

**Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners**  
**Date of Meeting: Thursday, September 23, 2021 – 3:00 PM**  
**Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform**

- I. **Chairperson Jim Holley called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Chaplain Curtis Longstreet provided the invocation.
- III. **Mission Statement of the Board of Police Commissioners.**
- IV. **Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.**

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Rev. Jim Holley, PhD, Chairperson	Yes	
Martin Jones, Vice-Chairperson	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown	Yes	
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Willie E. Burton		Excused
Lisa Carter	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Jesus Hernandez	Yes	
Annie Holt	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	10	

- V. **Chairperson Holley** called for any additions to the Agenda for Thursday, September 23, 2021, it was approved.
- VI. **Chairperson Holley** called for any corrections to the Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2021. The minutes were approved as corrected.
- VII. **Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives.**
- VIII. **Chair's Report.** Chairperson Holley provided the following information:

**(1) CONGRATULATIONS TO CHIEF JAMES WHITE ON OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF POLICE:** The Board is glad to congratulate Chief James E. White as the City's 43rd Police Chief. City Council this week confirmed his appointment 7-0 votes. The Board continues to extend best wishes and support as we work together with the Chief, his executive team, and the Department to ensure excellence in the Detroit Police Department and public safety in our city. Again, congratulations.

**(2) WAYNE COUNTY CORRECTIONS OFF-DUTY OFFICER WHO WAS RECENTLY FATALLY WOUNDED IN DETROIT:** The Board extends its prayers and condolences on the loss of Devante Jones, a Wayne County Corrections Officer who was killed while off-duty. We continue to pray for the Wayne County Sheriff Department, the law enforcement community, and the family of Devante Jones, regarding this senseless fatal encounter. We speak each week about this epidemic of gun violence, and it is our priority to do all that we can to stop these senseless shootings and killings. The Board is currently working on hosting a panel or forum to discuss strategies to combat and deter gun violence and violent crimes here in the City of Detroit. Our community deserves better and we will be working with the law enforcement community and court system toward that endeavor. Human behavior also must change; we must learn how to control our tempers, how to resolve conflict peacefully, and how to value and respect our lives and the lives of others.

**(3) DESIGNATION/ASSIGNMENT OF BOPC COMMISSIONERS TO OCP EVALUATION COMMITTEE OF TOW BIDS:** As part of the Board's Charter-Mandated supervisory oversight role, I have designated several Commissioners to serve on the RFP Tow Selection Committee in connection with the Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP), DPD Tow Monitor, and other authorized parties. The committee will review and evaluate the tow RFPs to select qualified Police Authorized Towers, based on the requirements outlined in the RFP and other relevant City rules. Designated Commissioners will serve as voting members on the RFP Committee. The Commissioners selected for the committee are: Vice-Chairperson Martin Jones, Commissioner Willie Bell, and Commissioner Linda Bernard. The selected Commissioners have accepted this challenge, and I thank you for your cooperation. Through their involvement and reporting back to the Board, the Board looks forward to helping to ensure fairness, objectivity, and inclusiveness as part of the Police Authorized Towers' process. The RFP evaluation process will start soon, and further details are forthcoming for the Board's consideration. Thank you for your cooperation.

**(4) BOARD REQUIREMENTS FOR REQUESTING A LEGAL OPINION:** Members requesting a legal opinion on a particular legal issue must adhere to the process of introducing a motion to request a legal opinion from the City Law Department and must state the legal issue. If the motion is properly seconded and adopted, the Board's Staff will prepare a written request to the Law Department on behalf of the full Board requesting a legal opinion on the legal issue. This process is in place to help us ensure that we work together to make decisions, maintain order, and ensures clear and accurate recordkeeping.

**(5) NACOLE CONFERENCE UPDATES:** As a reminder, registration for the NACOLE Annual In-Person Conference is underway. Commissioners who are seeking to attend, please confirm by the end of business day today with Ms. White and Mr. Brown. Please note that NACOLE is requesting that all Conference Attendees be vaccinated and be prepared to provide confirmation.

**(6) COMMISSIONERS' DECORUM DURING ALL MEETINGS (OPEN MEETINGS, CLOSED SESSIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, AND TRAININGS):** As a reminder, as we work through the process of reinstating the committee structure and continue with all of our other required meetings in alignment with the Open Meetings Act (OMA), Board Members are required to follow all governing documents, the OMA [Open Meetings Act], the Board Bylaws, Parliamentary rules, and standing rules, especially regarding meeting decorum. All relevant documents have been distributed on a continuous basis. The expectation is that all Board Members will read the documents, adhere to the rules, help to keep order, get the business done, and properly resolve any issues that may arise. Therefore, in seeking action on a particular item or seeking additional information on a matter, please refer to all governing documents to ensure that you are following the process. Thank you for your cooperation.

**(7) REVISED PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS:** The Board's Staff distributed the revised proposed bylaw amendments for your review. No action will be taken today. However, please review the documents and send any written feedback, recommendations, that you have so that we can approve a final document within the next 2 weeks. Also, Dr. Jackson, our Board Parliamentarian, is here with us today and is available should you have questions regarding the revised amendments.

**(8) SENIOR INVESTIGATOR VACANCY:** As previously discussed, the Board voted to adjourn filling the vacancy for the Senior Investigator position until next week, September 30, 2021. In the interest of time and similar to how we have filled past appointments, I am requesting that all Commissioners submit their top two (2) preferred candidates for the position to Interim Board Secretary White, who will then tally the top (2) candidates from the list of names submitted so that we may vote on them next week. I am requesting you to submit your two (2) candidates' names by next Tuesday, September 28, 2021, close of business day.

**(9) CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TWO NEW INVESTIGATORS ELLEN COUNTS AND PASTELLA WILLIAMS:** We congratulate our two new investigators regarding their recent investigative work in conducting thorough investigations. In a recent case, they located the complainant's property, a cellular phone, in the street while conducting a canvass for witnesses to the police encounter. This type of investigative work helps maintain trust and confidence in the Board's Investigative Division and our oversight process. We continue to thank Interim Chief Investigator Akbar and all of our OCI Staff for their hard work on a daily basis and the leadership, example, and training they are providing to our new investigators. And we especially commend our two Investigators, Ellen Counts and Pastella Williams for a job well done.

**IX. Resolution: Commissioner Holt** read the resolution honoring Detective Derrick C. Knox (Retirement).

**RESOLUTION HONORING  
DETECTIVE DERRICK C. KNOX**

- WHEREAS** Derrick C. Knox was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on April 24, 2000. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Knox was assigned to the Gaming Section; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Knox's assignments also included the Second Precinct, Southwestern District, Organized Crime, Northeastern District, Traffic Enforcement, Chief's Neighborhood Liaison, Ninth Precinct, and Fifth Precinct; and
- WHEREAS** On June 29, 2020, Officer Knox was promoted to the rank of Detective and was assigned to Eighth Precinct Investigative Operations Unit where he served until his retirement; and
- WHEREAS** Detective Knox was the deserving recipient of the following awards: Perfect Attendance Award, Perfect Driving Award, Department Citation, the Ford Fireworks Celebration Ribbon, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, Aretha Franklin Funeral Recognition Award, and the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, in addition to several accolades from within the department and from other agencies and citizens for his professionalism and expertise; and
- WHEREAS** Detective Knox has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit, and its neighboring communities for 21-plus years. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity and dedication has been a credit to the Detroit Police Department.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in recognition of Detective Derrick C. Knox's 21-plus years of dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and lifelong commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

We thank and congratulate you, Detective Derrick C. Knox.

**Commissioner Holt** moved adoption of the resolution, which was adopted as follows: *Resolved*, That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in recognition of Detective Derrick C. Knox's 21-plus years of dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and lifelong commitment to the City of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

**Vice-Chairperson Jones** read the resolution honoring Corporal Rickey Townsel, Sr. (Retirement).

**RESOLUTION HONORING  
CORPORAL RICKEY TOWNSEL, SR.**

- WHEREAS** Rickey Townsel was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on June 26, 2000. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Police Officer Townsel began his career at the Eighth Precinct; and
- WHEREAS** He dutifully served the Eighth Precinct, Northwestern District, and the Sixth Precinct. Officer Townsel displayed tremendous diligence and aptitude in his assignments. On August 1, 2016, he was promoted to the rank of Corporal and served at the Crime Intelligence Unit until his retirement; and
- WHEREAS** During his law enforcement career, Corporal Townsel was the deserving recipient of a Military Service Award, Perfect Attendance Award, Lifesaving Citation and Medal, both Consent Judgment Awards, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, as well as commendations from supervisors, and numerous letters of appreciation from citizenry; and
- WHEREAS** Corporal Townsel has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 21 years. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity, and dedication have been a credit to the Detroit Police Department. He is highly respected as a consummate professional.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in recognition of Corporal Rickey Townsel's 21 years of dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and lifelong commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

We thank and congratulate you, Corporal Rickey Townsel, Sr.

**Vice Chairperson Jones** moved adoption of the resolution, which was adopted as follows: *Resolved*, That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, awards this resolution in recognition of Corporal Rickey Townsel's 21 years of dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and lifelong commitment to the City of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

**X. Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police's Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information:**  
On behalf of Chief James E. White, First Assistant Chief Todd Bettison reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property; COVID-19 impacts, and recent critical incidents impacting DPD and the community. See attached Meeting Transcripts for more information.

**XI. PRESENTATION(S) TO THE BOARD: A. Facial Recognition Technology – Captain Ian Severy  
B. Detective Bureau – Captain Gerry Johnson, Jr.**

**A. Facial Recognition Technology – Captain Ian Severy** provided an overview of the Department's Facial Recognition Software including the following: Historical background regarding the Department's initial use of the FRT and the Board's policy review and implementation process; Facial Recognition Process; Training; threshold requirements to utilize and/or submit a request for FRT; key items within the FRT policy; and regular reports submitted to the Board as required by Department policy. *See also* PowerPoint Presentation available online.

**B. Detective Bureau – Captain Gerry Johnson, Jr.** provided an overview of the Department's Detective Bureau Organized Crime, which included descriptions and updates of the following: Command Structure; components of Major Violators Unit; Narcotics YTD Stats; Gang Intelligence; Gang Incidents; Task Force Administration; Drag Racing Stats; General Assignment Unit Public Order Crimes; Ceasefire Outreach; Crime Scene Services; Records; and Investigative Liaisons. *See also* PowerPoint Presentation available online.

**XII. Report from Interim Board Secretary Melanie White/Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:**

1. Weekly DPD Facial Recognition Technology Report 9/13/21 – 9/19/21
2. Crystal Curtis v City of Detroit, et al - Case No. 21-011843-NO
3. MIOSHA Complaint No. 178939
4. Staff Reports

**XIII. Unfinished Business.**

**XIV. New Business. Dr. Frances Jackson, RN, PRP, Board Parliamentarian,** provided feedback and assessment based on parliamentary observations during today's Board Meeting.

**XV. Announcements.**

**Mr. Robert Brown** announced the following:

1. **Next Virtual Meeting:** Thursday, September 30, 2021, @ 3:00 p.m., Zoom Technology.
2. **Next Virtual Meeting:** Thursday, October 7, 2021, @ 3:00 p.m., Zoom Technology.

**XVI. Oral Communications/Public Comments:**

CAC Scotty Boman, Ms. Bernice Smith, Minister Eric Blount, 402 is Ms. Joy, and Ms. Brenda Hill offered public comments.

**XVII. Chairperson Holley** adjourned the meeting at 5:39 p.m.