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CITY OF DETROIT
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
BOPC VIRTUAL MEETING
July 21, 2022 at 3:00 P.M.

1 MS. WHITE: Good afternoon, honorable Board, Mr.
2 Chair, Chief White DPD executives, and the community.
3 Welcome to the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
4 meeting. Just a few reminders before the meeting begins.
5 The Department of Innovation and Technology web team
6 looked into the link issue at the city's website
7 regarding the Board's meeting videos. And in this
8 instance caused some visitors to have problems with
9 accessing Board meeting video posts. The team has fixed
10 the link and the public can now view the Board meeting
11 video. And again, we thank the web team for its work, and
12 we apologize to anyone for any inconvenience who visited
13 the city's website when any link was not working. So
14 again, thank you so much for your patience and again,
15 with regards to public comments, if you are interested in
16 making a public comment, please submit your comment card
17 to Mr. Robert Brown, is standing at this time, but is
18 generally seated at the end of the table here. And you
19 may do so by 4:00 PM to be acknowledged for public
20 comment. Again, welcome, and thank you so much for
21 attending the Board of Police Commissioners. And now Mr.
22 Chair, Chair Ferguson.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Good afternoon. I'm Bryan
24 Ferguson, Chairperson of the Board of Police
25 Commissioners. This meeting will now come to order. Thank

1 you for attending the Board meeting today. At this time,
2 I like an invocation by Commander Chaplain, James Paul.

3 CHAPLAIN PAUL: Let us pray. Lord God of grace, in
4 the name of Jesus, we thank you for your keeping power
5 and your blessing power. Lord, we thank you for this
6 great commission Lord that is here to Lord God, to guide
7 and to protect our officers and the citizens of Detroit.
8 We're asking you, Lord God, just to bless our Mayor, the
9 Chief and those men and women in blue that are out
10 protecting and serving the community. Lord God, we're
11 asking you just to look down upon those, Lord God that
12 are in your care. I asked you just to bless and continue
13 to bring us love, continue to bring us peace in this
14 city, continue Lord God to bless us Lord and rid the city
15 of violence of any kind. I thank you, Lord God. I praise
16 you, I magnify your name. In Jesus' name. Amen.

17 COMMISSIONERS: Amen.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Amen. Thank you for that. Mr.
19 Brown, can you read the mission statement?

20 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, the Board of Police Commission
21 duties of the BOPC. The Board share in consultation with
22 the Chief of Police with approval of the mayor,
23 established policy, rules and regulations, review
24 approved departmental budget before submission to the
25 mayor, receive and resolve and provide in this chapter

1 any complaints, concerning the operation of the Police
2 Department, forward all allegations of criminality to the
3 appropriate internal or external law enforcement agent
4 for further investigation. Act as final authority and
5 opposing a reviewing discipline of employment of this
6 department. Make an annual report to the Mayor, City
7 Council and the public of the department's activities
8 during the previous year, including the hearing of
9 criminal complaints and future plans. The Board makes
10 subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony and
11 require the production of evidence to enforce a subpoena
12 to order for production of evidence or to impose any
13 penalty prescribed to the failure of obeying a subpoena
14 of order. The Board shall apply to the appropriate court.
15 The Board may delegate in writing a member of this staff,
16 the power to administer those oath and take testimony, a
17 delegation at its will of the Board, and does not prevent
18 exercising any power by the Board. The reading of the
19 statement. Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you. Ms. White.

21 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Through this Chair, Madam Vice-
22 Chair, Commissioner Annie Holt - Present.

23 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Jim Holley - Present.

24 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Jesus Hernandez - Present.

25 MS. WHITE: Commissioner QuanTez Pressley - Here.

1 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Linda Bernard will be
2 arriving soon.

3 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Cedric Banks - Present.

4 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Willie E. Bell - Present.
5 District 4.

6 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Willie E. Burton -
7 Commissioner Willie Burton is present on the behalf of
8 the citizens of Detroit.

9 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Lisa Carter - Present.

10 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Ricardo Moore - Present.

11 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair, you do have a quorum.

12 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you. I would like to
13 entertain a motion for the approval of the agenda for
14 July 21st, 2022.

15 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: So moved.

16 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Second.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Any discussion? All in favor.

18 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All opposed? The motion
20 carries. Now, the minutes for the previous meeting have
21 been distributed for July 14th, 2022. That was last week.
22 Are there any corrections to the minutes? If there are no
23 further corrections, the minutes will be approved as
24 read. Interim Secretary, Ms. White, can you introduce
25 your staff please?

1 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Just before going to staff
2 introductions, Commissioner Jesus Hernandez is present at
3 this time. Thank you so much. Regarding staff
4 introductions and Media Services. Media Services is
5 recording our meeting and handling the voice audio and
6 visual needs today. And our court reporter is Mr. Don
7 Handyside and the following Board staff members are in
8 attendance today. BOPC administrative staff members. Mr.
9 Robert Brown, Administrative Specialist, Ms. Theresa
10 Blossom, Relations Coordinator, Ms. Jonya Underwood,
11 Administrative Assistant, Senior Investigator, Tiffany
12 Stewart, Director, Katrina Patillo, Director of Police
13 Personnel, Assistant Corporation counsel, Christopher
14 Michaels, Interim Chief Investigator Lawrence Akbar,
15 Supervising Investigator Ainsley, Cromwell, Acting
16 Supervising Investigator LiSonya Sloan and Supervising
17 Investigator Rosalia Madrigal are present. Thank you,
18 sir.

19 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you. Good afternoon,
20 Chief. How are you doing?

21 CHIEF WHITE: Good afternoon, sir.

22 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Can you introduce your staff?

23 CHIEF WHITE: I'm going to have them introduce
24 themselves. I'm looking around and I have a few people
25 blocked. I see Deputy Chief DeShaun Sims, and everyone

1 else that you please introduce yourself?

2 Officers in attendance, please introduce yourselves.

3 CHIEF WHITE: We also have the LSA President Mark
4 Young and Vice-President Ron Thomas here from DPOA.

5 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Oh, thank you. Madam
6 Secretary, do we have any special guests?

7 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Through the Chair, first I
8 would like to recognize our American Sign Language
9 interpreters the team Miss Yakada Nichols and Dr.
10 Stephanie Beatty are present today. Also, regarding
11 special invited guests Ms. Marie Overall of State
12 Representative Tyrone Carter's Office and on zoom, former
13 police commissioner, William Davis. We have also
14 previously acknowledged Lieutenant Mark Young LSA
15 President, and also Mr. Peter Rose of council member
16 Calloway's Office. And if I could also acknowledge, take
17 this time to acknowledge our BOPC summer interns from the
18 Grow Detroit Young Talent Program and their names are as
19 follows: Mark Adams and please stand when your name is
20 called. Mark Adams, Sidney Adams, Kane Channey, Rockmound
21 Bohannon, India Taylor, Desean Taylor and Dea'Shanae
22 Terry. So again, we welcome our Grow Detroit Young
23 Talent, summer interns who are working with us during the
24 summer. We thank Commissioner Carter for facilitating
25 that effort. And again, they will be working both with

1 the Board's administrative staff and also the Office of
2 the Chief Investigator. And we wanted to take this
3 opportunity to introduce the interns [Video Transmission
4 Offline] to the Board of Police Commissioners, and also
5 for you all to take photos later on. So thank you so much
6 for that opportunity.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you. Awesome. Welcome.
8 And thank you again, Commission Carter. Well done.

9 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Mr. Chair, did we lose the
10 feed?

11 MS. WHITE: We're working on that through the Chair.
12 We will work to get it back up. Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay, I'm going to keep it
14 rolling here. And we still have audio, correct? And we
15 are running. Okay.

16 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Again, I like to thank you
18 guys for attending the Board meeting. As previously
19 mentioned, the Department of Technology web team is
20 looking into the process of what's going on with our
21 link. So you guys can see us when is been prerecorded.
22 We're still trying to figure that out. Trust me, we're
23 going to get through it. The team has fixed the link now,
24 I understand, and the public can view the Board meeting
25 video. I just want to say thank you to the team for all

1 those hard work. And we apologize to anyone that's tried
2 to visit our city's website and couldn't get access to
3 it. As a reminder, we have mentioned before video posts
4 still may be delayed as the city now has added close
5 caption.

6 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: So it takes a little time for
7 that to get inside there. So it's going to have to be
8 delayed for probably about a day. Hopefully, we can try
9 to speed that process up. Today on the agenda, we will
10 receive a presentation from our Office of Chief
11 Investigator the OIC. We look forward to his progress
12 report regarding our cases and overall productivity.
13 Additionally, we'll look forward to clarifying the record
14 towards ensuring factual information in this public
15 domain regarding our civilian oversight services, our OCI
16 case status, pandemic backlog reduction plan, efforts and
17 other key measures. We appreciate your interest in the
18 Office of the Chief Investigator, the OIC and hope that
19 this presentation will address and answer many questions
20 that you might have had regarding our efforts to provide
21 efficient and effective civilian oversized services. This
22 presentation will be given by Interim Board Secretary,
23 Mrs. White and Interim Chief Investigator Lawrence Akbar.

24 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I also want to remind the
25 citizen complaint committee members under the committee,

1 leadership of Chairperson, Ricardo Moore. We are counting
2 on you to review and evaluate these cases when they are
3 completed by our staff. So if you are on that committee,
4 please grab some cases and help move this process along.
5 Think about it. If you have 5 cases and you did 5 cases,
6 that's about a hundred. We can do it. That's a hundred.
7 We can do that. We can do it. Your efforts are just as
8 important, if not more important because our input final
9 review and evaluation citizens [Video Transmission
10 Offline] complaint members. I'm going to call out the
11 members, Chairperson, Ricardo Moore, Commissioners,
12 Cedric Banks, Willie Bell, and Willie Burton. If you are
13 not already reviewing cases now, please plan to do so.
14 This would ensure that we meet our goal of completing all
15 the cases in a timely, and effective manner.

16 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: On the citizen complaint
17 committee, we have our hours of public meetings and zoom
18 forms. These are open and public for anyone to ask a
19 question or raise a concern and get responses quickly. We
20 continue to be transparent to the community about all the
21 civilian oversight services that we deliver each day. One
22 of the duties of the Board Chair is to serve as the
23 Board's official spokesperson, which helps ensure
24 accurate information about the Board and its works. Staff
25 does a lot of work and we've added monthly committee

1 meetings to share even more. So if you want to get the
2 correct numbers or anything, correct, come to me. And if
3 I can't give them to you right away, trust me, I'm going
4 to call you back or email you back the information I can
5 get to you. Commissioners and public to ensure the
6 updates and awareness in even greater detail than our
7 actual weekly meeting because they come to me every day.
8 So what numbers you may have now, they're probably going
9 to be different 2 or 3 days later. Again, please utilize
10 these opportunities as well as contact staff, if you
11 would like to share recommendations, constructive
12 recommendations, or have any questions about this process
13 or progress today or your reference and as an update,
14 we'll receive the OCI presentation.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you Chief for being with
16 us today.

17 CHIEF WHITE: Yes, sir.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Again, we continue to uplift
19 the men and women of the Detroit Police Department as
20 everyone remains affected by the recent loss of fallen
21 Officer Loren Courts, an entire violent incident. This
22 was a beautiful home going ceremony and prayer vigil in
23 honor and memory of Officer Courts. Our community is here
24 to support you and the Department as you protect and
25 serve us. We do not take your service for granted. In

1 today's meeting, we look forward to receiving further
2 updates from you, Chief regarding crime updates, trends,
3 and patterns, and any other important information for our
4 awareness. We continue to appreciate all President
5 Biden's efforts to help law enforcement agencies and
6 communities to address rising crime where funding to hire
7 and train 100,000 additional officers and funds to help
8 clear court backlog, solve crimes and other key measures.

9 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: It's just great to have a
10 White House that shares our priorities for public safety
11 and constitutional policing. We have received several DPD
12 executive appointments from Chief White this week, and we
13 will take those up at the appropriate time. Plus, we will
14 be adding a closed session to our agenda today to take up
15 an applicant appeal of Martez Dixon. You have received
16 all of the information pertaining to the applicant
17 appeal. Hope you please review them for your packet so we
18 can make a fair decision. As a reminder, the Board
19 training schedule is for Saturday, this Saturday, the
20 23rd, 2022 from 8:30 AM until 1:30 PM. Board members,
21 please plan to attend. Please, plan to attend. You will
22 receive important details. Training topics include team
23 building, OCI investigation process, and other training.
24 Refreshments will be provided, lunch, breakfast. I'm
25 going to give you something to eat so you can go home. We

1 look forward to your attendance and please participate. I
2 look forward to your input. I really do. I want to hear
3 from every last one of you. All right, Chief, sir?

4 CHIEF WHITE: All right, good afternoon, honorable
5 Board. I will start with my report. I'll start with the
6 update on the injured officers. We currently have 6
7 members of the department who are disabled or recovering
8 at home due to on duty injuries. We have 1 sergeant from
9 the 2nd Precinct, a police officer from TSS, a police
10 officer from Commercial Auto Theft. 1 officer from the
11 9th Precinct and 2 police officers from the 7th Precinct.
12 Our COVID numbers are moving in the right direction. We
13 recognize that COVID is just going to be something that's
14 part of life for a pretty long time. But the numbers are
15 moving in the right direction. We have 21 members
16 currently quarantined or isolated. We had 30 last week 19
17 members who are positive and we wish them well, we had 27
18 last week. Our crime numbers, getting into the homicides.
19 We're looking at a 10% reduction in criminal homicides
20 and 9% reduction in sexual assaults, a 14% reduction in
21 aggravated assaults, a 16% reduction in non-fatal
22 shootings, a 4% reduction in robberies.

23 CHIEF WHITE: And these are year to date as you're
24 aware. But we do have a 32% increase in carjackings. The
25 Lieutenant over our carjacking unit is looking at each

1 case individually. We have recognized some patterns that
2 is worth looking into. And we've also candidly recognized
3 some fraud that we think we have identified. So, we'll be
4 moving forward on prosecuting or attempting to prosecute
5 those and submitting the appropriate warrants. With
6 regards to our drag racing detail from Friday of last
7 week until Sunday, 12 traffic stops, no citations issued,
8 1 vehicle impounded, 1 stolen vehicle recovered, 4 felony
9 arrests and 1 weapon recovered. And even though those are
10 robust numbers those are moving in a different direction
11 as well. The numbers are coming down. So our work is
12 paying off. Ideally we're not arresting anyone, they're
13 just not drag racing and drifting in our city. That's the
14 goal.

15 CHIEF WHITE: Overall, just to give you some context
16 in those numbers. Beginning April 1st of this year, with
17 this detail, 275 traffic stops, 197 tickets issued 73
18 vehicles impounded, 2 stolen vehicles, 27 felony arrests,
19 8 misdemeanor arrests and 20 weapons recovered. And so
20 the weapons issue is going to be a common theme as I get
21 into some significant incident notifications, starting
22 with the first one. A triple shooting that occurred July
23 14th at 1:30, in the area of Learned and Orleans. The
24 victims were all males in their 20s, driving a 2020
25 burgundy Ford Edge when a black Jeep with tinted windows

1 pulled up alongside and fired multiple shots into the
2 vehicle. We know that the victims were intended targets.
3 The investigation still is open and the detectives are
4 working the case. No additional information on that one
5 yet. We had another triple shooting, July 17th at 1:00
6 AM, 16,000 block of Liberal.

7 CHIEF WHITE: Let's see, the victims were attending a
8 family party when an unknown subject walked by and began
9 firing multiple gunshots in the direction of the victims.
10 Officers from the 9th Precinct were in the area when they
11 heard the shots. They responded to a ShotSpotter
12 notification about the incident which provided the area
13 of the gunshots. While on the way to the area of the
14 gunshots, the officers encountered 2020 Dodge Charger
15 traveling at a high rate of speed. They were able to
16 initiate a traffic stop and it resulted in two
17 individuals being arrested for legal gun possession. One
18 of the arrested individuals matched the clothing of the
19 suspected shooter. Again, ShotSpotter brought us there
20 timely and we were able to stop the vehicle as it
21 attempted to flee. And we're pretty confident that we've
22 got that murderer off the street.

23 CHIEF WHITE: The third incident, another triple
24 shooting July 18, 11:17 PM, 12,000 block of Duchess. The
25 victims were a 27 year old male, 31 year old male, 31

1 year old female. They were attending a candlelight vigil
2 for someone else who had been shot. A fight started
3 between two unknown individuals, which escalated to
4 multiple shots being fired. An offender has been
5 identified in this matter. Officers are attempting to
6 arrest this offender and the information regarding this
7 incident is being submitted to Wayne County Prosecutor's
8 Office. Again, keeping with this theme of these weapons
9 in our community, which again is so important that we've
10 got the tools necessary to combat this problem

11 CHIEF WHITE: A 12-year-old and you'll remember two
12 weeks ago, we had a 14-year-old, I believe at the
13 Riverfront apartments but a 12-year-old on July 19th,
14 9:00 PM, 11,000 block of Bramell. He, and 3 other
15 teenagers were in the basement. We have information that
16 they were playing around with a couple weapons, perhaps
17 making a TikTok video, holding those weapons. We're
18 looking into that the 13-year-old, I believe it was a
19 cousin, but don't hold me to that. But one of the young
20 people there discharged the firearm striking a decedent
21 in the chest once and just an unnecessary, sad situation.

22 CHIEF WHITE: To Lieutenant, Captain Blackwell was
23 assigned to Techs ops. Upon her appointment to the rank
24 of captain. She was assigned to the 11th Precinct,
25 Special Victims Unit where, I'm sorry, the 11th Precinct

1 and later the Special Victims Unit where she's currently
2 assigned as the Unit's Commanding Officer. Captain
3 Blackwell has an associate degree in business, a
4 bachelor's degree in business management and leadership.
5 And she's currently enrolled in Cleary's MBA program,
6 additional note for Captain Blackwell. Her dad is retired
7 Chief of Police, Chester Logan, and he gave me my first
8 senior management appointment to deputy chief, and then
9 later appointed me to assistant chief. So I'm honored to
10 be able to promote and pay it forward a very worthy,
11 capable, competent professional, and his daughter,
12 Kimberly Blackwell.

13 COMMISSIONER HOLT: All right.

14 CAPTAIN BLACKWELL: Thank you, Chief.

15 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Through the Chair. I moved
16 that we accept Chief of Police James E. White's
17 recommendation for executive appointment to the rank of
18 commander for Captain Kimberly Blackwell.

19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Support.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Any discussion? All in favor.

21 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

22 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All opposed? Congratulations.

23 COMMANDER BLACKWELL: Thank you, sir. Thank you for
24 this honor award and thank you to the Chief for believing
25 in me. Thank you, sir.

1 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I have a question. We made this
2 recommendation to commander earlier last year, I believe,
3 and I believe she was also one of the executive member's
4 appointees who demonstrated a 100% stellar record. And it
5 was so encouraging to see at that point, an appointment
6 that presented that kind of law enforcement records. So
7 thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Awesome.

9 CHIEF WHITE: Next step is Lieutenant Heather Cameron
10 who is a 21 year veteran of the Detroit Police
11 Department. During her time as an officer, she worked at
12 the 9th Precinct Patrol Child Abuse Unit. As a Sergeant
13 she served in the Northeastern District and the Eastern
14 District as a patrol supervisor and in the 9th Precinct
15 administration as a supervisor of NPOs, also the
16 ceasefire team. She served as a civil rights liaison when
17 Lieutenant Cameron was promoted to the rank of
18 Lieutenant, she was assigned to the 7th Precinct as the
19 officer in charge of special operations and the ceasefire
20 unit. Additionally, she has worked in the 9th Precinct
21 Crime Intelligence Unit, as well as the 7th Precinct
22 Detective Unit, where she is currently the officer in
23 charge of the detectives. Lieutenant Cameron has her
24 bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a graduate
25 certificate in business administration from the Mike

1 Ilitch School of Business. Along with Lieutenant
2 Cameron's education and competence, she was nominated as
3 a woman in blue nominate for 2021. Furthermore, she's
4 completed the women in leadership institute offered by
5 the International Association of Chiefs of Police. My
6 pleasure to recommend her for captain.

7 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Through the Chair. I move that we
8 accept Chief White's recommendation for executive
9 appointment to the rank of captain of Lieutenant Derrick
10 Griffin.

11 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: No, no.

12 MS. WHITE: Heather Cameron.

13 CHIEF WHITE: Heather Cameron.

14 MS. WHITE: Lieutenant Heather Cameron.

15 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Through the Chair. I recommend that
16 we accept Chief White's recommendation for executive
17 appointment to the rank of captain to Lieutenant Heather
18 Cameron.

19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Support.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Any discussion? All in favor.

21 COMMISSIONERS: Aye,

22 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Any oppose? Congratulations.

23 CHIEF WHITE: Finally, Lieutenant Derrick Griffin,
24 but I think he's already been voted on so we can just

25 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Okay. Sorry.

1 CHIEF WHITE: Lieutenant Griffin is a 22 year veteran
2 of the Detroit Police Department. During his time as an
3 officer, he worked at TSS D-Dot Unit on the Southwestern
4 District and 2nd Precinct. In his role as sergeant, he
5 worked with the 6th and 8th Precincts as a patrol
6 supervisor. He also worked in Internal Affairs, Public
7 Corruption Task Force, and Homicide as a team lead.
8 Following his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant,
9 Lieutenant Griffin was assigned to 11th Precinct as the
10 officer in charge of special operations and ceasefire
11 unit. He has also served in his current position as the
12 officer in charge, or I'm sorry. He also serves in his
13 current position as the officer in charge of the 3rd
14 Precinct Detective Unit. So he's the lead on the
15 Detective Unit of the 3rd Precinct. Lieutenant Griffin
16 has his bachelor's degree in communications and a
17 graduate certificate in business from the Mike Ilitch
18 School of Business. My pleasure to recommend him to the
19 position of captain.

20 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes.

22 MR. BROWN: Newly Captain Griffin is on zoom. He
23 would like to speak if that's okay?

24 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Wait until we vote him in
25 first. Tell him to hold on one second.

1 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: He may not want to speak.

2 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Mr. Chairman. I like to make a
3 motion to accept Chief of Police, James E. White's
4 recommendation for executive appointment to the rank of
5 captain for Lieutenant Derrick Griffin.

6 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Second.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Any discussion? All in favor.

8 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

9 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All oppose? Congratulations.
10 Thank you. Now you can give your spiel.

11 MR. BROWN: Captain Griffin.

12 CAPTAIN GRIFFIN: Through the Chair. Can you hear me?

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We can hear you.

14 CAPTAIN GRIFFIN: Good afternoon. Through the Chair,
15 the Board and certainly the Chief. I appreciate the
16 confidence that the Chief has in me. And this is my 24th
17 year with the city. I can say probably that I have not
18 used a sick day that shows my commitment to the job and
19 to the citizens as well. While I've worked responding to
20 fatal incidents and non-fatal incidents through homicide
21 and through the Precinct Detective Units, I'll say that
22 it has been my pleasure. I will continue to live up to
23 the creed and the professionalism that is expected by the
24 Chief and the citizens. I do have an admission to make.
25 There have been just a few times that I have missed a

1 call when I was working at Homicide and my wife was nice
2 enough to wake me up so that I could respond. So I can
3 say that through this appointment I certainly have the
4 support of my wife and my family, and the department is
5 not only getting one captain, but two captains for the
6 price of one. So thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER Pressley: Congratulations.

8 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Sounds like he wants a raise.

9 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Through the Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes.

11 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Please, I'd like to make one more
12 comment about Assistant Chief Eric Ewing. Well, I know at
13 one time he was very engaged in the community summit
14 training. And that's an opportunity for law enforcement
15 members, as well as citizens to come together to develop
16 an attitude as it relates to how we both feel citizens
17 and law enforcement members might feel when we have an
18 encounter. And it's quite enlightening, citizens are
19 surprised that law enforcement members are citizens. And
20 of course, on the flip side, the law enforcement members
21 who participate in that training, recognize the
22 commonality between themselves and citizens. So that's
23 what I was distracted about as it relates to Assistant
24 Chief Eric Ewing.

25 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you.

1 CHIEF WHITE: If I may. And that's one of the things
2 I'm most excited about those restorative practices,
3 working with the community to talk through how they feel
4 about interacting with the police and some of the things
5 that's happened. In his new role, he's going to take that
6 citywide and it's not going to just be the 5th or the
7 11th Precinct. We're going to now look for him to work
8 with the chief neighborhood liaison and take that program
9 throughout our whole city.

10 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: I personally highly recommend it.

11 CHIEF WHITE: Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Through the Chair. Chief, is
13 that going to be like the new Todd Bettison or...?

14 CHIEF WHITE: Well, there'll never be a new Todd
15 Bettison, but he will certainly fill a big piece of that
16 role. Working with the community, working with chief
17 neighborhood liaison, tech ops and on the new war chart,
18 you'll see he's got a big slice of a lot of community
19 engagement and with the mindset that we're going to be
20 moving, those restorative practices citywide .

21 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Got you.

22 CHIEF WHITE: And I'm excited for him.

23 COMMISSIONER MOORE: And your new deputy chief is
24 going to bring and do, you know, where is she going to be
25 positioned at?

1 CHIEF WHITE: She's going to be over the East side.

2 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Oh, really?

3 CHIEF WHITE: And give her a new look of the
4 different side of town.

5 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Got you.

6 CHIEF WHITE: She's had significant success at the
7 10th Precinct and we're going to see if she can replicate
8 that citywide.

9 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I'm familiar with her works at
10 the 10th Precinct.

11 CHIEF WHITE: Yes, sir. Absolutely. And I'm very
12 happy with all of them because one of the considerations
13 of these appointments are that they're responsive to the
14 community. So I'll be looking for that and for that
15 responsiveness.

16 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, Chief.

17 CHIEF WHITE: All right. Thank you all.

18 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you for these
19 recommendations.

20 CHIEF WHITE: Yes, ma'am.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: And now we're going to have a
22 presentation to the Board. It's going to be the 21st-
23 century policing.

24 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Through the Chair, just before
25 Executive Manager, Raven Alfred makes her way to the

1 podium, please note that this again is the Department's
2 presentation on 21st-century policing at the Board's
3 request regarding sharing it status on the President
4 Obama's goals for 21st-century community policing and the
5 Board previously approved a resolution back in August of
6 2020. And again, it outlined the various items that are
7 outlined in the President Task Force on 21st-century
8 policing. And again, we continue to work with the
9 Department to make sure that all of those items are
10 addressed. You did receive an extensive report in that
11 regard, and you also have the PowerPoint presentation
12 before you that Ms. Alfred will be presenting from. Thank
13 you so much. Thank you. Ms. Alfred, you have 10 minutes.
14 I've timed it, so I should be okay.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I love it. I've timed it. I
16 like that.

17 MS. ALFRED: Good afternoon, honorable Board. My name
18 is Raven Alfred, and I am the Executive Manager of
19 Planning Research and Deployment for DPD, and as Interim
20 Board Secretary Melanie White mentioned the Board tasked
21 DPD with providing responses to how we're adhering to
22 21st-century policing. And in the interest of time, this
23 presentation will provide a very brief overview of some
24 of the responses that were given to you in the final
25 report. Next slide please.

1 MS. ALFRED: So just to give you an overview of how
2 21st-century policing came about. In December, 2014,
3 former President Barack Obama issued an executive order
4 appointing 11 members to a task force on 21st-century
5 policing. And their mission was to identify best
6 practices and make recommendations on how policing can
7 promote crime production all the while, excuse me, crime
8 reduction, all the while building community trust. And in
9 considering this, the task force operated under 6 pillars
10 and they are: number 1, building trust and legitimacy.
11 Number 2, policy and oversight, number 3, technology and
12 social media, number 4, community policing and crime
13 reduction, number 5, training and education, and number
14 6, officer wellness and safety. And this task force
15 identified 59 recommendations and 92 action items for
16 local federal and tribal law enforcement agencies, as
17 well as schools. Next slide please. So of these 59
18 recommendations and 92 action items, only 24
19 recommendations and 41 action items apply to DPD and this
20 was because in their final report, it was a comprehensive
21 document for the local federal, tribal law enforcement.
22 And we only identified with those responses that were
23 applicable to us as a local law enforcement agency. Next
24 slide please.

25 MS. ALFRED: So the document we submitted to you,

1 honorable Board was 30 pages. And while I would love to
2 sit here and go through each individual response, we
3 would be here all night. So in the interest of time, I
4 just selected a few of the responses to provide an
5 overview. And how I've done this is that with those 6
6 pillars identified by the task force, I provided a couple
7 responses for each pillar. So the first pillar is
8 building trust and legitimacy. And the recommendation of
9 this pillar was being sure that we established a culture
10 of transparency and accountability, in addition to
11 initiating non-enforcement activities with the community.
12 And we responded to these by mentioning the open data
13 portal and crime viewer, which both give the public
14 access to valuable data. And with it being the summer
15 months, and it is warmer, we're able to engage with our
16 community even more with events, such as Chief Whites
17 walk-a-mile Wednesdays.

18 MS. ALFRED: And we have our new program that just
19 started this week, DPD prep summer camp, which is an
20 opportunity for Detroit students to learn about service
21 through law enforcement. And next week, we have a dancing
22 in the day event happening at Spirit Plaza, where our
23 officers are going to be able to have fun and dance with
24 the citizens of Detroit. We're going to see who has the
25 best dance skills of the Department. Next slide, please.

1 And the next pillar is policy and oversight. And the task
2 force recommended that we collaborate with the community
3 to develop policies and to also have a policy that speaks
4 to how we engage with the LGBTQ Plus community during
5 search and seizures. And as you all know, DPD has a very
6 close relationship with the honorable Board, and we
7 especially appreciate how you're able to integrate public
8 feedback for our policies that are under your review. And
9 with the LGBTQ plus community, we do have a policy and it
10 speaks to how officers are expected to ask if there's a
11 gender preference when conducting searches. And this
12 preference is going to be honored at all times. And in
13 making sure that we're ensuring our training and
14 education on this community, we have dedicated members
15 such as Corporal Danny Woods, who serves as our LGBTQ
16 Plus liaison, where she prioritizes making sure that our
17 department is always inclusive. Next slide, please.

18 MS. ALFRED: The next pillar is technology and social
19 media. And the action items we're given that we address
20 technology's impact on privacy and make sure we're always
21 communicating with citizens swiftly in the event of
22 serious incidents. So thanks to the community input over
23 government surveillance ordinance, we're required to
24 write a report as well as include discussions with the
25 community on possible impacts these technologies may

1 cause and how we might prevent these negative impacts
2 from happening overall. And also you all know, the Chief
3 speaks very publicly and often about incidents that may
4 occur. And he always tries to provide as much information
5 as he can. And we also have our amazing media relations
6 team that keeps our multiple media platforms active
7 informing citizens of information about events as they
8 occur. Next slide please.

9 MS. ALFRED: So the next pillar is community policing
10 and crime reduction. And here the task force recommended
11 that we infuse community policing throughout our
12 department and work with citizens to promote public
13 safety. And our chief's neighborhood liaison division has
14 our office of workplace and community resiliency, which
15 was formerly known as our office of internal and external
16 relations. And this unit has entities such as peer
17 support, mental health co-response, PAL and many others
18 that promote community policing. And in addition to this,
19 community meetings are held so that citizens have an
20 opportunity to discuss recent crime patterns in their
21 areas and how our department responded.

22 MS. ALFRED: Next slide, please. The next pillar is
23 training and education and the task force provided a
24 recommendation for us to provide leadership training to
25 all members and to make sure basic recruit and in service

1 training are in alignment with policing in a democratic
2 society. So along with our training operating under
3 MCOLES standards, we have partnered with Wayne State
4 University to offer a leadership academy to all of our
5 members. And also more recently, we had over 100 members
6 participate in a commencement ceremony, honoring their
7 graduation from Cleary University where they receive
8 bachelor's degrees, master's degrees or certifications in
9 project management. Next slide please.

10 MS. ALFRED: And the last pillar speaks to officer
11 wellness and safety. And the task force suggested that we
12 promote wellness and safety at every level of our
13 department while also providing support counselors to our
14 members and DPD prioritizes the safety and wellness of
15 our members through initiatives and programs that promote
16 their wellbeing such as DPD fit and special events that
17 we may have such as the free event that happened on June
18 30th for our members and the community free to them that
19 included massages, panel discussions, healthcare
20 screenings, food trucks, et cetera. And specifically with
21 our peer support team, they provide emotional support and
22 resources to our members and the members of peer support
23 team are trained to respond to critical incidents. Next
24 slide. And that concludes my presentation. Thank you all
25 for your time. And through the Chair, I welcome any

1 questions that you may have.

2 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Fantastic. I like it. That was
3 awesome. Just enough. And you have one of the students
4 from Cleary in the room and that would be Lieutenant Mark
5 Young. He graduated with big honors Congratulations Mark.
6 Young, Lieutenant. Questions. Commissioner Banks.

7 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I'm all set.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Fantastic. Commissioner
9 Hernandez.

10 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: No questions.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner Burton.

12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Yes. Mr. Chairman. I'd like it,
13 if we go to another Commissioner and I come back with my
14 question in a minute or two.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay. Commissioner Pressley.

16 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: An excellent report. No
17 question.

18 MS. ALFRED: Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Commissioner Moore.

20 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You
21 said there's a 30 page document.

22 MS. ALFRED: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER MOORE: And is that a public document or
24 is it...?

25 MS. ALFRED: Not at this time, but the Board was

1 given this report and it includes all of our responses to
2 the action items and recommendations for 21st-century
3 policing.

4 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you.

5 MS. ALFRED: You're welcome.

6 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioners, you got that
7 report because I just got it again, it just blinged on my
8 phone a few seconds ago. Is that right?

9 MS. WHITE: Yes.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Up to date, again. We just got
11 it again. So we got it twice. So that means 30 page would
12 be 60. Commissioner Bell.

13 COMMISSIONER BELL: No question. Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner Carter.

15 COMMISSIONER CARTER: No questions. Just to comment.
16 It's good to see that we're moving in the right
17 direction. That's my comment. Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Fantastic.

19 MS, ALFRED: Yes, I agree.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: That's a good one. You're
21 ready now, Commissioner Burton?

22 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Absolutely. On behalf of the
23 citizens of Detroit you know, another layer in building
24 community trust is when the Detroit Police Department is
25 using technology where we don't even hear from the

1 vendors, we don't even hear from those companies in
2 regard to how technologies are being used and should be
3 in that technology and for starters and what is the
4 return on investment. And so a lot of this is, you know,
5 Detroiters will love to hear more about and learn more
6 about, but also feel like they are included in that type
7 of discussion.

8 MS. ALFRED: Through the Chair. So as mentioned in
9 the COGIS ordinance, we are required to provide that
10 community input for technology that we wish to provide to
11 the citizens of Detroit. So with that report, we are
12 being transparent in making sure the community has a say
13 and their responsiveness on whether or not they want this
14 technology to be implemented in their areas. And we just
15 have an open discussion to make sure that what we're
16 implementing in this city is something that is welcomed
17 by the citizens of Detroit.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes. For the record, every
19 piece of technology that comes through that the Police
20 Department uses it comes through the Board too. And the
21 Board writes policies for that. So just want to let
22 everybody know it writes policy for that technology.

23 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chair. Two seconds please.

24 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We have to move. Come on.

25 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: A very nice report and I thank

1 you for it. No questions.

2 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: No questions. VC Holt.

3 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Now, are
4 there opportunities for this presentation to be made
5 directly to citizens? Is that part of your process?

6 MS. ALFRED: Through the Chair, I'll look into seeing
7 if this could be publicly accessible.

8 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you.

9 MS. ALFRED: You're welcome.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I see Commissioner Bernard
11 just popped in.

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All right, you're welcome.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: No questions.

15 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.

16 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: And thank you for your
17 presentation.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you so much.

19 MS. ALFRED: Thank you all so much.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you so much for your
21 presentation.

22 MS. ALFRED: Have a great one.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All right. You too.

24 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair.

25 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes.

1 MS. WHITE: If I may also mention just from the Board
2 staff standpoint. Again, as Ms. Alfred mentioned earlier,
3 we do work very closely with the department's
4 professional development team and of course the entire
5 department, but I also would like to mention, in addition
6 to Ms. Alfred, director of professional development Ms.
7 Nazneen Miah, who was also present today. So just wanted
8 to note the record. And again, Board staff continued to
9 review and evaluate the 30 page document on your behalf,
10 and also continue to work with the Detroit Police
11 Department in ensuring that the policies and
12 recommendations in that report are adhered to thank you
13 so much.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Fantastic. Thank you. All
15 right. Now we have the presentation right now. This is
16 one I'm looking forward to, is the Office of Chief
17 Investigator, Interim Chief Lawrence Akbar. Yes. I see
18 him coming to the podium now.

19 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair again if I may just mention,
20 through the Chair, I would like to give just some
21 background context before Interim Chief Investigator
22 Akbar begins the presentation, but if you can just go
23 ahead and share your introduction and then I can give the
24 contacts.

25 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: Good afternoon honorable Board

1 and the community and the DPD executives. I'm looking
2 forward to give you some great information today. So
3 thank you.

4 MS. WHITE: Thank you so much. Through the Chair,
5 before going into my brief remarks, I would like to thank
6 Interim Chief Investigator Lawrence Akbar, Supervising
7 Investigator Rosalia Madrigal, and Ms. Theresa Blossom
8 from BOPC admin regarding the work and contribution for
9 today's presentation. I'm sure that it will serve as a
10 valuable tool and share a lot of great updates in regard
11 to OCIs progress and processes at this time. So with that
12 as you know, honor Board my background with the Board of
13 Police Commissioners is in investigations, having started
14 as an investigator and working as a senior investigator
15 before promotion to policy manager, and recently Interim
16 Board Secretary, which includes overseeing OCI. The need
17 to resolve the pandemic backlog, gave all of us an
18 opportunity to put fresh eyes on OCI processes and our
19 effectiveness.

20 MS. WHITE: The last major changes were almost a
21 decade ago, and I'll repeat that. The last major changes
22 for OCI were almost a decade ago in terms of evaluating
23 its procedures and processes. And that was when Mr. Akbar
24 led OCI into compliance with the consent decree and
25 earned praise from the Justice Department for his work in

1 the case closure processes. Since then many Board staff
2 members had training and consultation with other civilian
3 oversight practitioners and agencies. Our dialogue about
4 the pandemic backlog was not only about how to reduce the
5 backlog, but also about how to make positive changes to
6 our processes and to better serve the public period. This
7 also became essential because as many organizations and
8 the whole industries are now see the pandemic also made
9 staffing shortages, part of the new normal. As a result
10 of the pandemic backlog, we also reviewed and evaluated
11 our current practices of complaint, investigations,
12 processes, and procedures.

13 MS. WHITE: I am happy to report today that we have
14 identified some key areas that will substantially improve
15 our overall efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency
16 to the public. Also, with the adjustments, we will be
17 able to deliver quality services in connection with the
18 DPD to our constituents, whether that's investigating
19 police misconduct, to identify areas for retraining
20 counseling and or discipline, or providing immediate
21 resolution regarding those complaints where complainants
22 need and are requesting immediate service. Also regarding
23 the reporting. And this is very, very important. While we
24 have attempted to be as accurate as possible in our
25 reporting, our priority has always been on investigating

1 cases first and foremost, then doing reporting at the
2 tail end. So during this time, we also had an opportunity
3 to reevaluate our reporting process and format to ensure
4 we were reflecting the actual case closures and the
5 progress in closing investigations and cases.

6 MS. WHITE: So now we are evaluating our processes to
7 make sure that we actually count the cases that we close
8 and that we show our progress. However again, we
9 acknowledge that our reporting was not as clear as it
10 needed to be. However, OCI has made great progress in
11 actual case closures. And we are glad to report today
12 that this progress includes the OCI case backlog project,
13 and our numbers will reflect this fact moving forward.
14 Last week, we reported that we had a total of 850 cases
15 as far as our backlog cases were concerned. As a result
16 of our review and analysis into our data process and
17 submission of cases, we have identified that we have
18 decreased that total by almost 100 cases. And moving
19 forward, we expect the updated reporting process to
20 clearly show actual status. Our case investigation
21 process was such that one would never see completed cases
22 drop off because the existing reporting format focused on
23 the cycle of accepting complaints.

24 MS. WHITE: And that's understandable because
25 investigators need to be assigned to incoming complaints.

1 However, that's also a cycle that never ends. So again,
2 OCI is always available to accept complaints, but this
3 new format will clearly show the stage where the
4 investigation concludes and a case is closed. The new
5 format also will clearly show the stage that allows any
6 other administrative process to occur that has nothing to
7 do with the case closure. So I will show you if you look
8 at your presentations that are in your packet this
9 afternoon, you will see the next slide includes the
10 actual OCI year-to-date numbers, and they are as follows:
11 So starting with February, where we were at the start of
12 the backlog project, the total number of cases under
13 investigation at that time were 1019. And the total
14 number of backlog cases were 766. Year-to-date 2022, the
15 total number of cases currently under investigation were,
16 or are 990. And our total number of backlog cases are
17 779.

18 MS. WHITE: Now, if I can just mention, in addition
19 to these numbers, we are reviewing and are evaluating
20 service related complaints. Again, those complaints where
21 constituents and complainants just simply want immediate
22 police service, reviewing and evaluating those
23 complaints, which total now, approximately 80 cases, and
24 another 230 cases that have been flagged to identify
25 whether or not they involve alleged police misconduct. So

1 we forecast at least 75 cases will be closed within the
2 next two weeks, in addition to what staff is continuing
3 to turn in and close each and every single day. And also
4 with that we want to acknowledge that we are focusing our
5 efforts on those cases that fall within the timeframe of
6 one year from the date of the incident as it relates to
7 police misconduct. If we find that the officer will be
8 sustained, we're focusing our efforts in that regard to
9 make sure that we can quickly close those cases and get
10 it to DPD so that they can take the appropriate action
11 that they need to in terms of corrective or appropriate
12 or corrective disciplinary action, or simply retraining
13 or counseling.

14 MS. WHITE: So we are focusing our efforts in that
15 regard. And if I can also note on average, OCI has closed
16 and continues to close 105 cases per month since the
17 start of the backlog project in February, 2022. So that
18 is excellent. Again, OCI is making substantial,
19 tremendous progress every single day. And we believe that
20 with these new efforts and these processes that we have
21 reevaluated that that will put us in the right direction
22 towards completing the backlog cases by the end of the
23 year, as we have previously said. And then just very
24 quickly, and then I am all done. The next slide includes
25 the OCI CCRS received and closed for this year. So you

1 have a month- to-month comparison dating back to
2 February, 2022 to year-to-date current. And it basically
3 indicates the number of cases that we have received each
4 month. And I'll just give an example from February, 2022,
5 we received 115 cases, February, 2022, we closed 111. So
6 you can see the number of incoming cases that we have
7 each month, but also the number that we are actually
8 closing down. And you see at the bottom, the numbers of
9 cases that are over 90 days.

10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: So, excuse me, Mr. Chair.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Wait, wait, wait. She's not
12 done yet.

13 MS. WHITE: So with that I was just done and just
14 wanted to say again, OCI is making tremendous progress
15 and we thank the honorable Board for its support in
16 helping us actually do the work and do what needs to be
17 done in terms of identifying and evaluating those
18 measures that needed to be reassessed. Like I said, over
19 a decade ago, no changes have been made. So we had to,
20 not only look at the backlog itself, we had to look at
21 the total picture in the overall organization. And with
22 that, Interim Chief Investigator.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: One quick, second, I would
24 like to tell the public and for the record that I've been
25 in constant contact with Interim Chief Investigator

1 Lawrence Akbar and Interim Secretary Melanie, and
2 actually the Chairperson of the complaint committee,
3 Commissioner Moore. So we've been working hard to try to
4 get this thing done correctly and right. Because when I
5 came on here, I figured we can figure this out. And you
6 just heard Interim Secretary Melanie White said there
7 were some problems and she corrected them quickly. We are
8 not kicking this can down the road. So with that being
9 said, go right ahead, your 10 minutes, sir.

10 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: The mission of the Office of
11 the Chief Investigator is to fairly, effectively and
12 objectively receive, investigate and make recommendations
13 regarding complaints concerning the Detroit Police
14 Department.

15 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Can you speak up, if you don't
16 mind?

17 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: It is the goal of OCI to assist
18 in improving the quality of law enforcement services by
19 instilling citizens' confidence in the integrity of the
20 Detroit Police Department. In order to consistently meet
21 our mission, we must engage in the following. This is a
22 three step process. The first step is evaluation. We
23 triage complaints into service and alleged police
24 misconduct. Examples of that is: no one returned my
25 calls, the scout car never came to give a report about a

1 break in for my insurance. To be clear, these should be
2 separated out to be resolved immediately. Step two, case
3 status, ensure an accurate and transparent format to show
4 case status from intake to the final letter, to the
5 complainant, the format will show each stage of the
6 complaint and investigation process, including closures
7 currently, and back log.

8 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: Step three, important. Engage
9 in constant improvement of OCI complaint, investigation
10 process for effective, and efficient 21st-century
11 oversight measures, to focus investigations on police
12 misconduct. That's very important. We are focusing on
13 police misconduct. Our review and evaluation of the
14 citizen complaint investigation process has led to the
15 following: engagements of continuous improvement of OCI
16 to align with efficiency and effective methods. There are
17 three of them, resolution one, clear, accurate reporting
18 and timeliness. We're tackling this situation with all
19 three of these. Citizen complaint investigation process,
20 five components parse this. First one, the intake
21 process. Citizen files a complaint. Step number two, we
22 evaluate and triage complaints into service as alleged
23 police misconduct. The third one, service complaint,
24 mediation option misconduct allegation elevate to a full
25 investigation. Four, the complainant is notified via U.S.

1 mail a letter that includes the complainant's complaint
2 number and the actual information to contact the
3 investigator. That's important. We keep in contact with
4 our complainants. We keep them informed and part of the
5 process. Five, the investigative process is a 90 day
6 timeline for us, for us to complete our investigation.
7 Citizen complaint, investigation process. We identified
8 the areas of concern, and this is what we investigate,
9 police misconduct, arrest demeanor, entry, force,
10 procedure, property, search and service. And here are
11 investigative findings, sustained and conclusive
12 exonerated unfounded. Recommendations include the
13 appropriate and or corrective action and policy
14 recommendation, administrative closures. These are
15 samples of administrative closures. No misconduct
16 transfers, no participation by the complainant, but we
17 still investigate the case. DPD member no longer works
18 for the department, as separate. We close those as
19 administrative closures, informal complaint resolutions.
20 We close those when it's the only complainant about
21 service, he failed to call me back. Innocence of a
22 charge. We're talking about people receiving tickets and
23 the Office of the Chiefs Investigator do not solve ticket
24 problems. That is taken care of in the court. Citizen
25 complaint investigation process, approval process.

1 Investigations are approved by supervising investigators,
2 chief investigator, and the Board of Police
3 Commissioners. We're now moving to the DPD disciplinary
4 administration. DPD issues discipline based on OCI
5 recommendations regarding sustained cases and DPD
6 provides the results to the Board of Police
7 Commissioners. BOPC OCI complaints, helps determine
8 patterns, trends regarding alleged misconduct and the
9 Board and DPD are able to enhance DPD policy procedure
10 based on the citizen complaint investigations. Those
11 investigations are very important.

12 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: BOPC OCI complaints are always
13 used in civil litigation, risk management and other civil
14 oversight and public safety measures. Department of
15 justice consent decree definitions, and these definitions
16 are important, because it talks about what we actually
17 investigate. Complaint, the term complaint means an
18 allegation from any source of any misconduct by DPD
19 personnel. Misconduct, the term means any conduct by a
20 DPD employee that violates DPD policy or the law. Again,
21 year-to-date, as mentioned by Interim Secretary of the
22 Board, Ms. White, as she stated previously in her slide
23 presentation, 1019 cases were under investigation in
24 February. 756 of them were backlog and year-to-date, OCI
25 has 900 cases under investigation. 779 are backlog cases.

1 So I want to reemphasize our engagement and commitment in
2 the evaluation process, we are reviewing approximately 80
3 service related complaints and another 230 cases that
4 have been flagged to identify whether or not they
5 involved alleged police misconduct, very important,
6 police misconduct. That's what we're looking at.

7 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: We forecast that at least 75
8 cases will be closed within the next two weeks in
9 addition to what staff has closed. So we're making
10 progress in terms of closing these cases. An average of
11 OCI cases that we closed per month is 105 per month since
12 the backlog project was launched in February. Keep in
13 mind how large our staff is. We have a small staff and
14 they're working their tails off, literally to assist
15 citizens to close these complaints. We are making
16 tremendous progress and you will see a reduction in the
17 backlog due to the measures that we have identified.
18 We're on the right track to provide efficient and
19 effective civilian oversight services regarding our
20 citizens' complaint, police misconduct, and
21 investigations.

22 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: Commissioners. I just want to
23 let you know the OCI June report that I usually give, the
24 2022 report is in your package for your review. Also,
25 Commissioners, I will bring OCI cases for the Board to

1 review to every Thursday BOPC meeting. I will also pick
2 up those approved cases at the Thursday meeting. I
3 personally want to thank my staff. Okay. My staff and I
4 want to say that again. I thank my staff for the hard
5 work and time that they're putting in on these cases,
6 trying to clear up this backlog and serve the community.
7 And I want to give special thanks to the three new
8 investigators who we've trained and they have turned in
9 13 cases so far. Okay. 13 and they're working hard.

10 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: What I want to talk about right
11 now is how to file a police misconduct complaint. And
12 this is for the citizens. You can file it by either
13 coming to our office located at 900 Merrill Plaisance,
14 which is in Palmer Park, 900 Merrill Plaisance. You can
15 call us on phone by phone. Our office hours for receiving
16 phone complaints is 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Anything after
17 that, just simply leave your name and your phone number
18 and we will call the next business day. Our number is
19 (313) 596 2499, (313) 596 2499. Our fax number is (313)
20 596 2482. You can also file a complaint online
21 detroitmi.gov/bopc, detroitmimi.gov/bopc. You also can
22 file a complaint at any Precinct in the City of Detroit,
23 but make sure that you ask to speak to a supervisor who
24 will gladly take your complaint. And also too, you can
25 call our office if you have questions, whether or not you

1 think something is a police misconduct or not. My
2 investigators are trained and would be glad to answer
3 your questions. At this time, honorable Board, this is
4 the end of my presentation. I thank you for your time and
5 your patience. And if you have any questions, I'm here to
6 answer them.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I want to say, thank you. I
8 know I put a lot of on you two guys and the rest of the
9 staff in the last few days. And I just want to tell the
10 public that I got a chance to go over there and meet
11 every single one of the investigators. And I got a chance
12 to touch them and talk to them and they're some amazing
13 people for what they do. I want to say, thank you. This
14 is awesome. Thank you. And I want to tell the
15 Commissioners, remember Saturday, we're having an OCI
16 training. Saturday, we're having a training. So a lot of
17 the questions you may want to ask now, definitely we are
18 going to get them answered at that training session
19 Saturday. So keep that in mind. You might not get, them
20 all answered here today because we don't want to be
21 lengthy. So you'll have all the time in the world come
22 Saturday for our training session. Once again, thank you.
23 Thank you. That's all I ask. Thank you. Commissioner
24 Hernandez.

25 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Through the

1 Chair, I'll continue the thank you for the entire staff
2 and all the hard work and the diligent work that you're
3 doing. I have two simple questions and I perceive them to
4 be simple. First would be for the backlog cases, similar
5 to how on the monthly reports we have a CCR breakdown per
6 precinct and per finding. Could we get the same for the
7 backlog cases year-to-date? It would just be a simple
8 addition to the report you've already provided.

9 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: Not a problem.

10 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you so much. Second
11 item. I think I have an answer to, but I'll entertain
12 your thoughts on it. From April to June, we've seen a
13 downward trend in completed cases. What's the leading
14 factor? Has onboarding of the new inspectors been a
15 factor?

16 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: You mean, complaints coming in
17 or completed?

18 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Closure?

19 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: Oh, you're talking about
20 closure?

21 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: There's been a downward
22 trend. If you look at February, March 111, 129 and April
23 through June, it dips to below 83, 73 and 86.

24 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: At the time, if you can recall,
25 we were losing, well...

1 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Was it due to attrition is
2 what I'm asking and also onboarding staff.

3 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: With the onboard situation, as
4 you well aware, it takes time for us to train our
5 investigators and bring them up to par. It's a two, three
6 month intensive process. I'm proud to say that the three
7 that the Board has selected are very serious-minded and
8 they're taking our instruction and they're doing an
9 excellent job. Like I said, 13 reports and they're
10 getting them in and starting them off by scratch. And
11 they're doing a heck of a job. I can't praise them
12 enough.

13 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: So, other than the
14 additional seven postings that we're going to fill, what
15 other support can you get from this Board in terms of
16 onboarding in particular or do you feel that the new
17 hires are in a comfortable place?

18 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: All I ask is just the verbal
19 support, not necessarily just for myself, but for the
20 staff. They listen to these meetings. Okay. They need to
21 feel like somebody's behind them. Besides me being the
22 cheerleader. They need all 11 of you pushing them and
23 giving them praise and letting them know that the great
24 work they're doing is being appreciated. That right there
25 is going to help us go flying over the finish line.

1 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: I look forward to meeting
2 them as well. Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Awesome. Commissioner Banks.

4 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair. Peace and
5 blessings to you Interim Chief Akbar. First of all, I
6 just wanted to give you a much credit on your biography
7 that Interim Secretary read out. Great biography and also
8 just wanted to check on your wellbeing. Haven't seen you
9 in a long time, how you been, Interim Chief?

10 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: I'm fine. When you don't see me
11 at these meetings, I'm at that office investigating
12 cases, along with my staff. I've taken cases out of that
13 pile and has been out in the field, working, trying to
14 get those numbers down. So if I'm not here, that's what
15 I'm doing.

16 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay. Just was concerned about
17 your wellbeing. Haven't seen you in a while, but you look
18 good.

19 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER BANKS: You're welcome.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Fantastic. Commissioner Bell.

22 COMMISSIONER BELL: Yes, sir. I just want to state a
23 couple facts here. Basically former Commissioner Warfield
24 made mention of the fact that he somewhat scrutinized the
25 hiring process. Prior to that, it was a political

1 process. We were getting people not because they were
2 qualified, but because they were political connected and
3 Commissioner Hernandez. I mean, Holley can attest to,
4 there has always been a backlog. No one really took this
5 Board seriously in terms of citizens' complaint, non-
6 criminal citizens' complaint. So the staffing was always
7 understaffed. The budget, we did not control. So we've
8 come a long way. Even now we are understaffed that's the
9 reality. And also sometimes we don't want to talk about
10 it, but commissioners played a part of not doing their
11 major role in terms of investigating and signing off on
12 cases. That was a backlog. I know professionally, because
13 I worked in that office for four or five years. So we
14 come a long way, but the backlog was not highlighted
15 until the Justice Department came into being and they
16 scrutinized that.

17 COMMISSIONER BELL: And both Ms. White and Akbar was
18 part of that process of cleaning that up. But it was not
19 a concern of the council, the mayor, DPD. It was not a
20 concern. Commissioners didn't take it seriously. So all
21 of a sudden we make backlog, but in this day and age,
22 everybody's backlog from auto parts to healthier Wayne
23 County, you name it everybody's backlog. So we should not
24 try to blame our staff. Akbar is correct. When Chief
25 White comes here, he support his staff over and over

1 going every week, every week. And we somewhat time bash
2 something that we don't really understand. And you're
3 right, the training, we need to understand what we are
4 doing here and dealing with these. They took a deep dive
5 in terms of breaking this down and trying to work out
6 from under this, but who are the complaints like
7 demeanor? That's something we need the cooperation of
8 Chief White and DPD. That is the largest item that we
9 have the policy procedure. That's because we have a young
10 officer, but demeanor, I don't understand. That's
11 something, we see it on camera now, demeanor attitude. So
12 that's pretty much, let's take responsibility, and let's
13 support our staff. Hopefully, we can hire. We go before
14 council next year with a budget. We need more staff. It's
15 the reality. If they're serious about complaint, because
16 we are not an island by ourselves. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: You're welcome Again. If you
18 are on this citizen complaint committee and you a
19 commissioner, do your part. read some cases.

20 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Mr. Chair, I'm sorry. So I think
21 the question needs to be asked. How are cases distributed
22 to members of the citizens' complaint committee?

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Absolutely. I'm going to make
24 sure, we're going to do it in a way to where you guys can
25 handle it. Okay. So if you tell me you can handle 10,

1 you'll get 10.

2 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Well, I'm just saying, what is
3 the current distro? How do I know how many I'm going to
4 get or how do I know? They might give it to Commissioner
5 Holley.

6 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Well, from what I understand,
7 the investigators have to make sure they do their part
8 first before they can distribute them out. Correct?

9 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: It goes to my secretary and we
10 try to equally put together packages for the people that
11 are on the committee that will read.

12 COMMISSIONER MOORE: So have each Commissioner on the
13 committee received reports?

14 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: You have some right now at the
15 Office of the Chief Investigator, waiting for you.

16 COMMISSIONER MOORE: No. The question is, has each
17 Commissioner on the committee received reports?

18 MS. WHITE: Through the Chair, through the Chair. We
19 have attempted to deliver cases to each person on the
20 citizen complaint committee. However, some have withdrawn
21 from reading the cases.

22 COMMISSIONER MOORE: And that's a problem I need to
23 address, because I didn't know that particular fact, but
24 I'll get with you, Mr. Chair.

25 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We'll take care of that at our

1 training session on Saturday.

2 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Oh, you want to do it on
3 Saturday?

4 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Absolutely. Unless you give me
5 your...

6 COMMISSIONER MOORE: We'll do it on Saturday.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: You're going that way,
8 everybody can be on Board. Hang on one second. Yes,
9 Commissioner.

10 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: A point of information. Is
11 there any reason why 11 of us cannot get a 4 or 5? Is
12 there any reason why? And in other words, we are here
13 because the people put us here. And I don't understand.
14 And if a person, I can't say what I want to say because
15 I'm down south, but I'm just saying to you is if
16 Commissioners are not doing their job, like reading these
17 cases and putting it back in a timely manner, then get
18 the heck out of the way. I'm just saying to you, I have
19 11 people around the table? Why can't I have 4 or 5
20 myself? I can read, I can't talk, but I can read. So I'm
21 just saying to you, I just asking this information. I
22 don't mean any harm. Why can't each and every one of us
23 have a responsibility of doing these cases?

24 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman.

25 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Hang on.

1 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I just want to make a kind of
2 follow up on what Reverend Holley just said.

3 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Would that be your question
4 after that?

5 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Yeah, I can ask my question. I
6 have a question after that but Reverend Holley, you, you
7 ordered as Chairperson that the cases be distributed to
8 every Commissioner before you came and before they were
9 only going to a select few Commissioners like they are
10 now. And that's not a good situation. You ordered it. I
11 don't know why, I haven't gotten a case in probably a
12 year now. And I enjoyed it and I really read and I really
13 challenge them on their conclusions and write as my own
14 summary. So yes and that was your order. And then
15 suddenly they stopped.

16 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay. So that is going to
17 stop. Okay. We're going to make sure everybody gets some
18 cases that want to read, right. That want to read the
19 cases. We'll make sure you get some. We'll make sure you
20 get them. And that way our citizen complaint cases will
21 come down drastically. We'll beat that end of the year,
22 we will. Yes.

23 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Through the Chair, we can
24 redistribute that list that Chairperson Holley
25 implemented during his administration. I believe

1 Chairperson Carter and Chairperson Bell have previously
2 indicated as well, but we can redistribute that rotation
3 list where all Commissioners where on the list to read
4 cases. However, the most important part is that
5 Commissioners are available and willing to read the cases
6 and return them back to OCI. Not just reading but return
7 them back to OCI signed. And if you have any questions,
8 you can contact Interim Chief Investigator, Akbar or
9 myself, and we can answer questions and quickly send that
10 case through the approval process. Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: If you're on the complaint
12 committee and you don't want to read cases, email me and
13 I will remove you and replace you with somebody else.

14 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: All of us are on the committee.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I'm saying that the basic...

16 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Take your hand in.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All of you. All of us will be
18 reading cases that want to read.

19 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Who is on the committee?

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: The 4 people that are on the
21 complaint committee now are the main 4 people, right?
22 They should be. They're the main 4. And those are the
23 ones we hold accountable first. Then the rest of the
24 people that want to read them. Go ahead because I can't
25 make you read them. You should want to do it to try to

1 get this down because we're put here to help. And that's
2 part of our job. Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you, sir. We have a
4 substantial need. These are times in which we all need to
5 step up. That's why we're on this Board. If we could add
6 distribution and completion of cases to this same report
7 per commissioners, I would love to see that. Because if I
8 have a 100,000 residents or 200,000 residents, that's a
9 proof point to say, hey, I'm doing my part with what
10 you're asking me to do, citizens.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes. Because I don't know if
12 you guys know it, but the 8th Precinct, which is in
13 District 1, the district that I'm in, we have the most,
14 and guess who's going to be reading cases, me and I'm
15 going to be out in the community trying to figure out,
16 okay, why is it going up?

17 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: But there are supposed to be
18 randomly distributed. So they're not just with that
19 Commissioner.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We got that. We're going to
21 have that. Okay. We're going to have that.

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I have a question, Mr.
23 Chairman.

24 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: You already had your question.
25 Hang on.

1 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: No, that wasn't a question.

2 That was a comment.

3 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner Pressley.

4 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Thank you. Through the Chair.

5 My question is relative to the estimation moving forward.

6 I was mentioned by Commissioner Hernandez about the

7 shortfall in April, May and June. Are we expected now

8 that we have trained all the new investigators that maybe

9 by August that we'll see the uptick on closed cases?

10 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Okay. Thank you.

12 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: You're going see them anyway,

13 the way we restructured, how we handle cases. We are

14 attacking it from 3 different angles. You have your

15 backlog, we're looking at stuff that's coming in because

16 a lot of times some of the stuff that comes in are really

17 not police misconduct. And then there are other

18 complaints that are coming in that all it takes is a few

19 phone calls to give proper service for the citizen right

20 then and there. So, we're doing a lot of different things

21 that we're putting together that's going to help

22 eliminate a lot of the stuff that we're doing.

23 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Excellent. Looking forward to

24 it.

25 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: And serving the community

1 faster because that's the important thing.

2 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Yes. And then let me just
3 say, you know loud and clearly my appreciation of the
4 work that the staff is doing, especially under these
5 immense circumstances. And so I want them to know that
6 the Board does appreciate their service and their work.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Fantastic. Commissioner
8 Carter.

9 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I
10 too, I echo the sentiments of Commissioner Pressley.
11 Thank you for the work that you all are doing. You too.

12 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Separate you two.

13 COMMISSIONER CARTER: And Commission Holley. So I
14 think that one thing that we have to keep in mind that
15 they're down 7, from what I understand now,
16 investigators, that's huge. That's a quarter of the
17 staff?

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER CARTER: A quarter of the staff. So I
20 think that, and during the pandemic, I know that there
21 were people who were working from home but weren't
22 working from home. And that caused a huge hindrance on
23 completion of cases. So I think that we just all need to
24 do our part to get this situation resolved and keep
25 moving forward. And thank you for the work that you're

1 doing as well as Ms. White and the staff. I appreciate
2 it. Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you. Commissioner
4 Burton.

5 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Yes. You know, Mr. Chair, I'm
6 here to say that oversight is dead here in America's
7 blackest, poor city like Detroit. Also, when it comes to
8 the Office of the Chief Investigator, which is OCI. OCI
9 is in worse shape today than it has ever been. Way before
10 the Department of Justice ever arrived in the City of
11 Detroit. You know, we had lost so many investigators that
12 resigned from this office in a short period of time. We
13 never lost 10 or 11 investigators, you know, in this
14 period of time. This position as an investigator, these
15 are positions where people stick around until they
16 retire. They're not just leaving after 10, 11 years on
17 the job. I mean, we don't have that kind of turnover rate
18 right here with the Office of the Chief Investigators
19 until the Interim Chief Investigator, Lawrence Akbar
20 steps down...

21 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair.

22 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Hang on, hang on.

23 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order.

24 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We're not going to go there.

25 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Well...

1 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Hold on, hang on, hang on. You
2 are part of this committee, correct? You are. You're part
3 of, hang on. You're part of the committee. Certain people
4 when it's time for them to go, it's time for them to go.
5 For whatever reason they want to go, they do. You read
6 some of the cases, right? If you read some of the cases
7 that may stick with you, some people can't handle it.
8 Some people may want to do something different, but we're
9 doing something different right now. And I would ask for
10 your help because you're on a citizen complaint
11 committee. So be a part of the solution, not part of the
12 problem. So right now you kicking out the problem. We
13 already figured out the problem. So we're fixing the
14 problem right now. So I'm not going to let you sit here
15 and bash

16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: But through the Chair.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: So for that...

18 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Chair, we cannot tap dance for
19 words. That Melanie White

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner.

21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Lawrence Akbar, Chief
22 Investigator...

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner Burton.

24 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Along with...

25 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Point of order, Commissioner

1 Burton.

2 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Once told us a resident of
3 the...

4 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner Burton.

5 COMMISSIONER BURTON: That [crosstalk01:25:28] Board
6 of Police Commissioners that OCI is not taking any more
7 of their cases. And that person happens to be Ruben
8 Crowley.

9 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner Burton.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Not to me, you will not.

11 COMMISSIONER BURTON: A residents of the City of
12 Detroit.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Did you hear what I just said?
14 Not to me, you will not. I respect you, you respect me.

15 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order. We cannot tap
16 dance...

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Commissioner Burton.

18 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Tap dance with words.

19 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: One more time, Commissioner
20 Burton.

21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: This is a commissioners meeting
22 and disenfranchised the Detroit voters.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Sir, I am trying to respect
24 you. But you will not disrespect me.

25 COMMISSIONER BURTON: We cannot tap dance.

1 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Please be quiet. I'm going to
2 ask you, please be quiet.

3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chair, you are not going...

4 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I'm going to ask you one more
5 time to please be quiet.

6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chair.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Are you listen to me?

8 COMMISSIONER BURTON: We are not going to tap dance
9 with words.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: And you are not going to over
11 talk to the Chair.

12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You are not going to lie to the
13 voters here.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Sir, I'm going to ask you one
15 time to stop disrespecting me.

16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I have never disrespect you,
18 don't do that to me here.

19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Right now, point of order for
21 you is to be quiet.

22 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Article 11, unbecoming in a
24 meeting.

25 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order here.

1 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: So please, I'm asking for
2 you...

3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order.

4 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: No, I'm not accepting point of
5 order...

6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Lawrence Akbar-

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Please stop.

8 COMMISSIONER BURTON: And Melanie White told her
9 Detroit residents that we are not accepting any more
10 citizens' complaints for them along with Willie Bell
11 and...

12 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman, how many times are
13 you going to ask for point of order? I think you have
14 stated your position, you can fill that position.

15 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I'm really giving him a
16 chance. I am really trying to give you a chance, sir, but
17 you are trying my patience.

18 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chair.

19 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: No more, Mr. Chair.

20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You're not going to tell me be
21 quiet like a child when I represent a 100,000 people that
22 wake up in a.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Wait a minute. I'm the Chair
24 right now. So I'm asking...

25 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point off order, Mr. Chair. You

1 are out of order.

2 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Whoa.

3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: And we are not going to tap
4 dance for words.

5 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All right.

6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You give Holley 5 minutes to
7 talk. You give this gentleman right here, 3, 4 minutes to
8 talk.

9 COMMISSIONER? Mr. Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Sir.

11 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I make a point, you're trying
12 to shut me down. That is wrong.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Sir.

14 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair.

15 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Mr. Hall, this has nothing to
16 do with you or the Chief's Office.

17 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I got this.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I know that. It's
20 inappropriate.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I got this.

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Attorney Hall, it is not up to
23 you, please.

24 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: It's okay. I got it. I knew it
25 was going to come. And today's the day. Today will be the

1 last day. Trust me. It would be the last day. Because one
2 thing I can do...

3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order. Are you
4 threatening me, Mr. Chair?

5 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: No. Sir.

6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order. Is this a
7 threat, Mr. Chair?

8 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Article 7. Unbecoming of a
9 Commissioner in an Open Meetings Act I can read. And this
10 is what you're doing. I asked you to stop. There are no
11 threats. It's written down in the Charter. I am going to
12 abide by the Charter and I expect you to do too. That's
13 all I ask you too. Is to do that, sir? We're trying to
14 make a difference here. That's all we're trying to do and
15 I expect you to act accordingly. Thank you. Now...

16 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Chairman.

17 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: No. We're going on Vice-Chair
18 Holt and you get the last word.

19 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Do I get a chance to talk?

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Hang on. We going to move on.

21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: And for the record, I never got
22 a citizen complaint read on this Board. They only give
23 those citizens' complaints to certain Commissioners. I
24 never got in 8 years.

25 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Sir, didn't you just hear what

1 I said I'm going to do?

2 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Or 9 years.

3 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you, Chair Ferguson. Thank
4 you, Interim Chief Akbar. I really appreciate your very
5 detailed report. Now you resonated several times that the
6 OCI citizen complaint is out of focus on the misconduct
7 of law enforcement members. Now, are there occasions when
8 citizens call in and speak well and then encounter their
9 experience with the law enforcement member?

10 INTERIN CHIEF AKBAR: Not as much as I would like to,
11 but they do call in sometimes.

12 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Okay. Thank you for that response.
13 Now, what is done with those rare occasions when citizens
14 do call in and make a positive...?

15 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: I try to reach out to their
16 commanding officers and let them know.

17 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: So, it doesn't go down in paper as
18 a negative opportunity.

19 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: What?

20 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: In those examples you don't put
21 those comments in writing. In other words.

22 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: I will send a commanding
23 officer. If a citizen calls in and says that officer so
24 and so did a great job and did X, Y, Z. I'll put it in an
25 email and send it to the commander officer to let him

1 know the type of work that, that individual did. And
2 generally, not speaking for the commander, but if I was a
3 commander and somebody did that, I would reach out to
4 that citizen and probably try to get a letter of
5 commendation or something for the officer. But that's not
6 up to me to do that.

7 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Thank you for that. Through the
8 Chair.

9 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: One question please,

11 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Mr. Chairman, just very
12 quickly. First of all, I want to apologize to the Board
13 and to the audience for my glasses and my attire. I've
14 been at the University of Michigan Hospital since 7:30
15 this morning. I came straight from there. That's number
16 one. Number two, in terms of your report, Akbar, it is a
17 very organized report. Very good report. But I just had
18 one question really, and it relates to...one I wanted to
19 know, and perhaps this really goes to Melanie, I'm not
20 sure what the budget is for OCI. And I'd like to see that
21 budget broken down in terms of personnel and non-
22 personnel costs. And then finally Melanie, we need a cost
23 per case. At legal services, we had 50,000 cases. My cost
24 per case was lower than anyone in the State. I want to
25 know what our cost per case is for each citizen

1 complaint. And that includes the entire budget for OCI.
2 That's all I needed, but I want to congratulate the
3 Department Deputy Chief on the reduction in complaints
4 for June. That means that the police are doing something
5 right from 112 to 137. So congratulations to you and to
6 the commanders. That was my comment.

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Mr. Chairman. I just had a quick
9 comment.

10 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER MOORE: For the record. I've never heard
12 staff publicly or privately condemn any staff member from
13 OCI. I've never heard that before. So where this rah, rah
14 speech, did any Commissioner say anything negative about
15 any staff member from OCI?

16 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I haven't heard.

17 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I haven't either. But the
18 leadership has been called into question by OCI. I have
19 heard comments about that. And so Chief Investigator
20 Akbar, can you return to the microphone? I do have a
21 question for you, and this has nothing to do with citizen
22 complaints. So you can relax a little bit. What is the
23 process, if a member or someone from the OCI gets into a
24 car accident, what is the process to report it?

25 INTERIM CHIEF AKBAR: If a member gets in a car

1 accident. Of course, they call the police supervisor. The
2 Police Department shows up there. Generally, if it's one
3 of our members, if it's a department car, they will have
4 a supervisor come out and they will make a traffic crash
5 report. And in addition to that, the person who has the
6 department vehicle will have to make out a, it's a City
7 of Detroit report. I can't think of what it's called.
8 They will have to make that up.

9 COMMISSIONER MOORE: And would the Board know about
10 an accident that occurred with an OCI vehicle?

11 MS. WHITE: Through the Chair, those types of
12 questions and that one specifically, you have
13 administrative staff, both your Board Secretary and the
14 Chief Investigator are the honorable Board's
15 administrative staff. And so we handle the day-to-day
16 operations for the Board of Police Commissioners. So that
17 is something that would go to that level versus a high-
18 level public body board

19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point order, Mr. Chairman.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Commissioner Ricardo Moore from
22 District 7 was raising a very good question to the
23 Interim Chief Investigator. Why is he being interrupted
24 here? Why the Interim Chief Investigator cannot answer a
25 simple question by District 7 Police Commissioner,

1 Ricardo Moore, the citizens of Detroit would love to hear
2 the answer to that question.

3 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I'm just curious. I mean, would
4 it rise to the level of the Board being notified? And
5 you're saying no, Madam Secretary?

6 MS. WHITE: Through the Chair, the honorable Board
7 has an administrative staff in place for that very reason
8 those are part of our responsibilities administratively,
9 not the public body board.

10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Yes, I understand that. So the
11 Board would know about it. That's what I'm just
12 clarifying?

13 MS. WHITE: The leadership would know about it,
14 through the Chair.

15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Got you. Okay. Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Fantastic. Thank you, sir.
17 Now, you can have a seat now. You're okay now. Madam
18 Secretary, can you give us your report, please?

19 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Through the Chair just before
20 going to my report, I just wanted to share clarity on the
21 record on a couple of items and I'm sure the honorable
22 Board would recall that both Interim Chief Investigator
23 Akbar and myself, were appointed to serve in these
24 interim positions by the honorable Board. So we have
25 served through this pandemic and hopefully, we have met

1 your expectations, but we were appointed by the full
2 majority vote of the Board. And we were again, serving
3 during a pandemic public health crisis that no other
4 former administrative staff has ever had to serve in. So
5 we thank you so much for your continued encouragement,
6 motivation, and support. And secondly, I would like to
7 clear the record regarding staff separations that were
8 mentioned today and last week. All of the staff
9 separations, the report, we shared that with the
10 honorable Board, so that you would know specifically why
11 that particular staff member decided to make another
12 decision, whether it was resignation or a simple
13 retirement.

14 MS. WHITE: Some members have worked for the Office
15 of the Chief Investigator Board of Police of
16 Commissioners, myself included for almost 20 years. And
17 so they decided to make other decisions, other lifestyle
18 decisions, and that's reasonable. They do that in every
19 work sector, every workforce that's not uncommon. And the
20 second, I'm sorry, the last item that I would add with
21 regards to a question raised about the Office of the
22 Chief Investigator's budget, it is included in the entire
23 Board of Police Commissioner's budget, but we will share
24 additional details that were requested, but it is a part
25 of the entire Board's budget. Thank you so much. With

1 respect to the incoming correspondence for this week,
2 please note the agenda that is before you, and it's also
3 available via zoom. The honorable Board received DPD
4 additional materials requesting reconsideration of the
5 administrative leave without pay, but with medical
6 benefits for Police Officer Muntathar Al-Tamimi, Badge
7 33, assigned to the 9th Precinct, the honorable Board
8 also received various DPD technology reports, facial
9 recognition, and DPD ShotSpotter. And of course, you
10 receive staff reports, which were highlighted during
11 today's meeting, and other items that are included in
12 your weekly packet. Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Mr. Chair.

14 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER CARTER: I'd just like to also add that
16 everybody here that's involved or knows about the great
17 resignation that everybody's been talking about. So
18 people are resigning from their jobs all over the place.
19 And that's a thing, it's a thing. So we have to keep that
20 in mind, as well as we are looking at why the staff is
21 resigning just out of the clear blue sky. I mean, it's a
22 phenomenon and it's happening.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: I agree because I retired
24 after 25 years to take this job. So I'm telling you, go
25 figure that one.

1 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: And we do have mental health
2 still.

3 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We do, we sure do.

4 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: He has a great wife. That's
5 why he was able to do that.

6 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Unfinished business. Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Right here, Mr. Chair. I want to
8 commend Commissioner Ricardo Moore. I've just been
9 watching him lately and, you know, Commissioner, I've
10 just been watching the leader rise up in you. The leader
11 is coming forward in you. I salute you keep on running
12 with that, okay. I'm watching the leader rise up in you.
13 Keep holding on to that. Keep running with it.

14 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: Is there a coup going on here?

15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I hear you, Commissioner Holley.

16 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Announcements. Mr. Brown.

17 MR. BROWN: Yes. Good afternoon, Mr. Chair. The
18 announcements for the next BOPC meeting, Thursday, July
19 28th, 2022 at 3:00 PM here at Detroit Public Safety
20 Headquarters. And the next community meeting would be
21 Thursday, August 11th, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Wayne
22 County Community College Eastern Campus at 5901 Connors
23 with the 5th Precinct as the host and Mr. Chair, I go to
24 the monthly community meetings for August 2022, which
25 meets every second Wednesday, budget committee meeting,

1 Wednesday, August 10th at 2:00 PM. Policy committee
2 meeting, Wednesday, August 10th at 3:00 PM. Personnel and
3 training committee meeting Wednesday, August 10th at 4:30
4 PM and citizen complaint committee meeting, Wednesday,
5 August 10th at 5:00 PM. And Mr. Chair, all those
6 committee meetings are here at the Detroit Public Safety
7 Headquarters.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay. Before you go into oral
9 communications, Commissioner, you...

10 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you, Chair Ferguson. Yes.
11 I'd like to make an announcement. My granddaughter was
12 admitted to Eastern University. That's my announcement.

13 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Interesting. I was the first
14 African-American on that Board of Regents. I was
15 appointed by the governor. So anything I can do for her,
16 let me know. I'm still a Regent emeritus. So I can move
17 some things. Do something.

18 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you for sharing, through
19 the Chair.

20 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Mr. Brown, how many?

21 MR. BROWN: Yes. Good afternoon, Mr. Chair. We
22 currently have 10 speakers and I'll call those in
23 attendance. Ms. Maqueda Taylor followed by Lieutenant
24 Mark Young, LSA President, followed by Ms. Victoria Shaw.

25 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Before you guys start, I want

1 to remind you, please be respectful. That's all I'm
2 asking. Be respectful. Go ahead. We can hear you.

3 MR. McMURRAY: Hello, honorable body. I'm grateful to
4 be here today. My name is William McMurray, long-time
5 residence, City of Detroit. I'm here today because the
6 13-year-old shooting the 12-year-old was just the last
7 straw for me. I've been doing this for 20 years. I'm an
8 inventor. I made the rack. I've sold approximately 1300
9 to Detroit Police Department. I sell to Livingston
10 County, McComb County, LAPD, FBI, and Secret Service.
11 Everybody used my product. I'm in the National Shooting
12 Sports Foundation Guild that gives you the trigger locks
13 and cable locks to pass out. At the end of the day, we
14 need something more substantial in 2022. That's what
15 Chief Barren said in Southfield Police Department when I
16 stood with him at Kroger's and Myers, and we gave away
17 cable locks and trigger locks, books, and badges. The
18 bottom line is it is over. This has got to be the new
19 standard.

20 MR. MCMURRAY: We need to install them in the homes
21 that have kids and guns in the house. And I need this
22 honorable body and everybody in this room to go to your
23 circle of friends that have guns and firearms in the
24 home. And if you're not direct, use something. Use
25 something, a safe or trigger lock, a cable box, whatever

1 you have, but do not allow this to continue. Every time
2 it happens. I feel I fail to reach that family. I respect
3 a lot of people in this room. I know a lot of people in
4 this room, personally, I have a relationship with the
5 Police Department. I relationship with commissioners
6 here. I would like this to be a government program. If we
7 can give away stimulus checks to everybody who has a
8 social security number, we can provide this and install
9 them in homes. If not installed, then give them a do-it-
10 yourself video, where they can put it in because this can
11 hold more than one handgun, more than one rifle and it'll
12 work. And if this is good enough for Livingston County
13 police, where, when I was going to Michigan State in
14 Oakland, they said never stop and pick me and how. That's
15 all I got to say now they're my biggest customer. We'll
16 pass out some information about it and I hope we can have
17 a relationship.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Got you. Thank you.

19 MR. BROWN: Lieutenant Young.

20 LIEUTENANT YOUNG: Good evening.

21 VICE-CHAIR HOLT: Good afternoon.

22 LIEUTENANT YOUNG: There are a few things I want to
23 say, but the most important thing I'm going to say today
24 is please stop saying the phrase America's poorest,
25 blackest city. It is America's proudest city. I risk my

1 life to be here. Loren Courts and my fallen officers and
2 colleagues gave their lives to be here. So please stop
3 saying that. That is demeaning and degrading. Hold on to
4 this period of time for Officer Loren Courts and my
5 colleagues. Hold on to all of this because we are long
6 past, enough as being enough. The officers need to know
7 they had the same support that was requested from you
8 today. In many cases, demeanor isn't an important tool
9 for a law enforcement officer. There is a culture out
10 here that don't understand, sir, and ma'am. I'm not here
11 to justify our demeanor complaints, but I understand
12 because I've been there and I see my colleagues.

13 LIEUTENANT YOUNG: Also the doubles and what they're
14 seeing are factors. We long past enough being enough. And
15 we need to change Reverend Holley, no consequences for
16 violence. The only consequences are the consequences that
17 officers fear and face. They did more time suspended and
18 punished than the criminals. Prosecutors and judges are
19 finally being called out. There has been a lot of talk
20 about police with their limited qualified immunity. I'm
21 finally watching politicians, judges, and prosecutors
22 hide behind their absolute immunity for the same
23 decisions that officers risk their lives and give their
24 lives for. No bonds, low bonds, compassionate release,
25 early release. COVID, monkeypox, they're all excuses.

1 They're all excuses. And let's not forget expungements.
2 The reward seems to be worth the risk to criminals.
3 Police are not the cause of crime. They're the cure. If
4 judges only lived in the same communities, they would be
5 different outcomes for the Court family, and to all the
6 other families. We're here for you. These are not just
7 words of support. These are support, support, and we all
8 need to support those people.

9 MS. SHAW: Good evening, honorable Board Vicky Shaw
10 from District 7. Again first I want to acknowledge every
11 commissioner here for voluntarily committing to serve the
12 public with no compensation. Why else would you be here
13 other than if you had a heart for the people? So we
14 really appreciate you for that. Your Board of 11
15 individuals representing nearly 700,000 residents while
16 you are all very skilled and knowledgeable, no one can
17 expect 11 people to embody all of the valuable ideas,
18 knowledge, and perspectives that are needed to execute
19 effective oversight. So thank you for drawing additional
20 ideas, knowledge, and perspectives from your constituents
21 and your communities, as well as in public comments in
22 these forums.

23 MS. SHAW: Unfortunately at the community meeting
24 last week on the 14th of July, a comment was made by one
25 of the commissioners implying that the Board should not

1 allow the public to dictate how the Board delivers
2 oversight. I don't believe that statement is
3 representative of the hearts of this Board as a whole.
4 This Board is committed to acting on behalf of the
5 citizens of Detroit, welcomes the input of the public,
6 and leverages that input to improve policing and
7 oversight of policing in this community. And I'm grateful
8 to all of you for that. I look forward to continuing to
9 lend my expertise, as well as encouraging others, to lend
10 their expertise, to assist each of you in providing the
11 best oversight that we can in the City of Detroit. I have
12 a couple more items here, just two. First, when we are
13 doing presentations, the wording on that screen is too
14 small.

15 MS. SHAW: I know, I don't know by anybody else, but
16 I can't see it over here.

17 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: We need a bigger screen,
18 obviously.

19 MS. SHAW: You need a bigger screen or move it closer
20 to the citizens. And then also honorable Chair, if you
21 could clarify that delayed by one day, as far as
22 publishing the recordings, because there are a few
23 recordings that are missing from still June and early
24 July. So I don't know if you mean one day or an
25 additional day on top of the current turnaround time, but

1 it would be good to know how soon we should expect the
2 recordings to go up.

3 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay. We're working on that.

4 MS. WHITE: Yes. Through the Chair, we will send out
5 a notice, which we normally do through gov delivery that
6 gives you an expected timeframe to look for that meeting
7 video, but with the city's efforts to make sure that
8 everything is in line with the closed captioning feature
9 and other important features, it really is about a week
10 to two weeks delay. So please thank you so much for your
11 patience. And we appreciate the city working with us to
12 get that resolved immediately. Thank you again.

13 MS. SHAW: Sure. Thank you.

14 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, I don't see Mr. Thomas Soki,
15 so your next speaker will be Ms. Michelle. George.

16 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Ms. George.

17 MS. GEORGE: Yes, sir.

18 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: How are you doing?

19 MS. GEORGE: I'm doing well. Thanks for asking. So to
20 the Chair and to the honorable Board to Assistant Chief
21 Fitzgerald, we continue to pray for Officer Loren Courts
22 who was part of our 2nd Police Precinct. So we're
23 supporting them. We continue to pray for them as
24 Lieutenant Young stated. So we keep them in prayer
25 because we know they are risking their lives every day.

1 This morning, because I know at the funeral Chief White
2 said we need to do our part. So we do need to do our part
3 more than praying. I know the Bible does say because of
4 lawlessness, man's heart will wax cold. So we are living
5 in that days of evil. But also one of the things I wrote
6 to the City Council about is that they're approving too
7 much marijuana because we've seen the increase in
8 violence and this new ethno plan. And I'm going to let
9 the mayor know about this. That was on legislation that
10 was approved in Ann Arbor in Detroit. It's a micro-dosing
11 of LSD.

12 MS. GEORGE: So I told them, when our police officers
13 go into these apartments, when I was walking to Greater
14 Grace Temple to Officer Loren Courts' funeral, the
15 apartment building was just full of weed. It was full of
16 weed and it does affect the increased violence. So I sent
17 the City Council, our article dealing with Missouri and
18 the strain that has been on law enforcement, as well as
19 our children. I was going to tell the gentleman to come
20 to the school Board meeting because I also included Dr.
21 Beattie in that email as well as Governor Whitmer and the
22 deputy chief email. So we will be working, like Chief
23 White said we will be doing our part. If I go to DC in
24 September with our national action network group to make
25 sure it gets with the legislation, we have to do more.

1 But this weed is no joke. When I looked at that film when
2 Officer Loren Courts and we are praying for Officer
3 Amanda as well. You could not look at that body; that was
4 drugs too. So it was an evil act and we pray for our
5 officers every day. Thank you. Let Chief White know
6 because you do put your lives on the line every day for
7 us. Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you.

9 MR. BROWN: Now, Mr. Chair, I'll call those members
10 that are on zoom. Minister Eric Blount, followed by Mr.
11 Russ Ballant, followed by former commissioner William
12 Davis.

13 MINISTER BLOUNT: Can you hear me, Board?

14 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes, we can hear you.

15 MINISTER BLOUNT: Yes. This is Eric Blount from
16 Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Detroit. BOPC cannot
17 stand up to 21-century policing standards. BOPC's lack of
18 transparency is the first hurdle. BOPC cannot be clear.
19 The documents must be easily obtained by citizens,
20 especially those who filed complaints, including body-
21 worn camera footage. The BOPC website and the open portal
22 neither include meeting documents such as transcripts of
23 meetings, especially the meetings, like again today, when
24 the audiovisual has been interrupted. For OCI, the focus
25 of case closure is just another look over their trick.

1 The quality of work is just as important. I can
2 personally testify that the coding of my complaint by the
3 investigator was and still is very disturbing. I reported
4 harassment based on nothing more than videotaping a
5 police stop from over 50 yards away. In the reporting to
6 citizens, OCI has the only and final word and the citizen
7 has no chance to document their disagreement with the
8 coding process or reporting of their case. Commissioner
9 Bell, at least you told the truth. OCI has been
10 politically corrupt and I believe in its current state,
11 it can continue to be that way. Political appointments
12 have always been a part of OCI and BOPC. Commissioner
13 Moore, you're right to question the distribution of
14 complaints. In the not too distant past, Commissioner,
15 then Chairperson Bell instructed OCI to give him and only
16 him the complaint files.

17 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Can you turn it up for us,
18 please?

19 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair.

20 MR. BROWN: Mr. Ballant.

21 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Wait. Before you bring him
22 on...

23 MR. BELLANT: I'm here. Can you hear me now? Hello?

24 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes, we can hear you.

25 MR. BELLANT: Okay. I wanted to bring to the

1 attention of the Commission's concern for police officers
2 that have been brought to my attention concerning the
3 G.I. Bill and there are hundreds of officers, apparently,
4 who qualify to receive benefits of the GI bill for their
5 training at DPD and for the last year, I'm told that DPD
6 has not been certifying to the veterans' administration
7 the eligibility of these officers for this money. And
8 some have told me that up to \$35,000 is owed to
9 individual officers and the DPD will not explain why they
10 are not certifying them, people who've been to contact to
11 pass the certification of participation information to
12 the VA for these paybacks or to the Feds, I should say.

13 MR. BELLANT: I'm not sure if it's VA or not. Those
14 people have been rotated around and right now nobody
15 knows who the contact is for doing this. And they've been
16 told now that they're doing some kind of legal review but
17 the agencies in the State of Michigan do not see any
18 issue, it's a standard thing that they've always been
19 doing. The DPD is separately registered with the State of
20 Michigan as an approving agency for all legitimate
21 programs of the Detroit Police Department. And it's a
22 mystery to the officers and they're being very
23 demoralized because they're being denied tens of
24 thousands of dollars that they're entitled to as veterans
25 receiving a G.I. Bill. And I'm hoping that somebody can

1 take this up and get this clarified and get the officers
2 their just payments.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: You can do that. Mr. Chair.

4 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next speaker will be
5 former commissioner, William Davis.

6 MR. DAVIS: Good afternoon. Can I be heard?

7 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Yes, sir, we can hear you.

8 MR. DAVIS: Great. I'd like to start off by saying
9 when I was on the Board, I asked about the vehicle policy
10 because like I said, I worked for the Water Department
11 and the Board of Water Commissioners got a report on
12 every single vehicle accident. And you know, I brought
13 that up before. It seems like some people don't want to
14 put that out because sometimes some of your top people
15 are having multiple accidents or not, you know, doing
16 their jobs. Also, I like to say that all of the
17 commissioners should get a copy of every candidate and
18 should be involved in advancing the candidates for these
19 top two positions because in the past the person that's
20 in charge of the subcommittee on human resources is the
21 same person that was trying to keep these people in their
22 positions for two or three years.

23 MR. DAVIS: And these people have been working in
24 these positions and they shouldn't be for such a long
25 time. If you could hire a chief in 90 days, it shouldn't

1 take you 3 or 4 years to put somebody permanent in the
2 two top spots. This is crazy. That's why the public does
3 not trust you all. You know, you have a commissioner that
4 was chairperson for a one-person task force dealing with
5 towing. And he was getting, you know, money. You need to
6 make sure that this Board of Commissioners act better
7 than what they do. I was part of a Justice Department
8 task force, looking at the Dearborn Police Department. I
9 could see where the Justice Department could come in and
10 look directly at this Board of Police Commissioners,
11 especially with your hiring practices and the fact that
12 you all should not tell the public that they can't
13 criticize an employee. You know, that's crazy, just like
14 you all should stop the meeting. If the zoom stop working
15 like City Council does. You all operating under separate
16 policies that are separate from the rest of the world.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. BROWN: And Mr. Chair, your last speaker would be
19 Motor City Rue. Mr. Rue, Mr. Rue, Mr. Rue going once Mr.
20 Rue going twice. All right. Thank you, Mr. Brown. Is he
21 still there?

22 MR. BROWN: No.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Thank you. All right. He's
24 gone. New business. We have new business and a new
25 business. We're going to be in a closed session. So we're

1 going to take...

2 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. The closed session is pursuant
3 to Section 8(a) (f) of the Open Meetings Act to review
4 and consider the contents of an application for
5 employment or appointment to a public office. This is the
6 applicant appeal of Mr. Martez Dixon. A two-thirds roll
7 call vote is required.

8 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: I make a motion to that
9 effect.

10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Support.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All in favor.

12 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Roll call. We need to do a
14 roll call.

15 MS. WHITE: Madam Vice-Chair - Yes.

16 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We're getting ready to do a
17 roll call, sir.

18 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Holley - I'm here. I just
19 don't know whether I can stay for the closed session, but
20 I'm here.

21 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Hernandez - Present.

22 MOTOR CITY RUE: Can I be heard?

23 COMMISSIONER BANKS: We got him on the line.

24 MOTOR CITY RUE: Can, can I be heard?

25 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Pressley - Yes.

1 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Bernard -

2 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Banks - I don't know if I
3 can stay in the closed session.

4 MOTOR CITY RUE: What about, can I get a chance to
5 make my public comment?

6 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Mr. Brown.

7 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Bell - Yes.

8 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Burton -

9 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Carter -

10 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Moore - Yes.

11 MR. CHAIR: Mr. Chair, the motion passed. There were
12 7 = Yes votes.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay.

14 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair, if we could ask, this is just
15 a brief recess to allow those that are not a part of the
16 closed session to please exit the room at this time. And
17 then those that are to remain.

18 "CLOSED SESSION"

19 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay. We're going to call the
20 meeting back into order and we're going to call the
21 meeting back into order

22 MS. WHITE: Motions to reconvene.

23 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Motion to reconvene.

24 COMMISSIONER MOORE: So moved.

25 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Second.

1 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All in favor.

2 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All opposed? All right. So we
4 are here to vote on the matters of Mr. Martez Dixon

5 MS. WHITE: A motion is needed regarding the
6 applicant appeal of Mr. Martez Dixon.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I move that his appeal be
8 granted, and then he'd be allowed to go to our training
9 as a police officer.

10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Support.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: We need a roll call?

12 MS. WHITE: Discussion.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Discussion. Any discussion?
14 Okay. Hearing none. Okay, so roll call vote?

15 MS. WHITE: Yes, sir. Through the Chair, Madam
16 Commissioner Vice-Chair Annie Holt - You can come back.

17 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Bernard - Yes.

18 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Bell - No

19 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Burton - Yes.

20 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Moore - Yes.

21 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Hernandez - No.

22 MS. WHITE: Commissioner Pressley - Yes.

23 MS. WHITE: Madam Vice-Chair - [Audio Distortion].

24 MS. WHITE: Through the Chair, just trying to keep
25 the record clear.

1 MS. WHITE: Madame Vice-Chair - No.

2 MS. WHITE: Mr. Chair - No.

3 MS. WHITE: The motion failed. There were 4 = Yes
4 votes and 4 = No votes. Tie votes result in a failed
5 motion.

6 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Okay. No further discussions.

7 COMMISSIONER BELL: Move for adjournment.

8 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Second.

9 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: All in favor.

10 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON FERGUSON: Meeting adjourned.

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18 (Meeting Adjourned at 6:38pm)

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22

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\$35,000 86:8

(

(313) 47:19
(f) 89:3

1

1 13:8,10 14:8,9 26:10 58:13
10 25:13 42:9 53:25 54:1
61:13,16 76:22
10% 13:19
100 30:5 38:18
100% 18:4
100,000 12:7 58:8 65:21
1019 39:13 45:23
105 40:16 46:11
10th 24:7,10 76:1,2,3,5
11 26:4 50:22 55:11,19 61:13,
16 64:23 80:14,17
11,000 16:14
111 41:5 49:22
112 70:5
115 41:5
11:17 15:24
11th 16:24,25 20:9 23:7 75:21
12 14:7
12,000 15:24
12-year-old 16:11,13 77:6
129 49:22
13 47:9 50:9
13-year-old 16:18 77:6
1300 77:8
137 70:5

14% 13:20
14-year-old 16:12
14th 5:21 14:23 80:24
16% 13:21
16,000 15:6
17th 15:5
18 15:24
19 13:16
197 14:17
19th 16:13
1:00 15:5
1:30 12:20 14:23
1st 14:16

2

2 11:9 13:11 14:18 26:11
20 14:19 73:16 77:7
200,000 58:8
2014 26:2
2020 14:24 15:14 25:6
2021 19:3
2022 5:14,21 12:20 39:14
40:17 41:2,4,5 46:24 75:19,
21,24 77:14
20s 14:24
21 13:15 18:10
21-century 84:17
21st 5:14
21st- 24:22
21st-century 25:2,4,7,22 26:2,
4 32:2 43:10
22 20:1
230 39:24 46:3
23rd 12:20
24 26:18

2482 47:20
2499 47:19
24th 21:16
25 74:24
27 13:17 14:18 15:25
275 14:17
28th 75:19
2:00 76:1
2nd 13:9 20:4 82:22

3

3 11:9 16:14 26:11 59:14 66:7
88:1
30 13:16 27:1 31:21 32:11
35:9
30th 30:18
31 15:25
32% 13:24
33 74:7
3:00 75:19 76:2
3rd 20:13,15

4

4 5:5 14:8 26:12 55:11,19
57:20,21,22 66:7 88:1 92:3,4
4% 13:22
41 26:19
4:00 2:19 47:16
4:30 76:3

5

5 10:5 26:13 55:11,19 66:6
50 85:5
50,000 69:23
59 26:15,17

5901 75:22
596 47:19,20
5:00 76:5
5th 23:6 75:23

6

6 13:6 26:9,14 27:5
60 32:12
6:30 75:21
6:38pm 92:18
6th 20:5

7

7 60:15 67:8 71:22,25 80:10
90:12
700,000 80:15
73 14:17 49:23
75 40:1 46:7
756 45:24
766 39:14
779 39:17 45:25
7:30 69:14
7th 13:11 18:18,21

8

8 14:19 67:24
8(a) 89:3
80 39:23 46:2
83 49:23
850 38:14
86 49:23
8:00 47:16
8:30 12:20
8th 20:5 58:12

9

9 68:2
9% 13:20
90 41:9 44:5 87:25
900 45:25 47:13,14
92 26:15,18
990 39:16
9:00 16:14
9th 13:11 15:10 18:12,14,20
74:7

A

abide 67:12
absolute 79:22
Absolutely 24:11 32:22 53:23
55:4
Abuse 18:12
academy 30:4
accept 17:16 19:8,16 21:3
39:2
accepting 38:23 65:4,9
access 9:2 27:14
accessible 34:7
accessing 2:9
accident 70:24 71:1,10 87:12
accidents 87:15
accountability 27:10
accountable 57:23
accurate 10:24 37:24 43:3,17
acknowledge 7:16,17 38:9
40:4 80:10
acknowledged 2:19 7:14
act 4:4 67:9,15 84:4 88:6 89:3
acting 6:15 81:4

action 26:15,18,19 28:19 32:2
40:10,12 44:13 83:24
active 29:6
activities 4:7 27:11
actual 11:7 38:4,11,20 39:10
44:2
Adams 7:19,20
add 58:5 73:20 74:15
added 9:4 10:25
adding 12:14
addition 27:10 29:18 35:5
39:18 40:2 46:9 49:8 71:5
additional 12:7 15:4 17:6
50:14 73:24 74:4 80:19 81:25
Additionally 9:13 18:20
address 9:19 12:6 28:19 54:23
addressed 25:10
adhered 35:12
adhering 25:21
adjourned 92:11,18
adjournment 92:7
adjustments 37:16
admin 36:8
administer 4:10,16
administration 18:15,25 45:4
56:25 86:6
administrative 6:8,9,11 8:1
39:6 44:14,15,19 71:13,15
72:7 73:4 74:5
administratively 72:8
admission 21:24
admitted 76:12
advancing 87:18
Affairs 20:6
affect 83:16
affected 11:20

African-american 76:14
afternoon 2:1,23 6:19,21 13:4
21:14 25:17 35:25 39:9 75:17
76:21 78:21 87:6
age 52:21
agencies 12:5 26:16 37:3
86:17
agency 26:23 86:20
agenda 5:13 9:9 12:14 74:2
agent 4:3
aggravated 13:21
agree 32:19 74:23
ahead 35:23 42:9 57:24 77:2
Ainsley 6:15
Akbar 6:14 9:23 35:17,22,25
36:6,23 42:1,10,17 43:8 45:12
46:7,22 47:10 49:9,16,19,24
50:3,18 51:5,10,19 52:17,24
54:9,14 57:8 59:10,12,25
61:19 62:21 68:4,10,15,19,22
69:16 70:20,25 72:23
Akbar- 65:6
Al-tamimi 74:6
Alfred 24:25 25:12,13,17,18
26:1,25 27:18 28:18 29:9,22
30:10 31:18,22,25 32:5,19
33:8 34:6,9,19,22 35:2,6
align 43:16
alignment 30:1
allegation 43:24 45:18
allegations 4:2
alleged 39:25 42:23 43:22
45:8 46:5
allowed 91:8
alongside 15:1
Amanda 84:3
amazing 29:5 48:12
Amen 3:16,17,18

America's 61:6 78:24,25
American 7:8
analysis 38:16
angles 59:14
Ann 83:10
Annie 4:22 91:16
announcement 76:11,12
announcements 75:16,18
annual 4:6
apartment 83:15
apartments 16:13 83:13
apologize 2:12 9:1 69:12
apparently 86:3
appeal 12:15,17 89:6 91:6,7
applicable 26:23
applicant 12:15,16 89:6 91:6
application 89:4
apply 4:14 26:19
appointed 17:9 72:23 73:1
76:15
appointees 18:4
appointing 26:4
appointment 16:23 17:8,17
18:5 19:9,17 21:4 22:3 89:5
appointments 12:12 24:13
85:11
appreciated 50:24
appreciation 60:3
approval 3:22 5:13 44:25
57:10
approved 3:24 5:23 25:5 45:1
47:2 83:10
approving 83:6 86:20
approximately 39:23 46:2
77:8
April 14:16 49:12,22 59:7

Arbor 83:10
area 14:23 15:10,12,13
areas 29:21 33:14 37:14,19
44:8
arrest 16:6 44:9
arrested 15:17,18
arresting 14:12
arrests 14:9,18,19
arrived 61:10
arriving 5:2
article 64:23 67:8 83:17
assaults 13:20,21
assigned 16:23,24 17:2 18:18
20:9 38:25 74:7
assist 42:17 46:14 81:10
assistant 6:11,13 17:9 22:12,
23 82:20
associate 17:3
Association 19:5
attacking 59:14
attempted 15:21 37:24 54:19
attempting 14:4 16:5
attend 12:21
attendance 6:8 7:2 13:1 76:23
attending 2:21 3:1 8:18 15:7
16:1
attention 86:1,2
attest 52:3
attire 69:13
attitude 22:16 53:11
Attorney 66:22
attrition 50:1
audience 69:13
audio 6:5 8:14 91:23
audiovisual 84:24

August 25:5 59:9 75:21,24
76:1,2,3,5

authority 4:4

auto 13:10 52:22

average 40:15 46:10

award 17:24

aware 13:24 50:4

awareness 11:6 12:4

awesome 8:7 18:8 31:3 48:14
51:3

Aye 5:18 17:21 19:21 21:8
89:12 91:2 92:10

B

bachelor's 17:4 18:24 20:16
30:8

back 8:12 11:4 25:5 31:13
41:1 43:7 44:21 55:17 57:6,7
90:20,21 91:16

background 35:21 36:12

backlog 9:16 12:8 36:17 37:4,
5,10 38:12,15 39:12,14,16
40:17,22 41:20 45:24,25
46:12,17 47:6 49:4,7 52:4,12,
14,21,22,23 59:15

Badge 74:6

badges 77:17

Ballant 84:11 85:20

Banks 5:3 10:12 31:6,7 51:3,4,
16,20 75:7 89:23 90:2

Barack 26:3

Barren 77:15

based 45:4,10 85:4

basement 16:15

bash 53:1 62:15

basic 29:25 57:15

basically 41:2 51:23

beat 56:21

Beattie 83:21

Beatty 7:10

beautiful 11:22

began 15:8

Beginning 14:16

begins 2:4 35:22

behalf 5:7 32:22 35:9 81:4

believing 17:24

Bell 5:4 10:12 32:12,13 51:21,
22 52:17 55:24 57:1 65:10,12
85:9,15 90:7 91:18 92:7

BELLANT 85:23,25 86:13

benefits 74:6 86:4

Bernard 5:1 34:10,12,14 42:15
56:1,5 58:17,22 59:1 66:15,
19,22 67:16 69:9,11 75:4
76:13 81:17 85:17 87:3 90:1
91:7,17

Bettison 23:13,15

Bible 83:3

Biden's 12:5

big 23:15,18 31:5

bigger 81:17,19

biggest 78:15

bill 86:3,4,25

biography 51:6,7

bit 70:22

black 14:25

blackest 61:7 78:25

Blackwell 16:22 17:3,6,12,14,
18,23

blame 52:24

bless 3:8,12,14

blessing 3:5

blessings 51:5

blinged 32:7

block 15:6,24 16:14

blocked 6:25

Blossom 6:10 36:7

Blount 84:10,13,15

blue 3:9 19:3 74:21

board 2:1,3,9,10,21,24 3:1,20,
21 4:9,14,15,17,18 6:7 8:4,18,
24 9:22 10:22,24 12:18,20
13:5 21:15 24:22 25:5,17,20
27:1 28:6 31:25 33:20,21
35:1,8,25 36:12,16 37:1 41:15
45:2,6,9,22 46:25 48:3 50:7,
15 52:5 55:8 58:5 60:6 63:5
67:22 69:12 71:9,13,16,18
72:4,6,9,11,22,24 73:2,10,15,
23 74:3,7 76:14 80:9,14,25
81:1,3,4 82:20 83:20 84:13
87:9,11 88:6,10

Board's 2:7 8:1 10:23 25:2
71:14 73:25

body 71:18 72:9 77:3,22 84:3

body- 84:20

Bohannon 7:21

bonds 79:24

books 77:17

BOPC 3:21 6:8 7:17 36:8 45:7,
12 47:1 75:18 84:16,18,21
85:12

BOPC's 84:17

bottom 41:8 77:18

box 77:25

Bramell 16:14

break 43:1

breakdown 49:5

breakfast 12:24

breaking 53:5

bring 3:13 23:24 46:25 50:5
85:21,25

broken 69:21
brought 15:19 86:2 87:12
Brown 2:17 3:19,20 6:9 20:20,
22 21:11 75:16,17 76:20,21
78:19 82:14 84:9 85:20 87:4
88:18,20,22 90:6
Bryan 2:23
budget 3:24 52:7 53:14 69:20,
21 70:1 73:22,23,25 75:25
building 12:23 26:8,10 27:8
32:23 83:15
burgundy 14:25
Burton 5:6,7 10:12 31:11,12
32:21,22 33:23 34:15 41:10
61:4,5,23,25 62:16,18,21,23,
24 63:1,2,4,5,9,11,15,17,18,
20,21,25 64:3,6,8,12,16,19,
22,25 65:3,6,8,18,20,25 66:3,
6,11 67:3,6,21 68:2 71:19,21
90:8 91:10,19
business 17:3,4 18:25 19:1
20:17,18 47:18 75:6 88:24,25

C

cable 77:13,17,25
call 10:10 11:4 22:1 44:21
47:15,18,25 68:8,11,14 71:1
76:22 84:9 89:7,13,14,17
90:19,20 91:11,14
called 7:20 70:18 71:7 79:19
Calloway's 7:16
calls 42:25 59:19 68:23
camera 53:11 84:21
Cameron 18:9,17,23 19:12,13,
14,18
Cameron's 19:2
camp 27:19
Campus 75:22
candidate 87:17

candidates 87:18
candidly 14:2
candlelight 16:1
capable 17:11
captain 16:22,24 17:2,6,14,18
19:6,9,17 20:19,22 21:5,11,
12,14 22:5
captains 22:5
caption 9:5
captioning 82:8
car 42:25 70:24,25 71:3
card 2:16
care 3:12 44:24 54:25
carjacking 13:25
carjackings 13:24
carries 5:20
Carter 5:9 7:24 8:8 32:14,15
57:1 60:8,9,13,19 74:13,15
90:9
Carter's 7:12
case 9:16 14:1 15:4 37:1 38:4,
11,12,20 39:4,7 43:2,4 44:17
56:11 57:10 69:23,24,25
84:25 85:8
cases 9:12 10:2,4,5,13,15
38:1,5,7,14,15,17,18,21
39:12,14,15,16,23,24 40:1,5,
9,16,22 41:3,5,6,9 45:5,23,25
46:3,8,10,11,25 47:2,5,9 49:4,
7,13 51:12 52:12 53:19,21
54:19,21 55:17,23 56:7,18,19,
20 57:4,5,12,18 58:6,14 59:9,
13 60:23 62:6 63:7 69:23 79:8
Catholic 84:16
caused 2:8 60:22
CCR 49:5
CCRS 40:25
ceasefire 18:16,19 20:10
Cedric 5:3 10:12

century 24:23
ceremony 11:22 30:6
certificate 18:25 20:17
certification 86:11
certifications 30:8
certifying 86:6,10
cetera 30:20
Chair 2:2,22 3:20 4:19,21,22
5:11 7:7 8:9,11 10:22 17:15
19:7,15 20:20 21:12,14 22:9
23:12 24:24 30:25 33:8,23
34:3,6,15,24 35:19,20 36:4
41:10 49:1 51:4 53:16,20
54:18,24 56:23 59:4 60:9
61:5,21 62:16,18 64:3,6,11
65:18,19,23,25 66:9,14,17
67:4,7 68:3 69:8 71:11 72:6,
14,19 74:13 75:7,17,23 76:5,
10,19,21 81:20 82:4,14,20
84:9 85:19 87:3,4 88:18
90:11,14 91:15,24 92:2
Chairman 21:2 31:12,20 55:24
58:23 65:12 67:16 69:9,11
70:8 71:19
chairperson 2:23,24 3:18 4:20
5:12,17,19 6:19,22 7:5 8:7,13,
17 9:6,24 10:1,11,16 11:15,18
12:9 17:20,22 18:8 19:20,22
20:21,24 21:7,9,13 22:10,25
24:21 25:15 31:2,8,11,15
32:6,10,14,18,20 33:18,24
34:2,10,13,18,20,23,25 35:14
41:11,23 42:2 48:7 51:3,21
53:17,23 54:6,25 55:4,7,25
56:3,7,16,24 57:1,11,15,17,20
58:11,20,24 59:3 60:7,18
61:3,22,24 62:1,17,20,23,25
63:4,9,10,13,17,19,23 64:1,4,
7,10,14,17,20,23 65:1,4,7,15,
19,23 66:2,5,10,13,18,21,24
67:5,8,17,20,25 69:10 70:7,
10,16 71:20 72:16 74:14,23
75:3,6,16 76:8,20,25 78:18
82:3,16,18 84:8,14 85:15,21,
24 87:7 88:4,23 89:11,13,16
90:6,13,19,23 91:1,3,11,13

92:6,9,11
challenge 56:13
chance 48:10,11 65:16 67:19
85:7 90:4
change 79:15
Channey 7:20
Chaplain 3:2,3
chapter 3:25
charge 18:19,23 20:10,12,13
44:22 87:20
Charger 15:14
chart 23:17
Charter 67:11,12
check 51:8
checks 78:7
cheerleader 50:22
chest 16:21
Chester 17:7
chief 2:2 3:9,22 6:14,20,21,23,
25 7:3 8:2 9:10,18,23 11:15,
17 12:2,12 13:3,4,23 14:15
15:7,23 16:11,22 17:7,8,9,14,
16,24 18:9 19:8,13,16,23 20:1
21:3,15,16,24 22:12,24 23:1,
8,11,12,14,16,22,23 24:1,3,6,
11,16,17,20 27:16 29:2 35:16,
17,21,25 36:6 41:22,25 42:10,
11,17 43:8 45:2,12 46:7,22
47:10 49:9,16,19,24 50:3,18
51:5,9,10,19 52:24 53:8 54:9,
14,15 57:8 59:10,12,25 61:8,
18,19 62:21 68:4,10,15,19,22
70:3,19,25 71:14,23,24 72:22
73:15,22 77:15 82:20 83:1,22
84:5 87:25
chief's 29:13 66:16
Chiefs 19:5 44:23
child 18:12 65:21
children 83:19
Christopher 6:13

Church 84:16
circle 77:23
circumstances 60:5
citations 14:7
citizen 9:25 10:16 43:14,19,21
44:7,24 45:10 53:18 54:20
56:20 59:19 62:10 67:22 68:6,
23 69:4,25 70:21 76:4 85:6
citizens 3:7 5:8 10:9 21:19,24
22:15,16,18,19,22 27:24
28:21 29:7,12,19 32:23 33:11,
17 34:5 42:19 46:15,20 47:12
53:22 58:10 65:10 67:23 68:8,
13 72:1 81:5,20 84:19 85:6
citizens' 52:5,6
city 3:14 4:6 9:4 14:13 21:17
23:9 33:16 47:22 61:7,10
63:11 71:6 77:5 78:25 81:11
82:11 83:6,17 88:15,19 89:22,
24 90:4
city's 2:6,13 9:2 82:7
citywide 23:6,20 24:8
civil 18:16 45:13
civilian 9:15,21 10:21 37:2
46:19
clarified 87:1
clarify 81:21
clarifying 9:13 72:12
clarity 72:20
cleaning 52:18
clear 12:8 38:9 43:1,17 47:6
73:7 74:21 84:18 91:25
Cleary 30:7 31:4
Cleary's 17:5
close 9:4 28:6 38:7 40:3,9,16
44:18,20 46:15
closed 12:14 39:4 40:1,15,25
41:5 46:8,9,11 59:9 82:8
88:25 89:2,19 90:3,16,18

closely 35:3
closer 81:19
closing 38:5 41:8 46:10
closure 37:1 39:7 49:18,20
84:25
closures 38:4,11 43:6 44:14,
15,19
clothing 15:18
co-response 29:17
coding 85:2,8
COGIS 33:9
cold 83:4
collaborate 28:2
colleagues 79:2,5,12
College 75:22
combat 16:10
comfortable 50:17
commander 3:2 17:18,23 18:2
68:25 69:2,3
commanders 70:6
commanding 17:2 68:16,22
commencement 30:6
commend 75:8
commendation 69:5
comment 2:16,20 22:12
32:15,17 59:2 70:6,9 80:24
90:5
comments 2:15 68:21 70:19
80:21
Commercial 13:10
commission 3:6,20 8:8 60:13
Commission's 86:1
commissioner 4:22,23,24,25
5:1,3,4,6,7,9,10,16 6:2 7:13,
24 8:9 17:13,15,19 19:11,19
21:1,2,6 22:7,8 23:12,21,23
24:2,5,9,16 31:6,7,8,10,11,12,
13,15,16,19,20,23 32:4,12,13,

14,15,21,22 33:23,25 34:10,
12,14,15 41:10 42:3,15 48:23,
25 49:10,18,21 50:1,13 51:1,
3,4,16,20,21,22,23 52:3,17
53:19,20 54:2,4,12,16,17,22
55:2,6,9,10,24 56:1,5,8 57:14,
16,19 58:3,17,19,22 59:1,3,4,
6,11,23 60:2,7,9,10,12,13,19
61:3,5,23,25 62:16,18,20,21,
23,24,25 63:2,4,5,9,11,15,17,
18,19,21,25 64:3,6,8,12,16,
19,22,25 65:3,6,8,12,18,20,25
66:3,6,9,11,15,19,22 67:3,6,9,
16,21 68:2 69:9,11 70:8,11,
14,17 71:9,19,21,25 72:3,10,
15 74:13,15 75:1,4,7,8,9,14,
15 76:9,10,13,18 80:11 81:17
84:11 85:8,12,14,17 87:3,5
88:3 89:8,10,18,21,23,25
90:1,2,7,8,9,10,24,25 91:7,10,
16,17,18,19,20,21,22 92:7,8

Commissioner's 73:23

commissioners 2:3,21,25
3:17 5:18 8:4 10:11 11:5
17:21 19:21 21:8 32:6 36:13
45:3,7 46:22,25 48:15 52:10,
20 55:16 56:9 57:3,5 58:7
63:6,21 67:23 71:16 73:16
78:5 80:25 87:11,17 88:6,10
89:12 91:2 92:10

commitment 21:18 46:1

committed 81:4

committee 9:25 10:3,17,25
42:2 53:18,22 54:11,13,17,20
57:12,14,19,21 62:2,3,11
75:25 76:1,3,4,6

committing 80:11

common 14:20

commonality 22:22

communicating 28:21

communications 20:16 76:9

communities 12:6 80:4,21

community 2:2 3:10 10:20
11:23 16:9 22:13 23:3,16,18
24:14 25:4 26:8,12 27:11,16

28:2,4,9,14,22,25 29:9,11,14,
18,19 30:18 32:24 33:10,12
36:1 47:6 58:15 59:25 75:20,
22,24 80:23 81:7

companies 33:1

comparison 41:1

compassionate 79:24

compensation 80:12

competence 19:2

competent 17:11

complainant 43:5,25 44:16,20

complainant's 44:1

complainants 37:21 39:21
44:4

complaint 9:25 10:10,16
37:11 42:2 43:6,9,14,19,21,23
44:1,7,19,25 45:10,17 46:20
47:11,20,22,24 52:5,6 53:15,
18,22 54:20 56:20 57:11,21
62:10 67:22 68:6 70:1 76:4
85:2,16

complaints 4:1,9 37:21 38:23,
25 39:2,20,23 42:13,23 43:22
45:7,12 46:3,15 47:16 49:16
53:6 59:18 65:10 67:23 70:3,
22 79:11 84:20 85:14

complete 44:6

completed 10:3 19:4 38:21
49:13,17

completing 10:14 40:22

completion 58:6 60:23

compliance 36:24

components 43:20

comprehensive 26:20

concern 10:19 44:8 52:19,20
86:1

concerned 38:15 51:16

concludes 30:24 39:4

conclusions 56:13

conclusive 44:11

condemn 70:12

conduct 45:19

conducting 28:11

confidence 21:16 42:19

confident 15:21

congratulate 70:2

congratulations 17:22 19:22
21:9 22:7 31:5 70:5

connected 52:2

connection 37:17

Connors 75:22

consent 36:24 45:15

consequences 79:15,16

considerations 24:12

consistently 42:20

constant 41:25 43:9

constituents 37:18 39:21
80:20

constitutional 12:11

constructive 11:11

consultation 3:21 37:2

contact 11:10 41:25 44:2,3
57:8 86:10,15

contacts 35:24

contents 89:4

context 14:15 35:21

continue 3:12,13,14 10:20
11:18 12:4 21:22 25:8 35:10
49:1 78:1 82:21,23 85:11

continued 35:8 73:5

continues 40:16

continuing 40:2 81:8

continuous 43:15

contribution 36:8

control 52:7

cooperation 53:7
Coordinator 6:10
copy 87:17
Corporal 28:15
Corporation 6:13
correct 8:14 11:2 52:24 54:8
62:2
corrected 42:7
corrections 5:22,23
corrective 40:11,12 44:13
correctly 42:4
correspondence 74:1
corrupt 85:10
Corruption 20:7
cost 69:22,23,25
costs 69:22
council 4:7 7:15 52:19 53:14
83:6,17 88:15
counsel 6:13
counseling 37:20 40:13
counselors 30:13
count 38:7
counting 10:1
County 16:7 52:23 75:22
77:10 78:12
coup 75:14
couple 16:16 27:6 51:23 72:21
81:12
court 4:14 6:6 12:8 44:24 80:5
Courts 11:21,23 79:1,4 82:21
84:2
Courts' 83:14
cousin 16:19
COVID 13:12,13 79:25
crash 71:4
crazy 88:2,13

credit 51:6
creed 21:23
crime 12:2,6 13:18 18:21 26:7,
12 27:13 29:10,20 80:3
crimes 12:8
criminal 4:9 13:19 18:24 52:6
criminality 4:2
criminals 79:18 80:2
crisis 73:3
critical 30:23
criticize 88:13
Cromwell 6:15
crosstalk01:25:28 63:5
Crowley 63:8
culture 27:9 79:9
cure 80:3
curious 72:3
current 20:11,13 37:11 41:2
54:3 81:25 85:10
customer 78:15
cycle 38:23 39:1

D

D-DOT 20:3
dad 17:6
dance 27:23,25 62:18 63:16,
18,25 64:8 66:4
dancing 27:21
Danny 28:15
data 27:12,14 38:16
date 13:23 32:10 40:6
dating 41:1
daughter 17:11
Davis 7:13 84:12 87:5,6,8,23
day 9:8 10:21 11:7 21:18

27:22 40:3,19 44:5 47:18
52:21 66:25 67:1 77:13 81:21,
24,25 82:25 84:5,6
day-to-day 71:15
days 11:9 41:9 48:9 83:5
87:25
DC 83:23
Dea'shanae 7:21
dead 61:6
dealing 53:4 83:17 88:4
Dearborn 88:8
decade 36:21,22 41:19
decedent 16:20
December 26:2
decided 73:11,17
decision 12:18 73:12
decisions 73:17,18 79:23
decreased 38:18
decree 36:24 45:15
dedicated 28:14
deep 53:4
definitions 45:15
degrading 79:3
degree 17:3,4 18:24 20:16
degrees 30:8
delay 82:10
delayed 9:4,8 81:21
delegate 4:15
delegation 4:17
deliver 10:21 37:17 54:19
delivers 81:1
delivery 82:5
demeaning 79:3
demeanor 44:9 53:7,10,11
79:8,11

democratic 30:1
demonstrated 18:4
demoralized 86:23
denied 86:23
department 2:5 4:2,6 8:19
11:19,24 13:7 18:11 20:2 22:4
25:9 27:25 28:17 29:12,21
30:13 32:24 33:20 35:5,11
36:25 42:14,20 44:18 45:14
52:15 61:10 70:3 71:2,3,6
77:9,15 78:5 86:21 87:10
88:7,8,9
department's 4:7 25:1 35:3
departmental 3:24
Deployment 25:19
deputy 6:25 17:8 23:23 70:3
83:22
Derrick 19:9,23 21:5
Desean 7:21
Deshawn 6:25
detail 11:6 14:6,17
detailed 68:5
details 12:22 73:24
Detective 18:22 20:14,15
21:21
detectives 15:3 18:23
determine 45:7
Detroit 2:3 3:7 5:8 7:18,22
11:19 18:10 20:2 27:20,24
32:23,24 33:11,17 35:10
42:13,20 47:22 61:7,11 63:12,
22 65:9 71:7 72:1 75:19 76:6
77:5,9 81:5,11 83:10 84:16
86:21
Detroiters 33:5
detroitmi.gov/bopc 47:21
detroitmimi.gov/bopc. 47:21
develop 22:15 28:3
development 35:4,6

dialogue 37:3
dictate 81:1
difference 67:14
diligent 49:2
dips 49:23
direct 77:24
direction 13:12,15 14:10 15:9
32:17 40:21
directly 34:5 88:10
director 6:12 35:6
disabled 13:7
disagreement 85:7
discharged 16:20
disciplinary 40:12 45:3
discipline 4:5 37:20 45:4
discuss 29:20
discussion 5:17 17:20 19:20
21:7 33:7,15 91:12,13
discussions 28:24 30:19 92:6
disenfranchised 63:22
disrespect 63:24 64:17
disrespecting 64:15
distant 85:14
Distortion 91:23
distracted 22:23
distribute 54:8
distributed 5:21 53:21 56:7
58:18
distribution 58:6 85:13
district 5:5 18:13,14 20:4
58:13 71:22,25 80:10
distro 54:3
disturbing 85:3
dive 53:4
division 29:13

Dixon 12:15 89:6 91:4,6
do-it- 78:9
document 26:21,25 31:21,23
35:9 85:7
documents 84:19,22
Dodge 15:14
dollars 86:24
domain 9:15
Don 6:6
doubles 79:13
downward 49:13,21
DPD 2:2 12:11 25:19,21 26:19
27:19 28:5 30:14,16 36:1
37:18 40:10 44:17 45:3,4,5,9,
18,20 52:19 53:8 74:3,8,9
86:5,9,19
DPOA 7:4
drag 14:6,13
drastically 56:21
drawing 80:19
drifting 14:13
driving 14:24
drop 38:22
drugs 84:4
Duchess 15:24
due 13:8 46:17 50:1
duties 3:21 10:22
duty 13:8

E

earlier 18:2 35:2
early 79:25 81:23
earned 36:25
easily 84:19
East 24:1
Eastern 18:13 75:22 76:12

eat 12:25
echo 60:10
Edge 14:25
education 19:2 26:13 28:14
29:23
effect 89:9
effective 9:21 10:15 43:10,16
46:19 80:19
effectively 42:11
effectiveness 36:19 37:15
efficiency 37:15 43:16
efficient 9:21 43:10 46:18
effort 7:25
efforts 9:16,20 10:7 12:5 40:5,
8,14,20 82:7
elevate 43:24
eligibility 86:7
eliminate 59:22
email 11:4 57:12 68:25 83:21,
22
embody 80:17
emeritus 76:16
emotional 30:21
employee 45:20 88:13
employment 4:5 89:5
encounter 22:18 68:8
encountered 15:14
encouragement 73:5
encouraging 18:5 81:9
end 2:18 38:2 40:22 48:4
56:21 77:13
ends 39:1
enforce 4:11
enforcement 4:3 12:5 18:6
22:14,17,19,20 26:16,21,23
27:21 42:18 68:7,9 79:9 83:18

engage 27:15 28:4 42:21 43:8
engaged 22:13
engagement 23:19 46:1
engagements 43:15
enhance 45:9
enjoyed 56:12
enlightening 22:18
enrolled 17:5
ensure 10:14,23 11:5 38:3
43:3
ensuring 9:14 28:13 35:11
entertain 5:13 49:11
entire 11:21 35:4 49:1 70:1
73:22,25
entities 29:16
entitled 86:24
entry 44:9
equally 54:10
Eric 22:12,24 84:10,15
escalated 16:3
essential 37:7
established 3:23 27:9
estimation 59:5
ethno 83:8
evaluate 10:2 35:9 43:22
evaluated 37:10
evaluating 36:22 38:6 39:19,
22 41:17
evaluation 10:9 42:22 43:13
46:2
evening 78:20 80:9
event 27:22 28:21 30:17
events 27:16 29:7 30:16
everybody's 52:22,23 74:17
evidence 4:11,12

evil 83:5 84:4
Ewing 22:12,24
examples 42:24 68:20
excellent 31:16 40:18 50:9
59:23
excited 23:2,22
excuse 26:7 41:10
excuses 79:25 80:1
execute 80:18
executive 12:12 17:17 18:3
19:8,16 21:4 24:25 25:18 26:3
executives 2:2 36:1
exercising 4:18
existing 38:22
exit 90:16
exonerated 44:12
expect 38:19 67:12,15 80:17
82:1
expectations 73:1
expected 21:23 28:10 59:7
82:6
experience 68:9
expertise 81:9,10
explain 86:9
expungements 80:1
extensive 25:10
external 4:3 29:15
eyes 36:18

F

face 79:17
facial 74:8
facilitating 7:24
fact 38:13 51:24 54:23 88:11
factor 49:14,15

factors 79:14
facts 51:23
factual 9:14
fail 78:2
failed 44:21 92:3,4
failure 4:13
fair 12:18
fairly 42:11
fall 40:5
fallen 11:20 79:1
familiar 24:9
families 80:6
family 15:8 22:4 78:2 80:5
Fantastic 31:2,8 32:18 35:14
51:21 60:7 72:16
faster 60:1
fatal 21:20
favor 5:17 17:20 19:20 21:7
89:11 91:1 92:9
fax 47:19
FBI 77:10
fear 79:17
feature 82:8
features 82:9
February 39:11 40:17 41:2,4,5
45:24 46:12 49:22
federal 26:16,21
Feds 86:12
feed 8:10
feedback 28:8
feel 22:16,17 23:3 33:6 50:16,
21 78:2
felony 14:8,18
female 16:1
Ferguson 2:22,23,24 3:18
4:20 5:12,17,19 6:19,22 7:5

8:7,13,17 9:6,24 10:16 11:15,
18 12:9 17:20,22 18:8 19:20,
22 20:21,24 21:7,9,13 22:10,
25 24:21 25:15 31:2,8,11,15
32:6,10,14,18,20 33:18,24
34:2,10,13,18,20,23,25 35:14
41:11,23 48:7 51:3,21 53:17,
23 54:6,25 55:4,7,25 56:3,16
57:11,15,17,20 58:11,20,24
59:3 60:7,18 61:3,22,24 62:1,
17,20,23,25 63:4,9,10,13,17,
19,23 64:1,4,7,10,14,17,20,23
65:1,4,7,15,19,23 66:2,5,10,
13,18,21,24 67:5,8,17,20,25
68:3 69:10 70:7,10,16 71:20
72:16 74:14,23 75:3,6,16
76:8,10,20,25 78:18 82:3,16,
18 84:8,14 85:21,24 87:7
88:23 89:11,13,16 90:6,13,19,
23 91:1,3,11,13 92:6,9,11
field 51:13
fight 16:2
figure 8:22 42:5 58:15 74:25
figured 42:5 62:13
file 47:11,12,20,22
filed 84:20
files 43:21 85:16
fill 23:15 50:14 65:14
film 84:1
final 4:4 10:8 25:24 26:20 43:4
85:6
finally 19:23 69:22 79:19,21
find 40:7
finding 49:6
findings 44:11
fine 51:10
finish 50:25
firearm 16:20
firearms 77:23
fired 15:1 16:4

firing 15:9
fit 30:16
Fitzgerald 82:21
fixed 2:9 8:23
fixing 62:13
flagged 39:24 46:4
flee 15:21
flip 22:20
flying 50:25
focus 43:11 68:6 84:24
focused 38:22
focusing 40:4,8,14 43:12
follow 56:2
food 30:20
footage 84:21
force 20:7 25:7 26:4,9,14 27:6
28:2 29:10,23 30:11 44:9
88:4,8
Ford 14:25
forecast 40:1 46:7
foremost 38:1
forget 80:1
format 38:3,22 39:3,5 43:3,5
forms 10:18
forums 80:22
forward 4:2 9:11,13 12:1 13:1,
2 14:4 17:10 35:16 36:2
38:13,19 51:1 59:5,23 60:25
75:11 81:8
Foundation 77:12
fraud 14:3
free 30:17,18
fresh 36:18
Friday 14:6
friends 77:23
full 43:24 73:1 83:15

fun 27:23

funding 12:6

funds 12:7

funeral 83:1,14

future 4:9

G

G.I. 86:3,25

gave 17:7 36:17 77:16 79:2

gender 28:11

generally 2:18 69:2 71:2

gentleman 66:7 83:19

George 82:15,16,17,19 83:12

GI 86:4

give 11:3 12:25 14:15 21:10
24:3 26:1 27:13 35:20,23 36:2
41:4 42:25 46:23 47:7 51:6
54:4 55:4 59:19 65:16 66:6,7
67:22 72:18 78:7,9 79:23
85:15

giving 50:23 65:15

glad 38:11 48:2

gladly 47:24

glasses 69:13

goal 10:14 14:14 42:17

goals 25:4

God 3:3,6,8,10,11,14,15

good 2:1,23 6:19,21 13:4
21:14 25:17 32:16,20 35:25
51:18 56:10 69:17 71:22
75:17 76:21 78:12,20,21 80:9
82:1 87:6

gov 82:5

government 28:23 78:6

governor 76:15 83:21

grab 10:4

grace 3:3 83:14

graduate 18:24 20:17

graduated 31:5

graduation 30:7

granddaughter 76:11

granted 11:25 91:8

grateful 77:3 81:7

great 3:6 12:9 34:22 36:2,10
38:10 50:23 51:7 68:24 74:16
75:4 87:8

greater 11:6 83:13

Griffin 19:10,23 20:1,9,15,22
21:5,11,12,14

group 83:24

Grow 7:18,22

guess 58:14

guests 7:6,11

guide 3:6

Guild 77:12

gun 15:17

guns 77:21,23

gunshots 15:9,13,14

guys 8:18,21 48:8 53:24 58:12
76:25

H

Hall 66:15,22

hand 57:16

handgun 78:11

handle 53:25 59:13 62:7 71:15

handling 6:5

Handyside 6:7

hang 55:8,25 58:25 61:22
62:1,3 67:20

happened 23:5 30:17

happening 27:22 29:2 74:22

happy 24:12 37:13

harassment 85:4

hard 9:1 42:3 47:4,9 49:2

harm 55:22

Headquarters 75:20 76:7

health 29:17 73:3 75:1

healthcare 30:19

healthier 52:22

hear 13:2 21:12,13 32:25 33:1,
5 63:13 67:25 72:1 75:15 77:2
84:13,14 85:23,24 87:7

heard 15:11 42:6 70:11,13,16,
19 87:6 89:22,24

hearing 4:8 91:14

heart 80:13 83:4 84:16

hearts 81:3

Heather 18:9 19:12,13,14,17

heck 50:11 55:18

held 29:19

helping 41:16

helps 10:23 45:7

Hernandez 4:24 6:2 21:6 31:9,
10 48:24,25 49:10,18,21 50:1,
13 51:1 52:3 58:3 59:6 89:8,
21 90:25 91:21

hey 58:9

hide 79:22

high 15:15

high- 71:17

highlighted 52:14 74:10

highly 23:10

hindrance 60:22

hire 12:6 53:13 87:25

hires 50:17

hiring 51:25 88:11

hold 16:19 20:25 57:23 62:1
78:11 79:3,5

holding 16:17 75:13
Holley 4:23 5:16 19:11 21:1
22:8 33:25 52:3 54:5 55:10
56:2,6,24 57:14,16,19 60:13
66:6 75:1,14,15 79:15 89:18
Holt 4:22 5:15 17:13 18:1
19:7,15,25 22:9,11 23:10
24:18 34:2,3,8,16 67:18,19
68:3,12,17,20 69:7 76:10,18
78:21 91:16
home 11:22 12:25 13:8 60:21,
22 77:24
homes 77:20 78:9
homicide 20:7 21:20 22:1
homicides 13:18,19
honor 11:23 17:24 36:12
honorable 2:1 13:4 25:17 27:1
28:6 35:25 41:15 48:3 71:14
72:6,21,24 73:10 74:3,7 77:3,
22 80:9 81:20 82:20
honored 17:9 28:12
honoring 30:6
honors 31:5
hope 9:18 12:17 78:16
hoping 86:25
Hospital 69:14
host 75:23
hours 10:17 47:15
house 12:10 77:21
huge 60:16,22
human 87:20
hundred 10:6
hundreds 86:3
hurdle 84:18

I

Ideally 14:12

ideas 80:17,20
identified 14:3 16:5 26:15,22
27:6 37:14 38:17 44:7 46:17
identify 26:5 37:19 39:24 46:4
identifying 41:17
ilitch 19:1 20:17
immediately 43:2 82:12
immense 60:5
immunity 79:20,22
impact 28:20
impacts 28:25 29:1
implemented 33:14 56:25
implementing 33:16
implying 80:25
important 10:8 12:3,22 16:9
37:23 43:8,12 44:3 45:11,16
46:5 57:4 60:1 78:23 79:8
82:9 85:1
impose 4:12
impounded 14:8,18
improve 37:14 81:6
improvement 43:9,15
improving 42:18
inappropriate 66:20
incident 11:21 14:21 15:12,23
16:7 40:6
incidents 21:20 28:22 29:3
30:23
include 12:22 28:24 44:12
84:22
included 30:19 33:6 73:16,22
74:11 83:20
includes 32:1 36:16 38:12
39:9 40:24 44:1 70:1
including 4:8 43:6 84:20
inclusive 28:17
incoming 38:25 41:6 74:1

inconvenience 2:12
increase 13:24 83:7
increased 83:16
India 7:21
individual 27:2 69:1 86:9
individually 14:1
individuals 15:17,18 16:3
80:15
industries 37:8
informal 44:19
information 9:14 10:24 11:4
12:3,16 15:4 16:6,15 29:4,7
36:2 44:2 55:10,21 78:16
86:11
informed 44:4
informing 29:7
infuse 29:11
initiate 15:16
initiating 27:11
initiatives 30:15
injured 13:6
injuries 13:8
Innocence 44:21
Innovation 2:5
input 10:8 13:2 28:22 33:10
81:5,6
inside 9:7
inspectors 49:14
install 77:20 78:8
installed 78:9
instance 2:8
instilling 42:19
institute 19:4
instructed 85:15
instruction 50:8
insurance 43:1

intake 43:4,20
integrate 28:7
integrity 42:19
Intelligence 18:21
intended 15:2
intensive 50:6
interacting 23:4
interest 9:17 25:22 27:3
interested 2:15
Interesting 76:13
interim 5:24 6:14 9:22,23
25:19 35:17,21,25 36:6,15
41:22,25 42:1,6,10,17 43:8
45:12,21 46:7,22 47:10 49:9,
16,19,24 50:3,18 51:5,7,9,10,
19 54:9,14 57:8 59:10,12,25
61:19 68:4,15,19,22 70:25
71:23,24 72:22,24
INTERIN 68:10
internal 4:3 20:6 29:15
International 19:5
interns 7:17,23 8:3
interpreters 7:9
interrupted 71:23 84:24
introduce 5:24 6:22,23 7:1,2
8:3
introduction 35:23
introductions 6:2,4
inventor 77:8
investigate 42:12 44:8,17
45:17
investigating 37:18,25 51:11
52:11
investigation 4:4 12:23 15:3
38:20 39:4,13,15 43:6,9,14,
19,25 44:6,7,25 45:23,25
investigations 36:13 37:11
38:5 43:11 45:1,10,11 46:21

investigative 44:5,11
investigator 6:11,14,15,16,17
8:2 9:11,18,23 35:17,21 36:6,
7,14 41:22,25 42:11 44:3,23
45:2 54:15 57:8 61:8,14,19
62:22 70:19 71:14,23,24
72:22 73:15 85:3
Investigator's 73:22
investigators 38:25 45:1 47:8
48:2,11 50:5 54:7 59:8 60:16
61:11,13,18
investment 33:4
invited 7:11
invocation 3:2
involve 39:25
involved 46:5 74:16 87:18
island 53:16
isolated 13:16
issue 2:6 14:20 86:18
issued 14:7,17 26:3
issues 45:4
item 49:11 53:8 73:20
items 25:6,9 26:15,18,19
28:19 32:2 72:21 74:11 81:12

J

James 3:2 17:16 21:3
Jeep 14:25
Jesus 3:4 4:24 6:2
Jesus' 3:16
Jim 4:23
job 21:18 50:9,11 55:16 58:2
61:17 68:24 74:24
jobs 74:18 87:16
joke 84:1
Jonya 6:10
judges 79:18,21 80:4

July 5:14,21 14:22 15:5,24
16:13 75:18 80:24 81:24
June 30:17 46:23 49:12,23
59:7 70:4 81:23
justice 18:24 36:25 45:15
52:15 61:10 88:7,9
justify 79:11

K

Kane 7:20
Katrina 6:12
keeping 3:4 16:8
key 9:17 12:8 37:14
kicking 42:8 62:12
kids 77:21
Kimberly 17:12,18
kind 3:15 18:6 56:1 61:17
86:16
knew 66:24
knowledge 80:18,20
knowledgeable 80:16
Kroger's 77:16

L

lack 84:17
Language 7:8
LAPD 77:10
large 46:13
largest 53:8
launched 46:12
law 4:3 12:5 18:6 22:14,17,19,
20 26:16,21,23 27:21 42:18
45:20 68:7,9 79:9 83:18
lawlessness 83:4
Lawrence 6:14 9:23 35:17
36:6 42:1 61:19 62:21 65:6

layer 32:23
lead 20:7,14
leader 75:10,12
leadership 10:1 17:4 19:4
29:24 30:4 70:18 72:13
leading 49:13
learn 27:20 33:5
Learned 14:23
leave 47:17 74:5
leaving 61:16
led 36:24 43:14
legal 15:17 69:23 86:16
legislation 83:9,25
legitimacy 26:10 27:8
legitimate 86:20
lend 81:9
lengthy 48:21
letter 43:4 44:1 69:4
letting 50:23
let's 53:12
level 30:12 71:17,18 72:4
leverages 81:6
LGBTQ 28:4,9,15
liaison 18:16 23:8,17 28:16
29:13
Liberal 15:6
lie 64:12
Lieutenant 7:14 13:25 16:22
18:9,17,18,23 19:1,9,14,17,23
20:1,8,9,15 21:5 31:4,6 76:23
78:19,20,22 79:13 82:24
life 13:14 79:1
lifestyle 73:17
limited 79:20
Linda 5:1
link 2:6,10,13 8:21,23

Lisa 5:9
Lisonya 6:16
list 56:24 57:3
listen 50:20 64:7
literally 46:14
litigation 45:13
live 21:22
lived 80:4
lives 79:2,23,24 82:25 84:6
living 83:4
Livingston 77:9 78:12
local 26:16,21,23
located 47:13
lock 77:25
locks 77:12,13,17
log 43:7
Logan 17:7
long 13:14 51:9 52:8,14 79:5,
14 87:24
long-time 77:4
longer 44:17
looked 2:6 84:1
Lord 3:3,5,6,8,10,11,14,15
Loren 11:21 79:1,4 82:21
83:14 84:2
lose 8:9
losing 49:25
loss 11:20
lost 61:11,13
lot 10:25 23:18 33:4 36:10
48:8,16 59:16,20,22 78:3
79:19
loud 60:3
love 3:13 25:15 27:1 33:5 58:7
72:1
low 79:24

lower 69:24
LSA 7:3,14 76:24
LSD 83:11
lunch 12:24

M

Madam 4:21 7:5 72:5,17 89:15
91:15,23
Madame 92:1
made 18:1 34:4 37:8 38:10
41:19 51:24 77:8 80:24
Madrigal 6:17 36:7
magnify 3:16
mail 44:1
main 57:21,22
major 36:20,21 52:11
majority 73:2
make 4:6 12:18 21:2,24 22:11
25:9 26:6 28:20 29:25 33:15
37:5 38:7 40:9 42:12 47:23
52:21 53:23 54:7 56:1,17,19
57:25 66:11 67:14 68:14 71:4,
6,8 73:11,17 76:11 82:7 83:24
88:6 89:8 90:5
makes 4:9 24:25
making 2:16 16:17 28:13,16
33:12 40:18 41:14 46:9,15
male 15:25
males 14:24
man's 83:4
management 17:4,8 30:9
45:13
manager 24:25 25:18 36:15
manner 10:15 55:17
Maqueda 76:23
March 49:22
Marie 7:11

marijuana 83:7
Mark 7:3,14,19,20 31:4,5
76:24
Martez 12:15 89:6 91:4,6
massages 30:19
master's 30:8
matched 15:18
materials 74:4
matter 16:5
matters 91:4
mayor 3:8,22,25 4:6 52:19
83:9
MBA 17:5
Mccomb 77:10
Mcmurray 77:3,4,20
MCOLES 30:3
means 32:11 45:17,19 70:4
measures 9:17 12:8 41:18
43:11 45:14 46:17
media 6:4 26:12 28:19 29:5,6
mediation 43:24
medical 74:5
meet 10:14 42:20 48:10
meeting 2:4,7,9,10,25 3:1 5:20
6:5 8:18,24 11:7 12:1 47:1,2
51:1 63:21 64:24 74:11 75:18,
20,25 76:2,3,4 80:23 82:6
83:20 84:22 88:14 90:20,21
92:11,18
meetings 10:17 11:1 29:19
50:20 51:11 67:9 75:24 76:6
84:23 89:3
meets 75:25
Melanie 25:20 42:1,6 62:19
65:8 69:19,22
member 4:15 7:15 44:17 68:9
70:12,15,23,25 73:11
members 6:7,8 9:25 10:10,11

12:20 13:7,15,17 22:15,17,19,
20 26:4 28:14 29:25 30:5,14,
15,18,22 37:2 53:22 68:7 71:3
73:14 84:9
member's 18:3
memory 11:23
men 3:9 11:19
mental 29:17 75:1
mention 35:1,5,19 39:18
51:24
mentioned 8:19 9:3 25:20
33:8 35:2 45:21 59:6 73:8
mentioning 27:12
Merrill 47:13,14
met 72:25
methods 43:16
Miah 35:7
Michaels 6:14
Michelle 82:15
Michigan 69:14 78:13 86:17,
20
micro-dosing 83:10
microphone 70:20
Mike 18:25 20:17
mind 42:16 46:13 48:19 60:14
74:20
mindset 23:19
Minister 84:10,13,15
minute 31:14 65:23
minutes 5:20,22,23 25:13 42:9
66:6,7
misconduct 37:19 39:25 40:7
42:24 43:12,13,23,24 44:9,15
45:8,18,19 46:5,6,20 47:11
48:1 59:17 68:6
misdeemeanor 14:19
missed 21:25

missing 81:23
mission 3:19 26:5 42:10,21
Missouri 83:17
money 86:7 88:5
monkeypox 79:25
month 40:16 41:4,7 46:11
50:6
month- 41:1
monthly 10:25 49:5 75:24
months 27:15
Moore 5:10 10:1,11 17:19
19:19 21:2 23:12,21,23 24:2,
5,9,16 31:19,20,23 32:4 42:3
53:20 54:2,12,16,22 55:2,6
70:8,11,17 71:9,21 72:1,3,10,
15 75:8,15 85:13 89:10 90:10,
24 91:20
morning 69:15 83:1
motion 5:13,19 21:3 89:8
90:11,23 91:5 92:3,5
Motions 90:22
motivation 73:6
Motor 88:19 89:22,24 90:4
move 10:4 19:7 33:24 67:20
76:16 81:19 91:7 92:7
moved 5:15 17:15 90:24
moving 13:12,15 14:4,10
23:20 32:16 38:13,18 45:3
59:5 60:25
multiple 15:1,9 16:4 29:6
87:15
Muntathar 74:6
murderer 15:22
Myers 77:16
mystery 86:22

N

names 7:18

national 77:11 83:24
Nazneen 35:7
necessarily 50:19
needed 38:10 41:18 70:2
80:18 91:5
negative 29:1 68:18 70:14
neighborhood 23:8,17 29:13
network 83:24
Newly 20:22
nice 22:1 33:25
Nichols 7:9
night 27:3
nominate 19:3
nominated 19:2
non- 52:5 69:21
non-enforcement 27:11
non-fatal 13:21 21:20
normal 37:9
Northeastern 18:13
note 17:6 25:1 35:8 40:15 74:2
notice 82:5
notification 15:12
notifications 14:21
notified 43:25 72:4
NPOS 18:15
number 26:10,11,12,13 39:12,
14,15,16 41:3,6,7 43:21 44:2
47:17,18,19 69:15,16 78:8
numbers 11:2,8 13:12,14,18
14:10,11,16 38:13 39:10,19
41:8 51:14

O

Oakland 78:14
oath 4:16
oaths 4:10

Obama 26:3
Obama's 25:4
obeying 4:13
objectively 42:12
obtained 84:19
occasions 68:7,13
occur 29:4,8 39:6
occurred 14:22 71:10
OCI 9:15 11:14 12:23 36:16,
18,22,24 38:10,12 39:2,10
40:15,18,25 41:14 42:17 43:9,
15 45:4,7,12,24 46:11,23,25
48:15 57:6,7 61:8 63:6 68:6
69:20 70:1,13,15,18,23 71:10
84:24 85:6,9,12,15
OCIS 36:11
offender 16:4,6
offer 30:4
offered 19:4
office 7:12,16 8:1 9:10,18 16:8
29:14,15 35:16 42:10 44:23
47:13,15,25 51:11 52:13
54:15 61:8,12,18 66:16 73:14,
21 89:5
officer 11:21,23 13:9,10 17:2
18:11,19,22 20:3,10,12,13
26:14 30:10 40:7 53:10 68:23,
25 69:5 74:6 79:4,9 82:21
83:14 84:2 91:9
officers 3:7 7:2 12:7 13:6,11
15:10,14 16:5 27:23 28:10
68:16 79:1,6,17,23 83:12 84:5
86:1,3,7,9,22 87:1
official 10:23
Offline 8:4 10:10
OIC 9:11,18
onboard 50:3
onboarding 49:14 50:2,16
one-person 88:4

online 47:20
open 10:18 15:3 27:12 33:15
67:9 84:21 89:3
operated 26:9
operating 30:2 88:15
operation 4:1
operations 18:19 20:10 71:16
opportunities 11:10 34:4
opportunity 8:3,6 22:14 27:20
29:20 36:18 38:2 68:18
oppose 19:22 21:9
opposed 5:19 17:22 91:3
opposing 4:5
ops 16:23 23:17
option 43:24
oral 76:8
order 2:25 4:12,14 26:3 42:20
56:14 61:23 62:25 63:15
64:16,19,20,22,25 65:3,5,13,
25 66:1 67:3,6 71:19 90:20,21
ordered 56:7,10
ordinance 28:23 33:9
organization 41:21
organizations 37:7
organized 69:17
Orleans 14:23
outcomes 80:5
outlined 25:6,7
overseeing 36:16
oversight 9:15 10:21 26:11
28:1 37:3 43:11 45:14 46:19
61:6 80:19 81:2,7,11
oversized 9:21
overview 25:23 26:1 27:5
owed 86:8

P

package 46:24
packages 54:10
packet 12:17 39:8 74:12
pages 27:1
PAL 29:17
Palmer 47:14
pandemic 9:16 36:17 37:4,8,
10 60:20 72:25 73:3
panel 30:19
paper 68:17
par 50:5
Park 47:14
parse 43:20
part 13:14 34:5 37:9 44:4
52:10,18 53:19 54:7 57:4
58:2,9 60:24 62:2,3,11 72:8
73:24 82:22 83:2,23 85:12
88:7 90:15
participate 13:1 22:21 30:6
participation 44:16 86:11
partnered 30:3
parts 52:22
party 15:8
pass 77:13 78:16 86:11
passed 90:11
past 79:6,14 85:14 87:19
patience 2:14 48:5 65:17
82:11
Patillo 6:12
patrol 18:12,14 20:5
patterns 12:3 14:1 29:20 45:8
Paul 3:2,3
pay 17:10 74:5
paybacks 86:12

paying 14:12
payments 87:2
peace 3:13 51:4
peer 29:16 30:21,22
penalty 4:13
people 6:24 16:20 44:22 48:13
52:1 54:10 55:13,19 57:20,21,
24 60:21 61:15 62:3,7,8 65:21
74:18 78:3 80:8,13,17 86:10,
14 87:13,14,21,23
perceive 49:3
period 37:6 61:12,14 79:4
permanent 88:1
person 54:19 55:14 63:7 71:5
87:19,21
personally 23:10 47:3 78:4
85:2
personnel 6:13 45:19 69:21,
22 76:2
perspectives 80:18,20
pertaining 12:16
Peter 7:15
phenomenon 74:22
phone 32:8 47:15,16,17 59:19
photos 8:5
phrase 78:24
pick 47:1 78:14
picture 41:21
piece 23:15 33:19
pile 51:13
pillar 27:7,9 28:1,18 29:9,22
30:10
pillars 26:9 27:6
place 50:17 72:7 74:18
Plaisance 47:13,14
plan 9:16 10:13 12:21 83:8

Planning 25:19
plans 4:9
platforms 29:6
played 52:10
playing 16:16
Plaza 27:22
pleasure 19:6 20:18 21:22
PM 2:19 12:20 15:24 16:14
47:16 75:19,21 76:1,2,4,5
podium 25:1 35:18
point 18:5 55:10 58:9 61:23
62:25 63:15 64:16,19,20,22,
25 65:3,4,13,25 66:11 67:3,6
71:19
police 2:3,21,24 3:20,22 4:1
6:12 7:13 8:4 11:19 13:9,11
17:7,16 18:10 19:5 20:2 21:3
23:4 32:24 33:19 35:10 36:13
37:19 39:22,25 40:7 42:13,20,
23 43:11,13,23 44:9 45:2,6
46:5,6,20 47:11 48:1 59:17
63:6 70:4 71:1,2,16,25 73:15,
23 74:6 77:9,15 78:5,13 79:20
80:3 82:22 83:12 85:5 86:1,21
88:8,10 91:9
policies 28:3,8 33:21 35:11
88:16
policing 12:11 24:23 25:2,4,8,
22 26:2,5,6,12 29:9,11,18
30:1 32:3 81:6,7 84:17
policy 3:23 26:11 28:1,3,9
33:22 36:15 44:13 45:9,20
53:9 76:1 87:9
political 51:25 52:2 85:11
politically 85:10
politicians 79:21
poor 61:7
poorest 78:24
popped 34:11
portal 27:13 84:21

position 20:11,13,19 61:14
65:14

positioned 23:25

positions 61:15 72:24 87:19,
22,24

positive 13:17 37:5 68:14

possession 15:17

postings 50:14

posts 2:9 9:3

power 3:4,5 4:16,18

Powerpoint 25:11

practices 23:2,20 26:6 37:11
88:11

practitioners 37:3

praise 3:15 36:25 50:11,23

pray 3:3 82:21,23 84:4

prayer 11:22 82:24

praying 83:3 84:2

precinct 13:9,11 15:10 16:24,
25 18:12,14,18,20,21 20:4,9,
14,15 21:21 23:7 24:7,10
47:22 49:6 58:12 74:7 75:23
82:22

Precincts 20:5

preference 28:11,12

prep 27:19

prerecorded 8:21

prescribed 4:13

present 4:22,23,24 5:3,4,7,9,
10 6:2,17 7:10 35:7 89:21

presentation 9:10,19,22 11:14
24:22 25:2,11,23 30:24 34:4,
17,21 35:15,22 36:9 45:23
48:4

presentations 39:8 81:13

presented 18:6

presenting 25:12

President 7:3,15 12:4 25:3,7
26:3 76:24

Pressley 4:25 8:9 17:15 22:7
31:15,16 59:3,4,11,23 60:2,
10,12 89:25 91:22 92:8

pretty 13:14 15:21 53:12

prevent 4:17 29:1

previous 4:8 5:20

previously 7:14 8:18 25:5
40:23 45:22 57:1

price 22:6

Prior 51:25

priorities 12:10

prioritizes 28:16 30:14

priority 37:25

privacy 28:20

privately 70:12

problem 16:10 49:9 54:22
62:12,13,14

problems 2:8 42:7 44:24

procedure 44:10 45:9 53:9

procedures 36:23 37:12

process 8:20 9:9 10:4 11:12
12:23 34:5 38:3,16,19,21 39:6
42:22 43:6,10,14,19,21 44:5,
7,25 46:2 50:6 51:25 52:1,18
57:10 70:23,24 85:8

processes 36:11,18,23 37:1,6,
12 38:6 40:20

product 77:11

production 4:11,12 26:7

productivity 9:12

professional 17:11 35:4,6

professionalism 21:23

professionally 52:12

program 7:18 17:5 23:8 27:18
78:6

programs 30:15 86:21

progress 9:11 11:13 36:11
38:5,8,10,12 40:19 41:14
46:10,16

project 30:9 38:12 39:12
40:17 46:12

promote 17:10 26:7 29:12,18
30:12,15

promoted 18:17

promotion 20:8 36:15

proof 58:9

proper 59:19

property 44:10

prosecute 14:4

prosecuting 14:4

Prosecutor's 16:7

prosecutors 79:18,21

protect 3:7 11:24

protecting 3:10

proud 50:6

proudest 78:25

provide 3:25 9:20 25:23 27:4
29:4,24 30:21 33:9,10 46:18
78:8

provided 12:24 15:12 27:6
29:23 49:8

providing 25:21 30:13 37:20
81:10

public 2:10,15,16,19 4:7 8:24
9:14 10:17,18 11:5 12:10 20:6
27:13 28:7 29:12 31:23 37:6,
16 41:24 45:14 48:10 71:18
72:9 73:3 75:19 76:6 80:12,21
81:1,5 88:2,12 89:5 90:5

publicly 29:3 34:7 70:12

publishing 81:22

pulled 15:1

punished 79:18

pursuant 89:2
pushing 50:22
put 36:18 40:21 48:8 54:10
55:13 58:1 68:20,24 78:10
84:6 87:14 88:1
putting 47:5 55:17 59:21

Q

qualified 52:2 79:20
qualify 86:4
quality 37:17 42:18 85:1
Quantez 4:25
quarantined 13:16
quarter 60:16,19
question 10:19 18:1 31:14,17
32:13 53:21 54:16 56:3,5,6
58:22,24 59:1,5 69:10,18
70:18,21 71:22,25 72:2 73:21
85:13
questions 9:19 11:12 31:1,6,
10 32:15 34:1,2,14 47:25
48:3,5,17 49:3 57:7,9 71:12
quick 41:23 70:8
quickly 10:19 40:9,24 42:7
57:9 69:12
quiet 64:1,2,5,21 65:21
quorum 5:11

R

racing 14:6,13
rack 77:8
rah 70:13
raise 10:19 22:8
raised 73:21
raising 71:22
randomly 58:18
rank 16:23 17:17 18:17 19:9,

17 20:8 21:4
rare 68:13
rate 15:15 61:17
Raven 24:25 25:18
reach 68:15 69:3 78:2
read 3:19 5:24 51:7 53:19
54:11 55:20 56:12,18 57:3,5,
12,18,24,25 62:5,6 67:9,22
reading 4:18 54:21 55:16
57:6,18 58:14
ready 32:21 89:16
reality 52:9 53:15
reason 55:11,12 62:5 72:7
reasonable 73:18
reassessed 41:18
recall 49:24 72:22
receive 3:25 9:10 11:14 12:22
25:10 30:7 42:12 74:10 86:4
received 12:11,15 40:25 41:3,
5 54:13,17 74:3,8
receiving 12:1 44:22 47:15
86:25
recent 11:20 29:20
recently 30:5 36:15
recess 90:15
recognition 74:9
recognize 7:8 13:13 22:21
recognized 14:1,2
recommend 19:6,15 20:18
23:10
recommendation 17:17 18:2
19:8,16 21:4 27:8 29:24 44:14
recommendations 11:11,12
24:19 26:6,15,18,19 32:2
35:12 42:12 44:12 45:5
recommended 28:2 29:10
reconsideration 74:4

reconvene 90:22,23
record 9:13 18:4 33:18 35:8
41:24 67:21 70:11 72:21 73:7
91:25
recording 6:5
recordings 81:22,23 82:2
records 18:6
recovered 14:8,9,19
recovering 13:7
recruit 29:25
redistribute 56:24 57:2
reduce 37:4
reduction 9:16 13:19,20,21,22
26:8,13 29:10 46:16 70:3
reemphasize 46:1
reevaluate 38:3
reevaluated 40:21
reference 11:13
reflect 38:13
reflecting 38:4
Refreshments 12:24
regard 25:11 33:2 36:10 40:8,
15
Regent 76:16
Regents 76:14
registered 86:19
regulations 3:23
related 39:20 46:3
relates 22:16,23 40:6 69:18
relations 6:10 29:5,16
relationship 28:6 78:4,5,17
relative 59:5
relax 70:22
release 79:24,25
remain 90:17

remains 11:20
remarks 36:5
remember 16:11 48:15
remind 9:24 77:1
reminder 9:3 12:18
reminders 2:4
remove 57:13
repeat 36:21
replace 57:13
replicate 24:7
report 4:6 9:12 13:5 25:10,25
26:20 28:24 31:16 32:1,7
33:11,25 35:12 37:13 38:11
42:25 46:23,24 49:8 58:6 68:5
69:16,17 70:24 71:5,7 72:18,
20 73:9 87:11
reported 38:14 85:3
reporter 6:6
reporting 37:23,25 38:1,3,9,
19,22 43:17 85:5,8
reports 49:5 50:9 54:13,17
74:8,10
represent 65:21
representative 7:12 81:3
representing 80:15
request 25:3
requested 73:24 79:7
requesting 37:22 74:4
require 4:11
required 28:23 33:9 89:7
Research 25:19
residence 77:5
resident 63:2
residents 58:8 63:11 65:9
80:15
resignation 73:12 74:17

resigned 61:12
resigning 74:18,21
resiliency 29:14
resolution 25:5 37:21 43:17
resolutions 44:19
resolve 3:25 36:17
resolved 43:2 60:24 82:12
resonated 68:5
resources 30:22 87:20
respect 63:14,23 74:1 78:2
respectful 77:1,2
respond 22:2 30:23
responded 15:11 27:12 29:21
responding 21:19
response 27:2 68:12
responses 10:19 25:21,24
26:22 27:4,7 32:1
responsibilities 72:8
responsibility 53:12 55:23
responsive 24:13
responsiveness 24:15 33:13
rest 48:8 57:23 88:16
restorative 23:2,20
restructured 59:13
result 37:9 38:15 92:4
resulted 15:16
results 45:6
retire 61:16
retired 17:6 74:23
retirement 73:13
retraining 37:19 40:12
return 33:4 57:6 70:20
returned 42:24
Reverend 56:2,6 79:15

review 3:23 10:2,9 12:17 28:8
35:9 38:16 43:13 46:24 47:1
86:16 89:3
reviewed 37:10
reviewing 4:5 10:13 39:19,22
46:2
reward 80:2
Ricardo 5:10 10:1,11 71:21
72:1 75:8
rid 3:14
rifle 78:11
rights 18:16
rise 72:4 75:10,12
rising 12:6
risk 45:13 78:25 79:23 80:2
risking 82:25
Riverfront 16:13
road 42:8
robberies 13:22
Robert 2:17 6:9
robust 14:10
Rockmound 7:20
role 20:4 23:5,16 52:11
roll 89:6,13,14,17 91:11,14
rolling 8:14
Ron 7:4
room 31:4 77:22 78:3,4 90:16
Rosalia 6:17 36:7
Rose 7:15
rotated 86:14
rotation 57:2
Ruben 63:7
Rue 88:19,20 89:22,24 90:4
rules 3:23
running 8:15 75:11,13

Russ 84:11

S

Sacred 84:16

sad 16:21

safe 77:25

safety 12:10 26:14 29:13
30:11,12,14 45:14 75:19 76:6

salute 75:11

samples 44:15

Saturday 12:19 48:15,16,19,
22 55:1,3,6

schedule 12:19

school 19:1 20:18 83:20

schools 26:17

scout 42:25

scratch 50:10

screen 81:13,17,19

screenings 30:20

scrutinized 51:24 52:16

search 28:5 44:10

searches 28:11

seat 72:17

seated 2:18

seconds 32:8 33:23

Secret 77:10

secretary 5:24 7:6 9:22 25:20
36:16 42:1,6 45:21 51:7 54:9
71:13 72:5,18

Section 89:3

sector 73:19

security 78:8

seizures 28:5

select 56:9

selected 27:4 50:7

sell 77:9

send 57:9 68:22,25 82:4

senior 6:11 17:8 36:14

sentiments 60:10

separate 44:18 60:12 88:15,16

separated 43:2

separately 86:19

separations 73:7,9

September 83:24

sergeant 13:8 18:12 20:4

serious-minded 50:7

serve 10:22 11:25 36:9 37:6
47:6 72:23 73:4 80:11

served 18:13,16 20:11 72:25

serves 20:12 28:15

service 11:25 27:20 29:25
37:22 39:20,22 42:23 43:22,
23 44:10,21 46:3 59:19 60:6
77:10

services 6:4 9:15,21 10:21
37:17 42:18 46:19 69:23

serving 3:10 59:25 73:2

session 12:14 48:18,22 55:1
88:25 89:2,19 90:3,16,18

set 31:7

sexual 13:20

shape 61:9

share 3:21 11:1,11 35:23
36:10 72:20 73:23

shared 73:9

shares 12:10

sharing 25:3 76:18

Shaw 76:24 80:9,23 81:15,19
82:13

shooter 15:19

shooting 14:22 15:5,24 77:6,
11

shootings 13:22

short 61:12

shortages 37:9

shortfall 59:7

shot 16:2

shots 15:1,11 16:4

Shotspotter 15:11,19 74:9

show 38:8,20 39:3,5,7 43:3,5

shows 21:18 71:2

shut 66:12

sick 21:18

side 22:20 24:1,4

Sidney 7:20

Sign 7:8

signed 57:7

significant 14:21 24:6

signing 52:11

similar 49:4

simple 49:3,4,7 71:25 73:12

simply 39:21 40:12 47:17

Sims 6:25

single 40:3,19 48:11 87:12

sir 4:21 6:1,18,21 7:7 8:16
11:17 13:3 17:23,25 24:11,24
42:9 51:22 56:23 58:3 63:23
64:14 65:16 66:10,13 67:5,13,
25 72:16,19 79:10 82:17 87:7
89:2,17 91:15

sit 27:2 62:14

situation 16:21 43:18 50:3
56:10 60:24

skilled 80:16

skills 27:25

sky 74:21

slice 23:18

slide 25:25 26:17,24 27:25

28:17 29:8,22 30:9,24 39:9
40:24 45:22
Sloan 6:16
small 46:13 81:14
social 26:12 28:18 78:8
society 30:2
Soki 82:14
sold 77:8
solution 62:11
solve 12:8 44:23
somebody's 50:21
Sounds 22:8
source 45:18
south 55:15
Southfield 77:15
Southwestern 20:3
speak 20:23 21:1 42:15 47:23
68:8
speaker 82:15 87:4 88:18
speakers 76:22
speaking 69:2
speaks 28:3,10 29:3 30:10
special 7:6,11 16:25 17:1
18:19 20:10 30:16 47:7
Specialist 6:9
specifically 30:20 71:12 73:10
speech 70:14
speed 9:9 15:15
spiel 21:10
Spirit 27:22
spokesperson 10:23
Sports 77:12
spots 88:2
staff 4:15 5:25 6:1,3,7,8,22 8:1
10:3,24 11:10 35:2,8 37:1
40:2 46:9,13 47:3,4 48:9 49:1

50:2,20 51:12 52:24,25 53:13,
14 60:4,17,19 61:1 70:12,15
71:13,15 72:7 73:4,7,8,11
74:10,20
staffing 37:9 52:6
stage 39:3,5 43:5
stand 7:19 84:17
standard 77:19 86:18
standards 30:3 84:17
standing 2:17
standpoint 35:2
start 13:5 39:11 40:17 76:25
87:8
started 16:2 27:19 36:13
starters 33:3
starting 14:21 39:11 50:10
state 7:11 30:3 51:22 69:24
78:13 85:10 86:17,19
stated 45:22 65:14 82:24
statement 3:19 4:19 81:2
status 9:16 25:3 38:20 43:3,4
stay 89:19 90:3
stellar 18:4
step 18:9 42:22 43:2,8,21 58:5
Stephanie 7:10
steps 61:20
Stewart 6:12
stick 61:15 62:7
stimulus 78:7
stolen 14:8,18
stood 77:16
stop 15:16,20 56:17 64:15
65:7 67:10 78:14,24 79:2 85:5
88:14
stopped 56:15
stops 14:7,17

straight 69:15
strain 83:18
straw 77:7
street 15:22
striking 16:20
students 27:20 31:3
stuff 59:15,16,22
subcommittee 87:20
subject 15:8
submission 3:24 38:17
submit 2:16
submitted 16:7 26:25
submitting 14:5
subpoena 4:10,11,13
substantial 40:18 58:4 77:14
substantially 37:14
success 24:6
sudden 52:21
suddenly 56:15
suggested 30:11
summary 56:14
summer 7:17,23,24 27:14,19
summit 22:13
Sunday 14:7
supervising 6:15,16 36:6 45:1
supervisor 18:14,15 20:6
47:23 71:1,4
support 11:24 17:19 19:19
22:4 29:17 30:13,21,22 41:15
50:15,19 52:25 53:13 73:6
79:7 80:7,8 89:10 91:10
supporting 82:23
supposed 58:17
surprised 22:19
surveillance 28:23

suspected 15:19
suspended 79:17
sustained 40:8 44:11 45:5
swiftly 28:21

T

table 2:18 55:19
tackling 43:18
tail 38:2
tails 46:14
takes 9:6 50:4 59:18
taking 50:8 63:6
Talent 7:18,23
talk 23:3 47:10 48:12 52:9
55:20 64:11 66:7,8 67:19
79:19
talking 44:22 49:19 74:17
talks 45:16
tap 62:18 63:15,18,25 64:8
66:3
targets 15:2
task 20:7 25:7 26:4,9,14 27:6
28:1 29:10,23 30:11 88:4,8
tasked 25:20
Taylor 7:21 76:23
team 2:5,9,11 7:9 8:19,23,25
12:22 18:16 20:7 29:6 30:21,
23 35:4
tech 23:17
technologies 28:25 33:2
technology 2:5 8:19 26:11
28:18 32:25 33:3,10,14,19,22
74:8
technology's 28:20
Techs 16:23
teenagers 16:15

telling 74:24
Temple 83:14
tens 86:23
term 45:17,19
terms 36:22 40:11 41:17 46:10
50:15 52:5,11 53:5 69:16,21
Terry 7:22
testify 85:2
testimony 4:10,16
Theft 13:10
theme 14:20 16:8
there'll 23:14
Theresa 6:9 36:7
thing 42:4 60:1,14 67:2 74:19
78:23 86:18
things 23:1,4 59:20 76:17
78:22 83:5
Thomas 7:4 82:14
thoughts 49:12
thousands 86:24
threat 67:7
threatening 67:4
threats 67:11
Thursday 47:1,2 75:18,21
ticket 44:23
tickets 14:17 44:22
Tie 92:4
Tiffany 6:11
Tiktok 16:17
time 2:17 3:1 6:3 7:17 9:6
12:13 13:14 18:11 20:2 22:13
25:22 27:3 30:25 31:25 36:11
38:2 39:13 47:5 48:3,4,21
49:24 50:4 51:9 53:1 61:12,14
62:4 63:19 64:5,15 78:1 79:4,
17 81:25 87:25 90:16
timed 25:14,15

timeframe 40:5 82:6
timeline 44:6
timeliness 43:18
timely 10:15 15:20 55:17
times 21:25 28:12 58:4 59:16
65:12 68:5
tinted 14:25
to-month 41:1
to...one 69:18
today 3:1 6:6,8 7:10 9:9 11:13,
16 12:14 35:7 36:2 37:13
38:11 48:20 61:9 66:25 73:8
77:4,5 78:23 79:8 84:23
today's 12:1 36:9 66:25 74:11
Todd 23:13,14
told 63:2 65:8 83:12 85:9 86:5,
8,16
tool 36:10 79:8
tools 16:10
top 81:25 87:14,19 88:2
topics 12:22
total 38:14,18 39:12,13,15,16,
23 41:21
touch 48:12
towing 88:5
town 24:4
track 46:18
traffic 14:7,17 15:16 71:4
train 12:7 50:4
trained 30:23 47:8 48:2 59:8
training 12:19,22,23 22:14,21
26:13 28:13 29:23,24 30:1,2
37:2 48:16,18,22 53:3 55:1
76:3 86:5 91:8
transcripts 84:22
transfers 44:16
Transmission 8:3 10:9

transparency 27:10 37:15
84:18
transparent 10:20 33:12 43:3
traveling 15:15
tremendous 40:19 41:14
46:16
trend 49:13,22
trends 12:2 45:8
triage 42:23 43:22
tribal 26:16,21
trick 84:25
trigger 77:12,17,25
triple 14:22 15:5,23
trucks 30:20
trust 8:22 11:3 26:8,10 27:8
32:24 67:1 88:3
truth 85:9
TSS 13:9 20:3
turn 40:3 85:17
turnaround 81:25
turned 47:8
turnover 61:17
two-thirds 89:6
type 33:6 69:1
types 71:11
Tyrone 7:12

U

U.S. 43:25
unbecoming 64:23 67:8
uncommon 73:19
understaffed 52:7,8
understand 8:24 53:2,3,10
54:6 55:13 60:15 72:10 79:10,
11
understandable 38:24

Underwood 6:10
Unfinished 75:6
unfounded 44:12
unit 13:25 16:25 17:1 18:12,
20,21,22 20:3,11,14,15 29:16
Unit's 17:2
Units 21:21
University 30:4,7 69:14 76:12
unknown 15:8 16:3
unnecessary 16:21
update 11:13 13:6
updated 38:19
updates 11:6 12:2 36:10
uplift 11:18
uptick 59:9
utilize 11:9

V

VA 86:12,13
valuable 27:14 36:10 80:17
VC 34:2
vehicle 14:8 15:2,20 71:6,10
87:9,12
vehicles 14:18
vendors 33:1
verbal 50:18
versus 71:17
veteran 18:10 20:1
veterans 86:24
veterans' 86:6
Vice- 4:21
Vice-chair 5:15 18:1 19:7,15,
25 22:9,11 23:10 24:18 34:3,
8,16 67:17,19 68:3,12,17,20
69:7 78:21 89:15 91:16,23
92:1

Vice-president 7:4
Vicky 80:9
victims 14:24 15:2,7,9,25
16:25 17:1
Victoria 76:24
video 2:9,11 8:3,25 9:3 10:9
16:17 78:10 82:7
videos 2:7
view 2:10 8:24
viewer 27:13
vigil 11:22 16:1
violates 45:20
violence 3:15 79:16 83:8,16
violent 11:21
visit 9:2
visited 2:12
visitors 2:8
visual 6:6
voice 6:5
voluntarily 80:11
vote 20:24 73:2 89:7 91:4,14
voted 19:24
voters 63:22 64:13
votes 90:12 92:4

W

wait 20:24 41:11 65:23 85:21
waiting 54:15
wake 22:2 65:22
walk-a-mile 27:17
walked 15:8
walking 83:13
wanted 8:2 35:7 41:14 51:6,8
69:18 72:20 85:25
war 23:17

Warfield 51:23
warmer 27:15
warrants 14:5
watching 75:9,10,12 79:21
Water 87:10,11
wax 83:4
Wayne 16:7 30:3 52:22 75:21
weapon 14:9
weapons 14:19,20 16:8,16,17
web 2:5,11 8:19
website 2:6,13 9:2 84:21
Wednesday 75:25 76:1,2,3,4
Wednesdays 27:17
weed 83:15,16 84:1
week 5:21 12:12 13:16,18 14:7
27:19,21 38:14 53:1 73:8 74:1
80:24 82:9
weekly 11:7 74:12
weeks 16:12 40:2 46:8 82:10
welcomed 33:16
welcomes 81:5
wellbeing 30:16 51:8,17
wellness 26:14 30:11,12,14
White 2:1,2 4:20,21,23,24,25
5:1,3,4,6,9,10,11,24 6:1,21,23
7:3,7 8:11,16 9:23 11:17
12:10,12 13:4,23 14:15 15:7,
23 16:11,22 18:9 19:12,13,14,
23 20:1 23:1,11,14,22 24:1,3,
6,11,17,20,24 25:20 32:9
34:24 35:1,19 36:4,20 37:13
38:6,24 39:18 40:14 41:13
42:6 45:22 52:17,25 53:8
54:18 56:23 61:1,21 62:19
65:8 66:14,17 71:11 72:6,13,
19 73:14 82:4 83:1,23 84:5
85:19 89:2,15,18,21,25 90:1,
2,7,8,9,10,14,22 91:5,12,15,
17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24 92:1,
2,3

White's 17:16 19:8,16 21:3
Whites 27:16
Whitmer 83:21
who've 86:10
Whoa 66:2
wife 22:1,4 75:4
William 7:13 77:4 84:11 87:5
Willie 5:4,6,7 10:12 65:10
windows 14:25
withdrawn 54:20
witnesses 4:10
woman 19:3
women 3:9 11:19 19:4
Woods 28:15
word 67:18 85:6
wording 81:13
words 55:12 62:19 63:18 64:9
66:4 68:21 80:7
work 2:11 8:12 9:1 10:25
14:11 23:7 25:8 29:12 35:3,10
36:8,25 41:16 47:5 49:2 50:24
53:5 60:4,6,11,25 69:1 73:19
78:12 85:1
worked 18:11,20 20:3,5,6
21:19 52:13 73:14 87:10
workforce 73:19
working 2:13 7:23,25 8:11
15:4 22:1 23:3,16 36:14 42:3
46:14 47:9 51:13 60:21,22
82:3,11 83:22 87:23 88:14
workplace 29:14
works 10:24 24:9 44:17
world 48:21 88:16
worn 84:21
worse 61:9
worth 14:2 80:2
worthy 17:10

write 28:24 56:13
writes 33:21,22
writing 4:15 68:21
written 67:11
wrong 66:12
wrote 83:5

Y

Yakada 7:9
yards 85:5
year 4:8 13:23 14:16 15:25
16:1 18:2,10 20:1 21:17 40:6,
23,25 53:14 56:12,21 86:5
year-to-date 39:10,14 41:2
45:21,24 49:7
years 52:13 61:16 67:24 68:2
73:16 74:24 77:7 87:22 88:1
young 7:4,14,18,22 16:19
31:5,6 53:9 76:24 78:19,20,22
79:13 82:24
you're 34:13 85:13

Z

zoom 7:12 10:17 20:22 74:3
84:10 88:14