 9 had to hear a vigorous debate about the promotion of the
- 10 officer who beat the lady at the hospital. Anyway, I
- 11 support what was discussed of working with Commissioner
- 12 Burton and talking about mental health and the police
- 13 force. That's great. But I do want to say I'm
- 14 disappointed that the police apparently was working with
- 15 the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network and probably
- 16 the city to put a crisis center in my neighborhood. And
- 17 people are not opposed necessarily to having a crisis
- 18 center, but the location is the issue. It was the
- 19 library. And I think if we have libraries everywhere and
- 20 lots of things for the children and really invest in
- 21 them, it'll be the teacher's jobs, and the police
- 22 officer's job should be easier. I'm concerned because
- 23 people that were students, when I taught in a public
- 24 school in the mid-nineties, they're adults now. And now
- 25 I'm concerned because they didn't even have a playground



- 1 at their school. So our neglect, our not having things to
- 2 fulfill their lives, to make them enriching. It's coming
- 3 back to haunt us, people litter. Anyway, so we need to
- 4 get back to investing in people and do things like that
- 5 and please move out of eventually out of the crisis
- 6 center, let it become a library in the North end. Thank
- 7 you.
- 8 MR. ROB BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next three speakers
- 9 would be Over with, followed by a caller with the last
- 10 three numbers, 534, and a caller with the last three
- 11 numbers are 915. Over with.
- 12 OVERALL: Can you hear me?
- MR. ROB BROWN: Yes, sir.
- 14 OVERALL: Am I coming in clear?
- MR. ROB BROWN: Yes.
- OVERALL: Okay. We've been listening to all this
- 17 nonsense all these days going back and forth.
- 18 PLAYED RECORDING
- 19 I see Chief Craig he's not going to hear this but
- 20 everybody on the Board needs to hear this and listen to
- 21 it carefully. Why, a reason, a real good reason is what
- 22 I'm looking for. A truthful answer. It's against the city
- 23 charter to not accept the complaint from the citizen when
- 24 they got a legitimate complaint to file. Now, this is
- 25 Lawrence Akbar with his BS and you all don't know



- 1 anything None of you Board members don't know nothing but
- 2 Willie Bell, Melanie White, Jonya Underwood, Tiffany
- 3 Stewart. They got us all in the dark, all of them. You
- 4 need to round them and get rid of all of them. You all
- 5 ain't been heard nothing about none of this. And I sent
- 6 you all, all kinds of emails recounting the whole
- 7 situation. Check it right now before you all get off the
- 8 call. Don't adjourn the meeting, talk about this. Willie
- 9 Bell, where your answer Lawrence Akbar? Melanie White.
- 10 MR. ROB BROWN: Caller with the last three numbers,
- 11 534. Caller with the last three numbers 534. Mr. Chair, I
- 12 go to, I don't see caller 915. Your next speaker would be
- 13 three speakers. Jimmy Ratliff followed by Kenya followed
- 14 by my phone. Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Ratliff. I go to Kenya
- 15 next. Mr. Chair. Kenya.
- 16 KENYA: Hello. Hi.
- MR. ROB BROWN: First, I would like to start by
- 18 saying the video that was played at the beginning of this
- 19 meeting. What's hilarious? Chief Craig has a way to
- 20 confess what we know to be a fact, it's all lie. He has a
- 21 way with words. He made the video and edit it to his
- 22 benefit in order to make himself look good. This is why
- 23 they call him Chief Hollywood Craig. He spends more time
- on TV and on CNN than he does his job. My question is, do
- 25 we pay him to be on TV, CNN bashing people that stand up



- 1 for Black Lives and fighting for us. He had no business
- 2 commenting on what Rashida Tlaib said. Why do we have
- 3 anything to do with politics now? You know you guys say
- 4 that you are for the community when Chief Craig, has told
- 5 lies numerous times over and over saying that the
- 6 community backs him when none of us backs him. I would
- 7 like to see a list of how many communities actually back
- 8 this man. The City of Detroit, the police department has
- 9 so many complaints against them that we don't even talk
- 10 about that. I call for Chief Craig's resignation. Thank
- 11 you.
- MR. ROB BROWN: The next caller would be my phone.
- 13 MY PHONE: Okay. I would just like to say, James
- 14 Craiq get on TV and he keeps wanting to say that the
- 15 community doesn't want us here. When we marched the
- 16 community embraces us and they're happy to see the change
- 17 that we are bringing. When he say the community, he means
- 18 the police community, the police community does not want
- 19 us here because we are here to hold them accountable. We
- 20 seeing and not just seeing, we are the people that James
- 21 Craig let come down there, let the police come down here
- 22 and beat in tear gas because we were peacefully
- 23 protesting. One of our leaders was hit by a DPD police
- 24 officer and he went on TV and misled the public. And told
- 25 the public that the protestors had broken out a window



- 1 with a hammer. Now we have been doing this for close to a
- 2 year and we have always been peaceful.
- 3 MY PHONE: James Craig has yet to come down there and
- 4 talk to us and to see what the problem is. But he's for
- 5 the community. You can't be for the community if you're
- 6 not in the community. James Craig and the police force do
- 7 not want this movement to continue. And once they beat us
- 8 tear gas us and we continue to come out there. Now they
- 9 are trying to antagonize us and intimidate us. And to get
- 10 us to stop with this lawsuit. You cannot sue protesters.
- 11 It's democracy. This is how this work. The system is
- 12 doing something we don't like. We're going to protest
- 13 against it. That's how it works. You cannot sue
- 14 protesters. So if that goes through that means that you
- 15 are not saying that democracy is not practiced in
- 16 Detroit. James Craig won the site time and time again,
- 17 the community is for him and he is for the community. No,
- 18 you're not. Because if you were for the community, you
- 19 wouldn't leave and let that much money go to the police
- 20 budget. You would know that we need libraries, we need
- 21 rec centers, we need tutoring programs, we need places
- 22 for kids to go so they not in trouble. So when they do
- 23 bump into your police officer, they not getting murdered.
- 24 You are running the police in Detroit, like y'all
- 25 straight out of GTA. These are our lives. We all are



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- 1 calling for James Craig's resignation. We don't back down
- 2 from bullies with shields.
- 3 MR. ROB BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next three speakers
- 4 would be Ms. Sarah Torres, followed by the caller with
- 5 the last three number 402, and Ms. Brenda Hill., Ms.
- 6 Torres.
- 7 MS. TORRES: Hello, can you hear me?
- 8 MR. ROB BROWN: Yes.
- 9 MS. TORRES: I demand the resignation of Chief James
- 10 Craig. Chief Craig had the audacity to speak out and
- 11 demand the resignation of Representative Rashida Tlaib.
- 12 Representative Rashida Tlaib is an elected official while
- 13 Chief Craig is not. Chief Craig was appointed by the
- 14 emergency manager, Kevin Orr. Chief Craig does not
- 15 represent Detroiters. He is using resident's tax dollars
- 16 to attack an elected official. Chief Craig and his police
- 17 department, he commands, his policies and his
- 18 department's actions harm black and brown residents of
- 19 Detroit. People suffer and are killed by the hands of
- 20 Detroit police under Chief Craig's leadership,
- 21 specifically people in mental health crisis. The DPD does
- 22 not know how to handle mental health crises and under
- 23 Chief Craig's leadership, the police in Detroit fail its
- 24 residents resulting in Detroiters' deaths at the hands of
- 25 the police. Poverty is directly linked to crime. We don't



- 1 need more police. We don't need more money for the police
- 2 and we don't need a chief of police unethically using
- 3 public resources to attack our elected officials. We need
- 4 universal health care, community-based mental health
- 5 services, good jobs, and education for the people. Chief
- 6 Craig must resign. All power to the people. Thank you.
- 7 MR. ROB BROWN: Caller with the last three numbers
- 8 402.
- 9 CALLER 402: Can you hear me?
- 10 MR. ROB BROWN: Yes.
- 11 CALLER 402: Yes. Welcome Board members. You're much
- 12 appreciated, each one of you. (Audio Distortion) They
- 13 will contact you at a convenient date and time. We have
- 14 your phone numbers and follow up with you regarding your
- 15 main cause and your concerns regarding DPD's conduct as
- 16 (Audio Distortion) made to your alleged crime.
- MR. ROB BROWN: Okay. Mr. Chair, your next speaker
- 18 would be Ms. Brenda Hill. Ms. Hill.
- 19 MS. HILL: Yes, good afternoon or evening. We're
- 20 going into the evening, but there is a day of reckoning
- 21 coming with police departments. We have a policing issue.
- 22 Detroit is rare because they have this police oversight,
- one of the few in the country, but right now, police and
- 24 deputy sheriffs are running the show and appointees are
- 25 running the show, we are getting policies that are



- 1 against the people, such as facial recognition
- 2 technology. I hope the US Attorney General comes in and
- 3 starts with you all. This is an abomination of what this
- 4 Board was supposed to be, and you all continue to vote
- 5 against the people. Also, we do need policing reform.
- 6 That's not a dirty word. There are issues in Detroit
- 7 police, as in all policing. I mean, we were promised that
- 8 neighborhood police officers would be the eyes and ears
- 9 of the neighborhoods. That is not true.
- 10 MS. HILL: And that's not to say those are not nice
- 11 officers. They make salad real nice, right? But knowing
- where the problems are in the neighborhood and handling
- 13 those problems is not happening. And so that's where this
- 14 Board can come into place. We have several police
- officers, not the vast majority, but several police
- 16 officers that need to go. But we go around yelling at
- 17 Burden and we're not addressing what we need. This Board
- 18 of Police Commissioners should be the gold standard for
- 19 this country. The reckoning is coming. You need to get it
- 20 together.
- MR. ROB BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next two speakers
- 22 will be Ms. Michelle George, followed by Ms. Brooke
- 23 Harris. Ms. George.
- MS. GEORGE: Yes, sir. Mr. Brown, you can hear me and
- 25 the Board.



- 1 MR. ROB BROWN: Yes ma'am.
- MS. GEORGE: Yes, sir. To Chairman Bell, and to the
- 3 Honorable Board, what we're finding here, and this
- 4 policing problem. I was driving the other day and this
- 5 officer stopped this young black male, but before he got
- 6 to the car, the African-American male was so afraid. It
- 7 was like he was praying and I pray for him. And that,
- 8 hopefully, just the encounter with policing in black
- 9 communities. That is the burden that has happened with
- 10 the shooting of unarmed African American men and women
- 11 are that every time a law enforcement officer stops a
- 12 motorist rather than myself or anybody, we're going to be
- 13 terrified. So that's something policing needs to take
- 14 care of that because when you see the lynching as Ida B.
- 15 Wells said in the 1800s a man was lynched to today.
- MS. GEORGE: That's what we saw with George Floyd and
- 17 what we're seeing. So hopefully the policing I went after
- 18 the National Associates of Black Police Officers because
- 19 I totally don't think they shouldn't exist anymore. Also,
- 20 I disagree with a lot of things, Chief Craig, what he
- 21 does. I do pray for the Chief. I'm praying for the
- 22 officer that was shot the other day, but the caller was
- 23 right. Chief Craig was brought in by Kevin Orr. So if you
- 24 want a chief of police out, you have to change the Mayor.
- 25 You have to vote the Mayor out. That's the only way



- 1 you're going to get a new chief of police also. I'm just
- 2 hoping that, and with this Honorable Board and with the
- 3 policies that have hurt black and brown people, when the
- 4 city council spent that money to go after a movement, you
- 5 don't go after a movement that you go after the
- 6 individuals, but not the movement. So I'm just hoping and
- 7 praying in this time of policing, even I have to talk
- 8 with Chief Duasi from Sterling Heights to talk with me
- 9 for 50 minutes, dealing with the issue, what that officer
- 10 posted on Facebook. And we talked to the Mayor and he
- 11 reached out to me. So I'm just hoping we can do better.
- 12 Chief Craig need to listen to the callers and do better
- 13 because they let the white nationalist March downtown,
- MR. ROB BROWN: Ms. Brooke Harris, Ms. Harris, Ms.
- 15 Harris. Mr. Chair, there is no response. Seems like Ms.
- 16 Michelle, George was your last speaker.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON BELL: Thank you, Mr. Brown. Commissioner
- 18 Bernard.
- 19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BELL: You are correct. Two hours went
- 21 out the window, right after I said it. So we need to
- 22 stand for adjournment at this particular time because we
- 23 can't continue.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So moved.



25

1	STATE OF MICHIGAN)
2	COUNTY OF WAYNE)
3	RECORDER'S CERTIFICATE AND NOTARIZATION
4	
5	I, Donald Handyside, Court Recorder, do
6	hereby certify that on April 22,2021, at 2:57 p.m.,
7	I did record the Detroit BOPC meeting, the same
8	being later reduced to typewriting and that the
9	foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of
10	said electronic recording taken at such time and
11	place.
12	I further certify that I am not related to
13	or employed by any party of this cause or their
14	respective counsel.
15	(1) (1)
16	Limber
	DONALD HANDYSIDE (CER 1464)
17	Notary Public
18	My Commission Expires: 5/6/2020
19	
20	
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23	
24	
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04/22/2021

\$ **\$75** 73:23 77:8,12 **\$800,000** 54:15 ***9** 4:6,15 0 **01:34:36** 63:1 **01:46:25** 70:22 **01:50:18** 73:8 1 **1** 6:2 54:18 **1,001** 41:25 **1,059** 54:10 **1,742** 54:10,12 **1.6** 54:9 **10** 51:6 54:2 87:7 **100** 24:3 35:3 38:23 **105** 7:7,11 **10:00** 56:24 **10:50** 16:10 **10th** 18:2 **11** 13:14,16 14:1 22:5 **11%** 15:24 **11th** 18:11 21:14 **12** 54:2

12th 56:12

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