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CITY OF DETROIT
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
BOPC VIRTUAL MEETING
August, 3, 2023 at 3:00 P.M.

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2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon. It is now 3:00
3 PM on Thursday, August the third, 2023. We will now call
4 this meeting to order. Noting that there is not a quorum,
5 we will do our best to move forward with an amended
6 agenda waiting on fellow commissioners to arrive. Then
7 we'll be able to enter into our business for today's
8 meeting. With that, we'll begin the meeting today with an
9 invocation from Chaplain Commander Lowman. Chaplain
10 Lowman, are you there?

11 CHAPLAIN LOWMAN: Yes, I am. God bless you.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: God bless you.

13 CHAPLAIN LOWMAN: Good afternoon, everyone. All
14 mind's clear. Dear gracious, father, God, we thank you,
15 Father God for another day. We thank you, father God, for
16 bringing us here, father God, to meet, oh God, to go over
17 matters oh God, that concerns the citizen, Father God. We
18 thank you, Father God, that you are in the midst oh God.
19 We thank you, father God, that everything, oh God that
20 goes in this meeting, oh God, we declare peace oh God and
21 we thank you, Father God, for just having your way in
22 this meeting. So we give you all praise and we give you
23 all honor oh God. But then we declare that this is the
24 day that you have made, and we will continue to rejoice
25 and be glad even in this meeting oh God. So we thank you

1 in Jesus' name. Amen.

2 COMMISSIONERS: Amen.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you so very much
4 Chaplain Lowman for that powerful prayer. At this moment,
5 I want to remind the community that you do have a right
6 to make public comment. So we ask that you would do so by
7 turning in your comment card to Mr. Brown. We'll move
8 forward with a couple of items to give you an opportunity
9 to sign in for your public comment. So with that, we'll
10 move on to our community impact report by.

11 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: You got two people coming right
12 here.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Great. Is that Secretary
14 or Chief investigator who's handling that? Chief
15 Investigator Warfield. It's on you.

16 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and to this
17 honorable body. We want to provide you with update
18 numbers as it relates to the citizen complaint records at
19 the Office of the Chief Investigator, and the
20 presentation hopefully will be on the screen shortly. As
21 you all know that the Office of the Chief Investigator's
22 mission is to fairly effectively and objectively receive,
23 investigate, and make recommendations regarding
24 complaints concerning the Detroit Police Department.

25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Investigator Warfield, I

1 apologize for interrupting you, but I've just been
2 informed that two commissioners are coming in and I'm
3 sure that the information you're presenting will be of
4 importance to them. So I'm going to ask that while we
5 wait for them to come in, that we make our announcements.
6 The announcements for today's meeting.

7 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For our
8 announcements today, our next meeting will be Thursday,
9 August 10th at 6:30 PM. This is our community meeting.
10 The Fifth Precinct is hosting at WC3 Eastern Campus in
11 the Cooper Room. The address is 5901 Connor Street in
12 Detroit. Following that, the next community meeting, the
13 meeting for September will be Thursday, September 14th at
14 6:30 PM also. That meeting will be hosted by the fourth
15 precinct at Kemeny Recreation Center at 2260 West Fort
16 Street in Detroit.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you very much for those
18 announcements. We still are waiting for commissions to
19 arrive. So secretary Shah, can you list what you have as
20 incoming correspondence?

21 MS. SHAH: Yes, Mr. Chair. One moment. For incoming
22 correspondence, the first item is document number
23 20230731 arrest notification to BOPC. The second incoming
24 correspondence is administrative assistance applicant's
25 for July, 2023. Then following that, there are three

1 legal opinions that have been submitted from the law
2 departments to BOPC. The first is the opinion regarding
3 BOPC final discipline authority. The second is the
4 opinion regarding BOPC, record and evidence retention.
5 The third is BOPC board vacancies. The fourth is BOPC
6 section 7-809, hearing open to the public. The last
7 opinion is in regards to BOPC, subpoena authority. That
8 concludes incoming correspondence. Mr. Chair.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you so much Secretary
10 Shah for that. Now we do in the room, at least not at the
11 table yet, have a quorum of commissioners here. Great. So
12 we can begin with the introduction of commissioners.

13 MS. SHAH: Chairman QuanTez Pressley – Here.

14 MS. SHAH: Vice-Chair Jim Holley – Always here.

15 COMMISSIONER HOLT: No, you're not.

16 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Annie Holt – Here At-Large.

17 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Linda Bernard – Attorney
18 Linda Bernard, District 2. Welcome everyone.

19 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Ricardo Moore submitted an
20 excused absence. Commissioner Cedric Banks indicated that
21 he will be late. Commissioner Lisa Carter indicated that
22 she will be late.

23 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Bell – Present,
24 District 4.

25 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Burton – Commissioner

1 Willie Burton is present.

2 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Jesus Hernandez – Present.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: There is a quorum present with
4 that, we'll now move to approval of the agenda for August
5 the third, 2023.

6 COMMISSIONER HOLT: So moved.

7 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Second.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and
9 second. Is there any objection? Hearing no objection,
10 though that agenda is approved. Now we move on to the
11 approval of minutes for July 27th, 2023.

12 COMMISSIONER HOLT: So moved.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is there a second?

14 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: I second it.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and
16 second. Is there any objection? Hearing no objection, the
17 approval of the minutes for July the 27th will be
18 accepted. Commissioner Burton.

19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I yield. Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. At this time we'll
21 have the introduction of BOPC staff, Chief of Police,
22 elected officials and representatives, and the community
23 leaders by Secretary Shah.

24 MS. SHAH: For BOPC staff present today, we have
25 Chief Investigator Jerome Warfield, Mr. Robert Brown, Ms.

1 Theresa Blossom, Ms. Jonya Underwood, Ms. Candace Hayes,
2 Mr. Drew Fries, Mr. Ainsley Cromwell, and Mr. Elgin
3 Murphy. We also have on Zoom, DPD HR Director Katrina
4 Patillo. The Sign Language Interpreters today are Ms.
5 Yakata and Dr. Stephanie Beatty. Don Handyside is our
6 court reporter, and Media Services is providing video.
7 Sergeant Alan Quinn is providing audio. Today sitting in
8 for the Chief, we have Deputy Chief Bliss joining us, and
9 for our elected officials and representatives, Ms. Fredia
10 Butler, Community Relations President for the Second
11 Precinct, District 4 CAC member, Scotty Boman, Former
12 Commissioner William Davis, Ms. Marie Overall from State
13 Representative Tyrone Carter's office, Mr. Mark Young,
14 president of the LSA, Mr. Ron Thomas, VP of DPOA, and Ms.
15 LaDon Davis City Council member Fred Durhal, the Third's
16 Office.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Again, we are grateful for
18 everyone's attendance. I know there's a number of things
19 that you all can be doing on this beautiful Thursday
20 afternoon, but we're grateful that you chose to spend a
21 couple of hours with us here at our Board of Police
22 Commissioner's meeting. At this time, we'll now move on
23 to our Board of Police Commissioner's Officers report.
24 Well, first we have a resolution on behalf of Ms. Brenda
25 Hill posthumously. At this time, I'm going to ask that

1 Commissioner Burton if you're prepared to please read the
2 resolution.

3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Sure.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 Whereas Brenda Hill was a regular presence at the city
7 Detroit government meetings, including weekly meetings of
8 the Board of Police Commissioners, Ms. Hill posthumously
9 of the Board requests to community members to share your
10 voice. She participated regularly in public comments to
11 speak out for peace, accountability and effective
12 civilian oversight of the Detroit Police Department and
13 other law enforcement agencies. Whereas Ms. Hill journey
14 to the Board of Police Commissioners, her powerful voice
15 in her self-described work as a community activist
16 springing from devastation, personal tragedy in 2009,
17 murder of her son, Brandon Rogers led Ms. Hill to walk
18 away from a corporate career and dedicated herself to
19 finding answers and justice for her family. She soon
20 embarked on the border's mission against gun violence,
21 poverty, and discrimination. She was a relentless fighter
22 for results that prevent crimes, social injustice, bad
23 police practices and failures in criminal justice system.

24 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Whereas Ms. Hill founded the
25 women's delegation of peace and change and served on the

1 Board of Mothers of Murders children. She was a supporter
2 of many other organizations, including Crime Stoppers,
3 which worked with people and police to help solve and
4 prevent crime. At BOPC meetings over the years, she
5 shared how her son murder had gone unsolved. Thanks
6 Detroit Police efforts on the cold case her appreciation
7 never stopped her from not necessarily DPD Police
8 Commission or Board. Ms. Hill always spoke passionately
9 and sometimes tearfully about how important it is for
10 officers and police commissioners to do their jobs right.
11 No matter how hard, because victims and victims' families
12 rely on police and Board not only for justice, but also
13 for peace of mind. Whereas past and present, police
14 commissioners knew Ms. Hill from marches as well as
15 meetings because many shared her goals for policy change
16 and better public funding for education, housing,
17 healthcare, and other social programs essential to crime
18 prevention.

19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mindful of power of media and
20 the ballot, Ms. Hill hosts a regular program and ran for
21 a local office. She never won election, but definitely
22 won more support for her cause. On Thursday, July 13th,
23 2023, Ms. Hill passed away. The Greater Detroit community
24 joins with her beloved daughter, two grandchildren and
25 many friends, and making the loss of dedicated leaders

1 and celebrating the legacy of her resounding voice and
2 the many actions aspired by her to carrying on the
3 mission of safe streets and justice for all. Therefore,
4 it be resolved at the Detroit Board of Police
5 Commissioner, speaking for the residents of Detroit and
6 the Detroit Police Department awards this resolution to
7 Ms. Brenda Hill in recognition to her relentless voice
8 and dedicated work as a community activist for better
9 police, better public safety, civilian oversight of law
10 enforcement, and quality of life for everyone.

11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you so very much,
12 Commissioner Burton. The Chair entertains a motion to
13 adopt this resolution into our archives.

14 COMMISSIONER HOLT: So moved.

15 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Second.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and
17 second. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

18 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those who oppose this
20 resolution is now adopted into our archives and will be
21 presented to her family. Again, we offer our commendation
22 for her excellent community actionist labor not only for
23 the Board of Police Commissions, but for the city of
24 Detroit at large. At this time continuing with the Board
25 of Police Commissioners report, let me say that there are

1 two, well, one vacancy and another that is forthcoming
2 for the Board of Police Commissioners that will be
3 appointed by the mayor of the City of Detroit. The mayor
4 is opening for applications for those who might be
5 interested in serving either in District 1 or in the At-
6 Large seat.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: If you are so interested in
8 applying candidates are invited to submit their resumes,
9 cover letter, and three professional references via email
10 to Ms. Howard at howardm@detroitmi.gov. Please include in
11 the subject line Board of Police Commissioner's
12 application dash your name. If you have any further
13 questions or would like to find out more about the
14 responsibilities and requirements we encourage you to go
15 to detroitmi.gov/bopc for further information. It should
16 be noted that the application deadline is August the
17 10th, 2023. Again, that's August the 10th, 2023. So I'm
18 encouraging all of those who will have a passion for
19 civilian oversight and the time to dedicate to this work
20 and labor that you indeed apply. With that it has been
21 reported in our secretary's report that we did receive
22 information relative to two arrest for DPD officers.

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: While we have received that
24 information and hope to expeditiously resolve these
25 matters timing was not in our favor. So our hope and our

1 desire and our intentions are that at next week's Board
2 of Police Commissioners meeting we will hear from the
3 Chief's recommendation to suspend both of these officers
4 without pay. But again, we're at peace with the fact that
5 they are no longer on the streets. But we are looking
6 forward to again concluding this matter again, by hearing
7 the Chief's recommendation for suspension without pay.
8 Then lastly, to my fellow commissioners, you should be
9 aware that there are two employees that are currently
10 suspended with pay that we have not acted on that matter.
11 After conversations and consultation with HR it has been
12 explained to us that their service to this Board is at
13 our will. So, currently, again, they are suspended with
14 pay. So both of these employees are being paid for no
15 work and I believe that it would be the responsible thing
16 to do for the citizens' tax dollars as to remove these
17 employees from their positions. So with that, the Chair
18 entertains a motion to remove Melanie White from the
19 position of executive manager policy.

20 COMMISSIONER HOLT: So, yeah, I assume.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Entertaining a motion so that--
22 I can't make a motion, but I'm entertaining the motion.

23 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Okay. I move that we suspend--

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Remove.

25 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Remove Melanie White as the...

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Executive manager in policy.

2 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Executive manager of policy.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is there a second? Hearing no
4 second.

5 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Second.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: That motion is second. Any
7 discussion on the motion?

8 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes. Vice-Chair Holley.

10 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: My concern is, is that when we
11 admitted to dismiss people with, and we don't have all
12 the facts, or do we have opinion from the law department
13 in regards to how we'd handle this so we're not setting
14 up for ourselves for a lawsuit? I just feel like that's
15 my concern. I'm having no problem with your motion, other
16 than the fact is, I'm concerned about the fact is,
17 normally when we have more information as to why and
18 opinion from the law department so that we are not
19 necessarily be in position to be sued or embarrassed by
20 this dismissal or acceptations.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yeah, your point is well
22 taken. I don't know if we can at this point protect
23 ourself from litigation that I believe will be
24 forthcoming regardless. But what is clear is that we
25 don't need cause to remove these persons from their

1 positions, which is why you haven't received information
2 like we would have in other positions where cause is
3 necessary. There is no cause. These people serve at the
4 pleasure of the Board and so if it's the Board's pleasure
5 for them to no longer serve, that is all that is
6 necessary for their removal. But if that's not your
7 desire then you have that right in the vote. Commissioner
8 Bernard.

9 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The
10 only reason, as I understand it, and I was here the day
11 and actually assisted former Chair Ferguson in escorting
12 people from the office who it had been determined it was
13 inappropriate that they remain at that time. The only
14 reason is I understand it, that they have been continued
15 on the payroll is because the Inspector General is still
16 conducting their investigation. The Inspector General's
17 recommendation to us was that we not terminate them until
18 such time as their report is finalized. Because as long
19 as they are employees, they have to respond to the
20 requests and document requests and interrogation, if you
21 will, of the Inspector General. So by terminating them,
22 we terminate their access to that employee. It was
23 basically determined at that time that the best thing to
24 do was to continue them so that we could get a thorough
25 investigation of everything that has been occurring

1 within the Board of Police Commissioners, of which I have
2 grave concerns and even some things even today.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: But we'll talk about that when
4 we get to it. So I can't support that motion for that
5 reason only until we get the Inspector General's report,
6 which we've been promised now for the last, what, 60
7 days, 90 days, I don't know. But anyway, they are
8 negligent in my opinion, in terms of getting back to us
9 in terms of this report. It does not take eight or nine
10 months to generate a report about impropriety and about
11 what's happening with the commission. But that's the only
12 reason, your Honor Mr. Chairman, that I would not be in
13 favor of doing that at this time. But I would request
14 that the Chair ask the Inspector General for a date,
15 certain that their report will be generated and provided
16 to this Board, and that they appear before the board in
17 an executive session to discuss it.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you for that,
19 Commissioner Bernard. But it should be noted that there
20 is no timeline that has been set, and so it can be
21 indeterminate. So in that regard it is the Chair's
22 decision, well, my opinion rather my position rather that
23 to have them on for another three months, five months,
24 six months, eight months, paying them for a matter of no
25 work, just so that they might respond to the

1 investigations, which I hope those investigative bodies
2 have already received the information necessary. I just
3 don't believe that that's responsible use of the
4 taxpayer's dollars. But your point is well taken.
5 Commissioner Bell.

6 COMMISSIONER BELL: As you know this Board did not
7 suspend with pay. This was an act by the Chairman, surely
8 on his own. No action was taken by this Board, which is
9 contrary. We received our opinion from the law department
10 in reference to this was improper and they should be
11 reinstated. However, he stated that it is at the will of
12 the Board and support, and we were silenced on that
13 issue. So there's no fact finding in terms of wrongdoing
14 whatsoever by this Board. We give due process, and we're
15 going to give due process to police officers but we
16 didn't give due process to our own people. I understand
17 at will, but I think there's due process for longevity
18 and seniority employees. We just acted improperly.
19 Totally contrary in terms of HR, in terms of law
20 department opinion. You need to read that or resurface
21 that opinion. So we have opinion that this was not a
22 proper action. Corporation Council acted quite some time
23 ago.

24 COMMISSIONER BELL: Garcia, he talked about the Board
25 should respond not individually on the Board. This was an

1 act that was totally contrary and unfortunate. The law
2 department could not take action, but Garcia took action.
3 He came over here and inform us, and we had to go to a
4 close session to correct the situation overall. But Mr.
5 Mallard refused to do that. He let the Board continue
6 down this line. Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you, commissioner Bell.
8 Your point is well taken which is why this approach is
9 being taken. I know what our former Chair did, but I'm
10 trying to get on record the intentions of the Board on
11 this regard. I did not act unilaterally, but again,
12 providing the Board of Police Commissioners an
13 opportunity to vote to state whether or not you believe
14 that these individuals, well, as this motion Melanie
15 White should remain in her position with pay until
16 whatever time the report has been released. Vice-Chair,
17 Holley.

18 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Thank you again, Mr. Chairman.
19 My concern is, Mr. Chairman, that Chairmans do not make-
20 the former Chairman put it on himself to do something.
21 Now you've taking your, you got a vice Chairperson, you
22 got a former Chairperson. Why is it that each Chairmans
23 get to the point where you guys feel like you have the
24 right to do the things that the Board should have input
25 on? I don't even know why they were suspended. We don't

1 have nothing on our table about the due process. I just
2 think, I just want to make sure that, again, that we all
3 know what we are doing. You know. I love all of you, and
4 I certainly love you. But I'm just saying to you, you
5 guys, you can't take this on you as one person.

6 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: The Chairman decides to do this.
7 We have a Board, and you ought to be able to talk in
8 privately this whole session as to how you feel and why
9 you feel the way you do and put out the facts. That's
10 what you doing in terms of dismissing people. That's all
11 I say, Mr. Chairman. I respect you. Obviously, I
12 supported you, obviously. But I do feel like somehow the
13 Chairman is not the Board. The Chairman takes the will of
14 the Board and not the board take the will of the
15 Chairman. But that's my 2 cents.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you for that Vice-Chair
17 Holley. But it should be noted that I have acted within
18 my authority according to Robert Rules of Order. I have
19 not made any unilateral decision. I entertained a motion
20 that was made by a fellow commissioner and supported by a
21 fellow commissioner, and there's a vote to be had by
22 commissioner. So there is nothing in my regard as a Chair
23 that has attempted to take away the Board's agency in
24 this regard. But as you have stated, there is nothing
25 currently on record about these two employees. There is

1 currently nothing on record about these two employees,
2 but they are being paid for no work. So, as a part of the
3 Chair, I thought that it is important that the Board
4 speak and be on record as a matter of how it chooses to
5 regard these two positions. So you can vote yes, and you
6 can vote no, and that's your right as a commissioner.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: But I hope that you all can
8 see that I have not handled this the same way in trying
9 to take on power as the Chair. I have only acted within
10 what Robert's Rules of Order allows me to do, which is to
11 entertain a motion. The motion was made and seconded to
12 open debate and to allow commissioners to make their
13 vote. Yes or no.

14 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, Commissioner Bell.

16 COMMISSIONER BELL: I think the proper role of a
17 Chair used to solicit this type of motion.

18 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Microphone.

19 COMMISSIONER BELL: But this should have been a
20 closed session on this matter before you brought this to
21 the table. You acted improperly with sincerity. But I
22 think we traveling down that path, once again, it should
23 have been a matter of closed session to sort out. I
24 support my other commissioners spoken to this matter.

25 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. The Chair is
2 currently still speaking. Let me say in response that
3 there was an opinion that was given to us by Law
4 Department about what was allowable in closed session and
5 open session. So I have attempted. I know I only been the
6 Chair for a month, and there's a learning curve that I
7 have, but I've attempted to operate according to the
8 policy and procedures that have been placed, and that was
9 stated that this had to take place in an open meeting.
10 Commissioner Bernard.

11 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Just quickly in response to
12 what Commissioner Bell said. I agree with you,
13 Commissioner Bell, that this matter should be discussed
14 in closed session, but not only this matter, but the four
15 significant legal opinions that are in this binder today.
16 This is all new. I mean, new news, new policies, new ways
17 the Board is quote, supposed to operate per the
18 Corporation Council's office. I think we have to discuss
19 those things, Mr. Chairman. I do think we do have to
20 address these issues in closed session, and I'm not
21 comfortable addressing a personnel matter in open
22 session.

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you for that,
24 Commissioner Bernard. Commissioner Banks.

25 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair. Good

1 afternoon. How's everybody doing? I mean, how can we do
2 anything with these people, White and Akbar when there's
3 been no documentation on them? I don't know if they did
4 something right or not?

5 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: We don't have to have it.
6 That's what he's saying. We can just--

7 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Oh, we don't.

8 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Right.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: At will appointees. They're at
10 will appointees.

11 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: If we don't want him, that's
12 it.

13 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I thought we had to have some
14 documentation.

15 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: No, the mayor does not either.
16 The mayor has unfettered discretion and all the executive
17 branches to hire their own staff as we do and they serve
18 at our pleasure. If I work for the mayor, I serve at the
19 pleasure of the mayor. If he doesn't like the color of my
20 eyes tomorrow, he could say, see you, Linda. Wouldn't
21 want to be you.

22 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay.

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you for that,
24 Commissioner Bernard and Commissioner Banks.

25 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Burton.

2 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Thank you. I'd like to
3 supersede a motion to table this to the next Board
4 meeting. Seem like a lot of us sitting at this table
5 we're not aware this line item was going to be on agenda.
6 I don't have certain documentations in front of me as far
7 as legal opinions. I'd like to hear from the law
8 department. It'd be nice if they were present. Are they
9 on Zoom or anything or anyone here representing?

10 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Not a legal question.

11 COMMISSIONER BURTON: So we don't have a legal
12 opinion right here. We don't have all of the information
13 in front of us to make this decision right now today. I
14 think it is a decision that this Board ought to take up
15 at some point. So I like to supersede the motion today
16 just so we can all be brought up on the same speed on
17 everything that's going on to table to the next Board
18 meeting.

19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Our parliamentarian is not
20 here. But I would say that your motion is not in order
21 only because tabling has to occur as a result of an
22 urgent matter that disrupts the Board's business to
23 handle the motion at hand. So, again, it is the
24 commissioner's right to vote no on this issue. It is
25 commissioner's right.

1 COMMISSIONER BURTON: So Mr. Chairman, for important
2 matters like this, we are going to take a vote today and
3 we don't have a Parliament chairman here, nor do we have
4 anyone from the law department?

5 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: You don't have to have these
6 people.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard, I'm
8 going to ask that you speak through the Chair.

9 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: But as has been stated by
11 Commissioner Bernard, this is a matter of the will-

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I agree.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: of the Board.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: 100%.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: So you all can ask for the
16 legal opinion. You can ask for the parliamentarian. But
17 at the end of the day, it's going to be a decision about
18 the will of the Board, whether or not we want to maintain
19 employees.

20 COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Who were not currently working
22 on behalf of the Board of Police Commissioners but being
23 paid.

24 COMMISSIONER BURTON: A motion to table is a higher-
25 ranking motion.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It is a higher-ranking motion,
2 but the motion has to be made when there is an emergent
3 issue that disallows us for continuing the business of
4 the Board. So you're absolutely correct, it is a
5 superseding motion, but there has to be something that
6 prevents us from proceeding with the business of the
7 Board.

8 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: May I say this, Mr. Chairman?

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes. Vice-Chair Holley.

10 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: I thank you for your kind. I
11 think Mr. Chairman, many of us don't even know why they
12 were basically suspended in the first place. We thought
13 maybe there was something legally took place. Also, if
14 it's nothing legal took place, at least Ms. White, maybe
15 since she'd been paid let her come back. Maybe there's
16 another motion or concerned that we have that she comes
17 back, that she did nothing illegal and nothing is legally
18 taken. I'm thinking that somebody did something illegal.
19 So I mean, it is your first year here. But they've been
20 here 18 years. Just to throw people away when they've
21 done nothing, it just seems to be something that just.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I understand the leadership
23 comes with this challenges, and part of that challenge is
24 cleaning up the messes that other people made. I think
25 that in this position, there was a decision made before I

1 was the Chair. Now that decision was made. I wish we had
2 the date. Do we have the date on when that suspension
3 happened?

4 MS. SHAH: I can look that up. Mr. Chair.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: For commissioners.

6 COMMISSIONER: December.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: For commissioners to admit now
8 on record that you don't know why they have been
9 suspended and that happened since December and we're now
10 in August. We're now in August and there are
11 commissioners who are admitting on record that you don't
12 know why they were suspended.

13 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman.

14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I think that speaks of a level
15 of lack of due diligence.

16 COMMISSIONER BELL: There was no August.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: The Chair is currently
18 speaking.

19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: The Chair is currently
21 speaking.

22 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order. If the point of
23 information—

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is currently speaking. Point
25 of information.

1 COMMISSIONER BURTON: We'd like to see a legal
2 opinion from corporation counsel, from the law
3 department. Now at this meeting, we do not have an
4 attorney. We do not have a parliamentarian.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Your point of information is
6 not in order. Commissioner Bernard.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Call the question, Mr.
8 Chairman.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Question that's been called.
10 Is there a second?

11 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Second.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been seconded. We will
13 now move to a vote on the question. This is not a vote on
14 the motion, but a vote on the question. All those in
15 favor please signify by saying aye.

16 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed? Question
18 has been called now. We will move now to a vote on the
19 motion to remove Melanie White from the position of
20 executive manager for policy. I'm going to ask that we
21 have a roll call vote.

22 MS. SHAH: Chairman QuanTez Pressley – Yes.

23 MS. SHAH: Vice-Chair Jim Holley – No.

24 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Annie Holt – Yes.

25 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Linda Bernard – Yes.

1 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Cedric Banks – I don't have
2 enough information. I never received nothing through the
3 email. I don't know what these people did. I don't know
4 what they did.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: This is a vote, sir. Yes or
6 no?

7 COMMISSIONER BANKS: No.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

9 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Bell – No.

10 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Burton – I'm going to
11 abstain because I don't have a legal opinion from
12 corporation counsel, nor do I have—

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Your abstention has been
14 remarked.

15 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Jesus Hernandez – Yes.

16 MS. SHAH: Mr. Chair, you have 4 = Yes votes and 4 =
17 No votes, including the abstention.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. That motion fails
19 as a result of tie in the vote. Hearing the will of the
20 Board, based on that motion, I would not entertain the
21 motion on Lawrence Akbar. But please let it be noted that
22 we currently have two employees who are being paid for no
23 work. Okay. So if the Board desires for another
24 alternative, I suggest that that be made to the Chair so
25 that we can handle this matter expeditiously to be

1 responsible for the taxpayer's dollars for employees that
2 are being paid for no work.

3 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bell.

5 COMMISSIONER BELL: All due respect, it's too late
6 for concern about them not working with pay. That
7 decision was made quite some time ago.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Wait, I'm sorry. Can you
9 repeat?

10 COMMISSIONER BELL: Talk about taxpayer dollars.
11 We've been spending that all the time. We could have
12 rectified when we got the law depart decision to
13 reinstate them. It was improper. We didn't took no
14 action. So don't talk to me about taxpayer dollar, it's
15 just totally out the window.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Well, I allow the citizens to
17 talk to you about taxpayer dollars, but let it be noted
18 that I have just assumed the Chairpersonship. So to hold
19 me accountable for what has happened under a prior
20 tenure, I think is a little bit unfair.

21 COMMISSIONER BELL: I know.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: So I have tried in my tenure
23 to do my due diligence, to have the necessary
24 conversations to resolve a matter that has been long
25 lasting. A matter has been long lasting. Again, it has

1 been the stated will of the Board that we bring this back
2 again. So I'm only strongly encouraging you noting that
3 this matter needs to be resolved. Not for us to delay
4 this any further.

5 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Mr. Chairman.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Vice-Chair Holley.

7 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: I hear your passion. I hear your
8 concern about your tenure and that you just got here. But
9 the thing about it is, the other option is that they can
10 continue to work too. They can be active. There's another
11 one option too that they could vote whether they continue
12 to work since they've been paid. They can, and nothing is
13 wrong. No criminal act took place or nothing like that.
14 Then would have an evaluation or something like that
15 later. But that's the other option is that they can. Your
16 option's not the only option to be on the table. I
17 understand that, but Reverend I'm just saying to you
18 again this is basically has to do with making sure that
19 we are in position to protect ourselves. Even though the
20 lawyer on the other end feels that you're in the right,
21 I'm just saying to you again, I just want to make sure we
22 protect ourselves. That's all. But thank you for allowing
23 me just to say there is another option.

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Duly noted. I believe that I
25 have allowed the Board to utilize whatever option

1 possible. I'm only asking that we resolve the matter. So
2 if the Board desires and notice my language, if the Board
3 desires to have them to go back to their previous
4 positions and work, then the Board needs to speak as
5 such. But you know what's happening currently, what is
6 happening currently is they're not working and they're
7 being paid. That's all that is currently happening.
8 They're not working. They're being paid. So if the Board
9 desires a different alternative, I'm only asking that we
10 don't delay. I think we're all honestly on the same page.
11 I think we're honestly on the same page. They just think
12 that maybe you all are spill off guard by it and that's
13 your hesitation. But again, I don't think that it's
14 appropriate to suggest that I'm trying to do something
15 without the will of the Board when I brought it to the
16 Board. Commissioner Banks.

17 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Yeah. Through the Chair, we may
18 be a little bit prematurely because the attorney general
19 is not through with the investigation. Shouldn't we wait
20 till the Attorney General get through with the
21 investigation then we can make a decision? Wouldn't that
22 be kind of wise?

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: If that is your desire, you
24 can do so.

25 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: The general.

1 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I mean inspector.

2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: This is what I'm trying to be
3 clear about. It has been opined that these two positions
4 are at will. They're at will.

5 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Have reason.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We don't need no reason or
7 rationale, no evidence, anything. They are at will.

8 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. So that's all I'm
10 suggesting. So when we were giving that information that
11 they are at will, that we don't have to wait to an end of
12 an investigation. I brought this matter to the Board to
13 determine whether or not we want to act now or not. You
14 all voted not. I think that that's within the will of the
15 Board, but I just don't want it to be characterized as
16 the Chair doing something autonomously when I brought it
17 to the Board.

18 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Mr. Chair, I never accused you
19 of anything. But I want to ask a question. Is the
20 investigation still going on or through? What's going on
21 with the investigation?

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Investigations are ongoing.

23 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay. Thanks.

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You're welcome.

25 MS. SHAH: Chair.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

2 MS. SHAH: Would you like the date of-

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I would please.

4 MS. SHAH: So the date of the administrative leave
5 with pay was effective March 24th for both staff members.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. So, again, since
7 March 24th, the Chair, the Board rather, has had every
8 opportunity to seek clarity, to seek legal opinion and
9 the like and here we are in July,

10 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Chairman. Mr. Chairman.

11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Vice-Chair Holley.

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: We have August.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: August. Thank you. August.

14 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Then can she also tell you who
15 made that recommendation?

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, she can. She can.

17 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: In other words, who basically.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes. Secretary Shah, can you?

19 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Walked him out here without the
20 Board. Just who made the recommendation.

21 MS. SHAH: In respect of the open meetings act and to
22 make sure we don't step over into speaking on
23 inappropriate personnel matters, I will say that the
24 decision was the previous Chair for the actions that were
25 taken on March 24th.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. I would apologize
2 for my passion, but it's just there. But I will apologize
3 for delaying the meeting. Again, I will suggest that we
4 handle this matter at another date. That will conclude
5 the-

6 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Holt.

8 COMMISSIONER HOLT: So the discussion involving the
9 other staff person, we're not going to engage in that
10 motion.

11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I think based on the past
12 conversation, I can read what would be the anticipation
13 and to spare the community and my fellow commissioners of
14 a higher blood pressure, we will move on from that.

15 COMMISSIONER BELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: May I also point out, Mr.
17 Chairman, as we close our discussion on this, that we
18 have filled the positions that those people had. We
19 currently have a Chief Investigator, we have a Board
20 Secretary, and we have filled positions. So, I don't
21 know, this whole thing has to be worked through and
22 fleshed out in a very different way if you are
23 considering entertaining bringing them back.

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Duly noted.

25 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Holley.

2 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Please let me ask for
3 forgiveness. I want to make sure that I apologize. I made
4 any signs of basically of being disrespectful. I want to
5 apologize to you on that record. I meant no harm by that
6 at all. I apologize.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you for that, Vice-Chair
8 Holley. Moving on now, we would have the Community Impact
9 Report by Chief Investigator Warfield.

10 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chair and to members of
11 this honorable Board. We want to share with you numbers
12 of our citizen complaint records that have been recorded
13 for the month of July. Then we will talk about trends
14 that we are seeing as relates to our citizens complaint
15 reports. We will deal with our current standing with the
16 backlog cases and give you more definition of those.
17 We'll also talk about our investigator's inventory at
18 this particular point in time, and we will deal with
19 allegations at the various precincts that some of you
20 represent. The mission of the Office of the Chief
21 Investigator is to fairly, effectively and objectively
22 receive, investigate, and make recommendations regarding
23 complaints concerning the Detroit Police Department and
24 its personnel. It is the goal of OCI to assist in
25 approving the quality of law enforcement services by

1 instilling citizen confidence in the integrity of the
2 Detroit Police Department.

3 MR. WARFIELD: Currently, our open cases as of July
4 31st, are the numbers that are in front of you. We have
5 793 open cases in our office. 368 of those cases are aged
6 between zero and 90 days, and 425 of those cases are aged
7 91 days and beyond. Certainly, I want to give you further
8 definition on the cases that are age 91 days and beyond.
9 So, back in January, I believe it was January the 27th of
10 this year the former Chair and the acting chief
11 investigator at the time corralled 323 cases that had
12 aged over 90 days. Those cases were set aside and pulled
13 from investigators. Those cases were to be assigned to
14 the task workers in January, and since the task workers
15 were not onboarded, these cases then have been worked by
16 investigators in our office along with their normal
17 inventory. So the cases have not just been sitting there
18 all this time, but there have been periods where they
19 have been worked on. So we started off with 323 cases,
20 and now we're down to 242 cases. That's somewhat below
21 what we thought we'll be right now. We thought we would
22 have at least another 15 cases below that. So we're
23 implementing a plan that I'll talk to you about later to
24 make sure that we hit our numbers moving forward.

25 MR. WARFIELD: As it relates to the trends and where

1 we are we are experiencing a record year in citizen
2 complaints. As you can see with the chart in front of
3 you. For the last two months, we've received 162 citizen
4 complaint reports. The month before that in May, when I
5 got to the office, we were at 1 59. So we are on a
6 serious trajectory as it relates to the total caseloads.
7 Those caseloads are maintaining themselves and we've
8 also, last month, all of our investigators, mid-July, all
9 of our investigators were added to the rotation. So now
10 we have a total of 15 investigators to rotation. The
11 issue though, is when you do the math on that, it comes
12 out to about 53 cases per investigator. A normal load for
13 an investigator is about 10 to 15. So our investigators
14 still have a caseload that is not manageable by industry
15 standards.

16 MR. WARFIELD: When you look at and talking about
17 where we are this year versus what we're trending toward,
18 if you look at previous years, we've averaged anywhere
19 between 1300 CCRs. I'm sorry, between 1, well, between
20 1,013 hundred CCRs to date. At the end of July, we
21 received 935 CCRs. When you then meter out the trend line
22 on this, we are looking at ending the year somewhere
23 around 1,631 CCRs if the trend continues. That is a
24 record-breaking year by far, when you look at previous
25 years of our CCRs. Of course, as you know, our citizen

1 complaint reports come in, not just with one allegation,
2 but with multiple allegations and our investigators
3 investigate every allegation that is brought in. So
4 you'll see here on the next slide the case loads of our
5 various investigators. Some of the investigators are
6 fairly new. Five of them are fairly new. Two of them, I'm
7 sorry, one of them have just six months of experience and
8 a couple of more have just over a year experience.

9 MR. WARFIELD: So they're still learning the job and
10 learning the position. In these numbers, though, I want
11 to be very clear in the investigator's total, because
12 there are backlogged case numbers that are baked in that
13 should not be there. So let me explain what I mean by
14 that. So, over the course of about a year, year and a
15 half, over half the staff left the Office of the Chief
16 Investigator. When those staff left, they left behind on
17 average about 50 cases per investigator. Those cases had
18 to be absorbed through the staff that remained. As a
19 result, these numbers increased. So what we are looking
20 forward to doing is to create just a backlog category
21 that the investigators will continue to go to, continue
22 to work on those cases, but to take those cases out of
23 their case log, because a lot of them were inherited and
24 they were not cases that they initially were assigned,
25 but they will still work on the backlog cases. But we

1 want their caseload to accurately reflect what they have
2 been assigned on a regular routine basis, if that makes
3 sense.

4 COMMISSIONER: It does.

5 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Nope.

6 MR. WARFIELD: Okay, we'll come back to that.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thanks. Soon. Assigned cases
8 are assigned—

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Wait Commissioner Bernard,
10 we'll continue the presentation and have questions after.
11 Thank you.

12 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Also, I want to
13 turn our attention now to the allegations for the month
14 of July. We've had a total, again, of 162 citizen
15 complaints in July with a total of 284 allegations. As we
16 typically see, the leading allegation is procedure
17 followed by service, followed by demeanor. We also have a
18 breakout of the various precincts. So those are the
19 numbers that you see before you as it relates to how
20 those allegations break out per precinct. For those of
21 you who represent various districts, certainly you have
22 an opportunity to see where your particular district
23 stands as it relates to those allegations, and certainly
24 are At-Large members have an opportunity as well to look
25 at it from a holistic perspective and understand that

1 data as well. Any questions?

2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Only you are making a
4 distinction apparently between what we call age cases
5 versus new cases in terms of assignments and I don't
6 understand that with all due respect. Because if you join
7 a prosecutor's office, there are cases that are there.
8 When you walk into the office, you have work to do. It's
9 not just that Linda came in two days later. So I can like
10 cherry pick and say, well, I only want to deal with the
11 people that just came in in 2023 in August or July. I
12 don't have that. I don't have that fluidity. I don't have
13 that. That's not business. Business is taking care of
14 what's there when you walk in the door. If you're going
15 to work there, you don't get a chance to cherry pick.

16 MR. WARFIELD: Trough the Chair.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

18 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you, Commissioner Bernard. What
19 I would like to say to them, I clearly understand, you're
20 absolutely right. What's there is the work that needs to
21 be worked on. However, what I do want to communicate
22 through the Chair is that there was not an even
23 distribution of those cases when members left that
24 office. So you had some investigators that received an
25 inordinate amount of those cases, and some who received

1 less than inordinate amount of those cases. So again,
2 we're not sweeping those cases under the rug at all. The
3 investigators are still working on those cases to this
4 day, and they are not cherry-picking the cases at all.
5 They're working on every case at every level. I just want
6 to make sure that they understand that we all understand
7 the caseloads that they have been assigned to versus the
8 caseloads that they have been given as a result of
9 significant personnel change within the office. But not
10 to circumvent or to relieve them of their
11 responsibilities for investigating the backlog cases.
12 That's not what we're doing at all.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: How does it matter?

15 MR. WARFIELD: It matters. I think it matters for two
16 reasons. Through the Chair, it matters for two reasons,
17 Commissioner Bernard. I think the first reason it matters
18 is that from an investigative standpoint, if I look at my
19 investigative, if I look at my caseload total, and I see
20 that the cases that I am investigating, the cases that
21 I'm closing are cases that have been assigned to me. When
22 I look at the caseloads, let's say, and I'll give you a
23 very good example. Let's say as a result of someone
24 leaving that I received an additional 20 or 30 cases,
25 there's a person who has not been at our office for six

1 months, and they received 84 cases, not fully trained. So
2 it's unfair in a couple of ways. It's unfair to the
3 citizen because this person has not ramped up to the
4 point where they could handle that type of caseload.

5 MR. WARFIELD: They didn't have the routine so to
6 speak, to do that. So it matters to the investigator
7 because obviously if you are constantly working from an
8 underwater perspective, then it's hard to get on top of
9 those things. Instead of merging now, same time period,
10 there was another investigator who was given 17 cases,
11 but that person was not put into the rotation. That
12 person had an opportunity to be tutored through it. So
13 what we are doing is to try and make sure that we meter
14 out these cases in a way that's equitable for everybody
15 that's in the office. So I hope that may have answered
16 your question, ma'am.

17 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Mr. Chairman.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. At this time, any
19 other? Commissioner Hernandez.

20 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Through the
21 Chair. Wonderful presentation as always. I've enjoyed
22 since you're onboarding just the better view of data that
23 we have. I think the data is being sliced in ways that we
24 previously didn't have insight into. I know that I've
25 asked, sorry, I've asked this question of you before, so

1 I'll ask it a different way. Do we have a capture of
2 complaints submitted in other languages? Because if the
3 answer is no, then if we're not capturing it doesn't
4 exist. if it doesn't exist, it's a problem.

5 MR. WARFIELD: So thank you through the Chair.
6 Commissioner Hernandez, here's what we do have. We do
7 have brochures that are in Arabic and that are in
8 Spanish. As relates the—

9 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Actual complaints.

10 MR. WARFIELD: The actual complaints.

11 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: The admitted complaints,
12 like if I look at how many outstanding cases there are,
13 how many are in any other language other than English?

14 MR. WARFIELD: So the complaints that come in, if we
15 have someone that is, let's say Spanish speaking or is
16 Arab speaking, we bring people in—

17 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Translate.

18 MR. WARFIELD: Help to translate. Absolutely.

19 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: So then how many translator
20 touchpoints are a part of these?

21 MR. WARFIELD: We have not, to my knowledge, since
22 I've been there in May, we have not had anyone come in
23 who could not speak or interpret. Oh, I'm sorry. Who
24 could not speak English. But your point.

25 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: That's normal.

1 MR. WARFIELD: No, I don't think it's normal. I think
2 your point is well taken. I think though, when a citizen
3 comes in and there is that language barrier that we make
4 sure that we service that citizen no matter what their
5 language is.

6 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Okay. Yeah. I would just ask
7 that we get more proactive in that sense.

8 MR. WARFIELD: Yes, sir.

9 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Again, if we don't have a
10 view into that data set, it's because we're not
11 capturing, therefore, it doesn't exist.

12 MR. WARFIELD: Yes, sir.

13 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: I'll continue repeating
14 that.

15 MR. WARFIELD: Absolutely.

16 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Again, if there isn't a
17 clear avenue for anyone who speaks a different language
18 to access, and I'm not even talking about the actual form
19 right now. But if we just don't have that process in
20 place, then in their eyes it doesn't exist at all. They
21 don't have that opportunity. What I'm looking at, and
22 this isn't a critique of you, it's just I'm a believer
23 that there's negative stress and there's also a thing
24 called eustress, which is positive tension. That's what
25 I'm trying to articulate here. On the back of this, it

1 says that no one can be turned away, but if we don't have
2 the right tools, we inherently are turning them away.

3 MR. WARFIELD: I understand.

4 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: That's all. I'm trying to
5 make the point on.

6 MR. WARFIELD: Yes, sir.

7 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

8 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you, Commissioner
10 Herandez. Commissioner Bell.

11 COMMISSIONER BELL: Yes, sir. I want to say that
12 primarily just nothing new. We can do the math. It's age
13 old. Old cases, the new cases. We've been in the backlog
14 quite some time. We was in the backlog in terms of
15 consent agreement. The only way we got out of that, we
16 was allowed to bring on DPD personnel and they somewhat
17 got us out of the backlog process. I think Chief
18 Investigators were working that time and we was fine.
19 Also, not. But it's been age old in terms of not being
20 able to have the proper staff and the staff were really
21 not working due diligent, in my opinion, of working at
22 Office four or five year, DPD Sergeants carried the
23 weight for that office, and it was lack of desire from
24 our civilian population. That was my four or five years
25 in Boston Bay, because they cannot be moved at will.

1 COMMISSIONER BELL: We had tried to remove certain
2 individuals. There's a due process to do that in terms of
3 they had ties with the commissioners. We all know how the
4 system work at that time. So I want to say that don't try
5 to indict the past administration in terms of those cases
6 been age old prior for their arrival. I want to clarify
7 one thing Ms. White was accused of when she was acting
8 Secretary.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Interim Board Secretary.

10 COMMISSIONER BELL: Right. She was removed when we
11 hired a new Secretary, right?

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER BELL: Also, Akbar, who was Interim
14 Chief Investigator, he was removed to Senior investigator
15 when we brought Mr. Warfield on board, right?

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER BELL: So therefore, don't clown the
18 whole issue because they went back to their normal job in
19 terms of that whole process.

20 COMMISSIONER BELL: I just want to clarify that.

21 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. They went back to
23 no job. Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. Okay.
25 Thank you again, Chief Investigator Warlock.

1 COMMISSIONERS: Warfield.

2 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Warfield.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Warlock.

4 COMMISSIONER HOLT: All right. You mentioned several
5 times that half of the Investigators left. I'm just
6 wondering the fact that those investigators left the OCI
7 could that too, have contribute to the backlog.

8 MR. WARFIELD: Through the Chair. From my
9 understanding, when the backlog was eliminated back in
10 2011, the backlog was eliminated. There was no more
11 backlog as a result, as Commissioner Bell said of the
12 consent decree and DPD officers, sergeants that we
13 brought on board. That backlog there was no backlog from
14 that time through 2016 when former Chief Investigator
15 Pamela Davis Drake left the office. After former
16 commissioner, I'm sorry, former Chief investigator Pamela
17 Davis Drake left the office, then the backlog began to
18 rebuild and begin to climb. As relates to those
19 individuals who left the office, some of those people who
20 left already had cases that were backlogged. So it
21 absolutely contributed to the compiling of we are today
22 with our backlog cases

23 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair. During the
24 time when half of that staff left, was that during the
25 time when, and you've given some names of some previous

1 Chief Investigators, could we pinpoint when it was in the
2 history of the OCI as it relates to leadership when this
3 half of the staff left.

4 MR. WARFIELD: Through the Chair. I think from a
5 historical standpoint, you could look at the numbers and
6 you can look at the reports that were presented, and
7 certainly we have them in our day database. So if you're
8 asking for a report for that, we certainly can try and
9 prepare a report that would track from that perspective

10 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair. One last, as
11 relates to the leadership over at the OCI when these
12 folks left, correct? That's my question.

13 MR. WARFIELD: Yes. Yes, ma'am. Again, through the
14 Chair, through to Commissioner Holt. I don't think I'm
15 qualified to answer that question as it relates to the
16 leadership at that time, because I was not part of the
17 Board or nor was I part of the office of the Chief
18 investigator.

19 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair. Thank you.

20 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Vice-Chair Holley.

22 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.
23 Chairman. Mr. Warfield, when we hired you, first thing I
24 asked you was, what is your plan to get rid of the
25 backlog? That's what I asked you for. I'm being honest

1 with you, when you're at my age, everything is urgent,
2 and I'm just saying to you that at some point I don't
3 give a good hot chocolate about the data. I want to know
4 what we're going to do about the backlog, what we're
5 going to do about the cases. That's all I'm asking,
6 Chief. That's all I'm asking. I know you are able to do
7 that, but I asked you to give us a plan when you first
8 came on board. I have not seen that yet. Secondly, let me
9 ask you this, or maybe I saw it, but not satisfied with
10 it.

11 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Let me just say this. Can you
12 look at me for a minute?

13 MR. WARFIELD: Yes, sir.

14 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Okay. So the other thing is
15 this, if we got these problems that the police officer
16 are having, and we know where they're coming from, what's
17 precinct they're from, right? You got to categorize where
18 the problems are coming from in the precinct. Am I right?

19 MR. WARFIELD: Yes, sir.

20 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: The police department is run
21 like an army. So in other words, we ought to be able to,
22 maybe I ask this question. What are you doing in meeting
23 with the police department to make sure that these
24 demeanors service and all these three categories, what
25 are they doing to keep the problems from coming in?

1 That's the only way we going to get the thing, part of it
2 now is that we got to make sure we get less complaints,
3 and these officers, they got somebody over them and
4 somebody over them, and somebody over them. Eventually
5 it's the Chief. So I'm just asking my friend, who I know
6 you can do it. That's why we all unanimously had you to
7 come in. I'm just saying to you, 700 something numbers.
8 It just goes crazy for me. 200 and something. So I'm just
9 saying to you again, and I'll leave you alone Mr.
10 Chairman, I know, you're looking at me. I'm just asking
11 you, Mr. Warfield, if you would please.

12 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: On one end, we need to see what
13 the police department's doing about these complaints, and
14 there ought to be some consequences for these people who
15 are basically making these same complaints over and over
16 again. I'm looking at the points. You give me 10 to 15
17 files every week. I'm just saying to you, that to me is
18 how are we going to be able to get some of this, it's not
19 the panacea, but I know that you can do this. On one
20 hand, what the police officers are doing. On the other
21 hand, how are we going to be able to get this numbers
22 down on the backlog? That's all I'm asking. Mr. Chairman,
23 at one time, we had the police department of people who
24 basically, who were not really policing, but they will
25 help us with this backlog. Then we will meet with the

1 mayor, and he keeps telling us what he wants. You tell
2 him how you're trying to do it, but we need the resources
3 to do it. Am I making sense?

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, commissioner. Let me just
5 note, I think that when I came on the Board, the backlog
6 was over 900.

7 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Right.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: What is the actual backlog
9 number?

10 MR. WARFIELD: Through the Chair. To be completely
11 transparent, we don't know because there are a number of
12 cases that are at the IG's office. So what we have in
13 house is the numbers that we presented today. So we have
14 reduced the backlog from 323 down to where they are
15 today. In addition to that, sir, we did introduce a
16 backlog plan. I can certainly email that to you. That
17 backlog plan is being worked. That backlog elimination
18 plan, I should say, is being worked right now through our
19 investigators. As it relates through the Chair to the DPD
20 side, I meet with my counterpart with DPD, who's actually
21 in the same building Captain Lever. We meet daily as it
22 relates to complaints against the police department, we
23 conference on it. So they are well aware of the
24 complaints that we filed because they enter into the MAS
25 system immediately, and he sees everything that we do. So

1 that is our direct connection. Certainly, you all on the
2 board have an opportunity to meet with the chief of
3 police as you are yourself. Certainly, Commissioner
4 Holley, you review a lot and read a lot of cases.
5 Certainly obviously whatever channels that can be worked
6 in an effort to reduce the complaints as you have so
7 eloquently communicated, I think would be helpful. But I
8 meet daily with my counterpart there from the DPD side.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Seeing no further
10 questions, I just wanted to clarify. I'm sorry about
11 that. Vice-Chair. I mean, excuse me. Commissioner Holt.

12 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Oh, thank you. In response to the
13 backlogs as a commissioner who most recently started
14 reviewing cases under your leadership Chief Investigator
15 Warfield, I personally have experienced a quality of
16 reports as compared to perhaps in some past time. I'm
17 also as a commissioner most comfortable in my position to
18 object to some of the cases that I've received, whereas,
19 again, was not necessarily a favorable position to excel
20 because I felt as if, and this is under the previous
21 leadership before you, that I was not in a position that
22 I didn't have the skills necessary to make a decision
23 about cases with which I had some objections.

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you for that,
25 Commissioner Holt. So I was going to say, just for point

1 of clarity, this chart here that talks about the
2 allegations per precinct are indeed allegations. These
3 aren't founded cases, correct.

4 MR. WARFIELD: One hundred percent Chair.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: So it could be possible that
6 like the 21 cases that are in the Second Precinct, like
7 two of them are as founded. It's possible.

8 MR. WARFIELD: Correct.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. So I think that what
10 might be helpful then is another set that actually gives
11 us a sense on where those cases are. Meaning were they
12 substantiated, were they unfounded, were they exonerated?
13 So that we can get a sense on how many of these
14 complaints are actually leading to police discipline
15 versus the allegations that are being made that may not
16 actually lead to discipline.

17 MR. WARFIELD: Through the Chair, that is one of the
18 data points that through the Secretary that we are
19 seeking to receive from DPD as well. Because we do
20 receive a report back from them, but it's not specific to
21 an officer, which would help us a great deal as-

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: No, no. I definitely get not
23 to interrupt you. I definitely get the discipline that
24 they received. I want to get the sense on the cases
25 results after we have signed off. So what were our

1 findings? How many were sustained, unfounded, exonerated.

2 MR. WARFIELD: We'll provide that information, sir.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Seeing no other
4 questions. Thank you so very much Chief Investigator for
5 such an excellent report. Now we will move on to the
6 report from the Chief Police. We are joined here today by
7 DC Bliss.

8 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: Yes. Deputy Chief Bliss on
9 behalf of Chief White. I'm going to start first with the
10 update on our injured officers. Good news. Currently
11 there are no department members disabled or recovering at
12 home due to an on-duty injury. Moving on to crime data.
13 As of August the second, homicides we're currently at
14 year to date, 155. Aat the same time last year we were at
15 175. So we are down 11%. Non-fatal shootings. Year to
16 date this year, 511 the same time last year, 538. So
17 we're down 5%. Robberies this year, 854. Last year, 818.
18 We are slightly up 4%. The total of part 1 violent crime
19 7,614. Last year at this time, 7,480 for a change of 2%.
20 Then carjacking last, well, this year we're at 104, the
21 same time last year, 144 for a change of negative 28%.
22 Down 28%.

23 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: Moving on to the drag racing,
24 drifting enforcement we had this previous weekend. We
25 investigated 21 individuals. We did 6 traffic stops,

1 issued 17 citations. We investigated 2 vehicles,
2 impounded 1, and we answered 23 calls for service. Year
3 to date drag racing stats which started March 24th, 2023.
4 People investigated, 423, traffic stops 233, traffic
5 citations issued 127, vehicles investigated 273, vehicles
6 impounded 28, stolen vehicles recovered 6, felony arrests
7 21, misdemeanor arrests 5, weapons recovered 8. We
8 answered 114 calls for service. Moving on to our mental
9 health-related calls for service. In the last seven days,
10 we had 279 calls for service and we serviced 243. In
11 2023, overall calls for service, 9,643, and last year at
12 the same time, 8,593. Finally, for service calls, year to
13 date 2023, we're at 8,525, and at the same time last
14 year, 7,559.

15 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: Moving on to significant
16 incidents. Our first one is the fatal stabbing of the 14
17 year old male. On Tuesday, July 25th, 2023, at 9:08 PM
18 officers were dispatched to the area of Burgess and
19 Thatcher to investigate a call for service of a critical
20 assault stabbing. The officers arrived at the scene and
21 observed several males surrounding the victim, a 4-year-
22 old male. Officers observed the victim with a laceration
23 along the left side of his neck. Medic 27 arrived at the
24 scene and transported the victim to Sinai-Grace Hospital,
25 where he was pronounced dead on arrival. Officers and

1 detectives from the Homicide Unit were notified and made
2 the scene to begin their investigation. On Tuesday, July
3 25th, 2023, officers and detectives canvassed the area
4 for evidence, checked for video and interviewed witnesses
5 at the scene.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: It was determined that the
7 victim was injured during a fight at the nearby
8 basketball court. Detectives were able to gather
9 information about a possible suspect. The information was
10 disseminated citywide to assist with the apprehension of
11 the suspect. On Wednesday, July 26th, 2023, the suspect,
12 a 13-year-old male, walked into the Eighth Precinct where
13 he was immediately taken to Homicide for questioning.
14 After questioning, the suspect was detained and
15 transported to the Wayne County Youth Home. On Thursday,
16 July 27th, 2023, the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office
17 signed a warrant charging the suspect, and he was
18 arraigned in 36 District Court charged with murder second
19 degree. The suspect is being held in the Wayne County
20 Youth Home with no bond.

21 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: Incident number two, homicide
22 investigation. On Monday, July 31st, 2023, at 1:42 AM
23 officers were dispatched to the 12,000 block of Roselawn
24 to investigate a call for service of a shooting. Officers
25 arrived at the scene and observed the victim lying face

1 down in the street with multiple gunshot wounds to the
2 body, lying next to a silver Honda Civic. Medic 15
3 arrived at the scene and declared the victim dead at the
4 scene. Detectives from the Homicide Unit arrived at the
5 scene to investigate and interview witnesses, canvas the
6 area for evidence and reviewed video in the area.
7 Detectives determined that a suspect involved was
8 observed getting into a white unknown model, SUV as he
9 fled the scene southbound on Roselawn. The incident is
10 still under investigation. The Detroit Police Department
11 is asking anyone with additional information regarding
12 this incident to contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800 Speak
13 Up.

14 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: Incident number three, missing
15 autistic 12-year-old who was recovered. On Tuesday,
16 August 1st, 2023 at 8:40 PM officers were dispatched to
17 the 8,000 block of Ward to investigate a call for service
18 of a missing special needs 12 year old male. Officers
19 arrived at the scene and spoke to the missing's father,
20 the reporting party. He states that he observed his son
21 outside playing soccer at approximately 6:30 PM. At 7:00
22 PM he checked on his son and noticed he was missing. The
23 victim's father checked the area for his son but could
24 not find him. The missing has run away before and is
25 diagnosed with autism and ADHD. It was at this time that

1 the reporting party notified 911. Detectives and officers
2 from the Second Precinct, and the Missing Persons Unit
3 canvassed the area looking for the victim. Officers
4 received information that the missing may be in a vacant
5 house in the area.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: The officers responded to the
7 location and discovered the missing, along with two other
8 individuals inside the location. A search of a law
9 enforcement database revealed that one of the suspects
10 was a registered sex offender. The suspect was arrested
11 for violation of the sex offender registry, contributing
12 to the delinquency of a minor, and entering without onus
13 permission. The second suspect was arrested for entering
14 without onus permission. The missing was transported to
15 Detroit Children's Hospital for evaluation. The incident
16 is still under investigation. The Detroit Police
17 Department is asking anyone with additional information
18 regarding this incident to contact Crime Stoppers at 1-
19 800 Speak Up.

20 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: On a positive note. National
21 Night out. On Tuesday, August 1st, each Detroit Police
22 Department precinct celebrated National Night Out, a
23 national event that police officers and community
24 partners hosted. Each precinct had a host of activities
25 for the family, including bounce houses, food, live,

1 entertainment, resources, and more. This event works to
2 strengthen the relationship between police officers and
3 the communities they serve. 10Th and 11th Precincts
4 honored by the Lawn Academy. On Tuesday, August 1st,
5 neighborhood police officers from the 10th and 11th
6 Precincts were recognized for their efforts in the
7 community by the Lawn Academy. The Lawn Academy is a
8 college immersion program for youth, where students
9 provide lawn care services for seniors, veterans, and
10 people with special needs free of charge. Several
11 officers receive recognition awards for their work to
12 assist the program.

13 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: DPD Prep helps in the
14 beautification of community park. On Wednesday, August
15 2nd, 60 students from the DPD Preparatory Academy program
16 were involved in helping beautify a community park
17 located at 6651 Minox Street in the Sixth Precinct. The
18 purpose of the DPD Prep summer program is to offer
19 development and enrichment for the students while showing
20 them what a career with DPD could look like. The program
21 started last year with 20 participants and has grown to
22 60 this year. On one final note, if I may last week there
23 were several questions regarding body-worn cameras. If it
24 pleases the Board, I do have Captain Lever here to answer
25 any questions you have and to have a short presentation.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We can wait for another day
2 for that presentation.

3 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: Thank you. That concludes.

4 COMMISSIONER: Oh, that's a good idea.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Any other questions from our
6 commissioners of DC Bliss? Commissioner Bernard.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I just want to say that the
8 National Night Out is the United States of America
9 Initiative. I talked to chiefs in other jurisdictions and
10 I participated in ours here for the Eighth precinct and
11 the 12th Precinct in the park. It was huge. They had a
12 tractor trailer truck long as this room that was a
13 bandstand with a live band, with live singers, groups,
14 and everything. They had disc jockeys. We had ponies.
15 They had the firetrucks with the water that comes out the
16 firetruck. They told me to carry 500 gallons of water.
17 The kids were just ecstatic. Everybody was happy. I saw
18 Kathy Garrett, our city clerk there, a number of other
19 people, the Chief, the fire department Chief. It was
20 amazing and it was 100% peaceful. I just want to
21 congratulate you and the fire department on what you guys
22 did across the city in every precinct. I went to the
23 Third Precinct too, and I learned all this stuff. I have
24 whole package of stuff I got to go through upstairs
25 because I want to get people involved with the Boy Scouts

1 of America.

2 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I mean the public schools. I
3 think it's disgraceful that they're not involved. So I'm
4 going to contact the people that I know on the Board, try
5 to get them involved so the kids will be doing stuff
6 that's more positive than what they're doing now. It was
7 phenomenal. I just want to congratulate you. Not just
8 you, but I mean, congratulate all the people in law
9 enforcement in America, who participated in this enormous
10 event that is the best, best public relations thing we
11 could ever do. Obviously the most peaceful, just thank
12 you. Also, our recruiting people were there, Mr. Chair
13 and everybody else. So it was really, really, really,
14 really nice.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Yes. Commissioner
16 Banks.

17 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair, blessings
18 upon you and your household, Deputy Chief Bliss. I just
19 want to thank the Detroit Police Department and Chief
20 White. I had a uncle that passed on a couple weeks ago,
21 and Detroit Police assisted in my uncle's directing us to
22 the funeral home. They came all the way to Redford,
23 Michigan. I couldn't believe it. When I got there to my
24 mother's house because I stay on the Quin there on Seven
25 Mile. When I got to my mother's house, there were about

1 20, 25 Detroit Police Officer cars in Redford, Michigan.
2 I couldn't believe it. Neighbors on the porch, they're
3 looking. My sister's amazed. My nephew. I'd just like to
4 thank Chief White and the Detroit Police Department for
5 this type of assistance. It really blessed my family.
6 They were excited, they were happy. I'm representing my
7 family and giving thanks. Can you please let Chief White
8 know about this? We really thank God for him, all that he
9 did for myself and my family.

10 DEPUTY CHIEF BLISS: Through the Chair. Absolutely.
11 Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Holt.

14 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you, Deputy Chief Bliss. I
15 really appreciate the initiative DPD showed in having
16 someone here to discuss body-worn cameras. Chair, when
17 may we look forward to the presentation, apparently that
18 this law enforcement member was prepared to present
19 today.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We can have Secretary Shah to
21 schedule that and to make that as meaningful as possible.
22 I encourage all commissioners to have prepared questions
23 that we can present to him so that he is prepared for
24 adequate responses for the questions that we might have.
25 Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Any further questions?

3 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I want to say something right
4 quick.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Banks.

6 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Mr. Chair, keep moving forward,
7 man. You're doing good. Hold on to that. You're doing
8 good. Don't let nobody discourage you. Keep moving
9 forward.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Appreciate that, Commissioner
11 Banks.

12 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Overdue now.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: No further questions or
14 comments for commissioners. We will now move to the most
15 important part of this meeting today, the oral
16 communications from our citizens. So Mr. Brown, who do we
17 have?

18 MR. BROWN: Yeah. Good afternoon, Mr. Chair. We
19 currently have eight speakers. I'll call them in threes.
20 Ms. Bernice Smith, followed by Lieutenant Mark Young, LSA
21 president, followed by Minister. Eric Blount.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: That podium is a little
23 further away today, and so let's make sure we can adjust
24 that next time.

25 MS. SMITH: Alright. Good afternoon to all my

1 commission.

2 COMMISSIONERS: Good afternoon.

3 MS. SMITH: Well, I had good and bad news. First of
4 all, I'm going to give you the good news. This week, I
5 believe we had a summit at the Southfield.

6 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Pavilion.

7 MS. SMITH: Pavilion. Thanks, baby. You help me
8 remember that. Very wonderful turnout and everybody was
9 able to express their thoughts and so forth. I had to
10 barge in on the last end. They didn't even call me, but I
11 had to save my little say. But I want to let you guys
12 know what a 91-year-old woman received from the police
13 Chief. It happens to be an award of excellence. So I'm
14 very, very proud. I was presented award of excellence
15 from the Chief. He greeted me right away when he saw me
16 and hugged me. So I was very happy to see him and hear
17 what he had to say. I couldn't believe it. In the
18 meantime, I want to let you know I'm still doing my
19 little surveying down at Greektown. I was there Friday
20 and Saturday, and what I saw was so, I don't know what's
21 wrong with these young ladies. Half of them was half
22 naked.

23 MS. SMITH: You could see their behind coming through
24 their clothes. You saw the young men with the pants down.
25 You know I had to call them over. Young man, come here.

1 Why you got your pants down? Alright, grandmama, I'll
2 pull them up. Then I saw a young man with not only the
3 gun in his pocket, the barrel was being shown and I saw
4 that. Naturally, I called him over and I said, young man,
5 why are you down here with this gun? Why is it necessary
6 for you to be down here where you're supposed to be
7 having a good time? Well, it's open season. No, it's not
8 open season down here. You just take that gun home and
9 keep it at home. Then I had a parent, a man come in with
10 a nine-year-old look like a four year old, and it was
11 after 10 o'clock. Young man. It's after 10 o'clock. Get
12 them children home. So you see it's not that I love what
13 I'm. doing. I enjoy what I'm doing because I see what the
14 people of citizens here in Detroit are doing.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you so much.

16 MS. SMITH: Already?

17 MS. SMITH: Yeah, already.

18 MS. SMITH: I didn't tell you about Saturday.

19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We know you'll be here next
20 week. Or willing.

21 MS. SMITH: Or willing, I need to tell you about the
22 police too. They were good.

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

24 MR. YOUNG: Strengthen our relationship. We do that
25 every day. These men and women do that every day. It is

1 not just National Night Out. It's every day and I'm proud
2 of them. Quick to report out on a number of CCRs. Not
3 actual, not factual. We should stop reporting out on
4 them. Blame deflection, excuses, truth, transparency,
5 accuracy, and unfair. Those are words I hear in this
6 meeting. We should stop saying them. They're powerful
7 words. They don't matter and they're not actual factual
8 and it's a dishonor to these men and women that's out
9 here risking their lives. There're thousands of videos
10 every day of lawlessness and lawlessness incidents across
11 this country. I'm proud that the men and women that we
12 represent folded down here in the city of Detroit because
13 this community respects them. If you came to this
14 meeting, you would think otherwise not true. National
15 Night Out in Detroit was one of the most powerful across
16 the nation. Videos of violence, lawlessness, stealing and
17 everything else.

18 MR. YOUNG: But I promise you, the Board, a couple
19 things. I got a meeting tomorrow and I'm asking for a
20 meeting with all my public safety counterparts to talk
21 about the Board of Police Commissioners. But I promise
22 you, I will send out a memo to speak to violent criminals
23 nicely when we are arresting their behinds. That's number
24 one. The other thing is this, when you talk about
25 comparisons, be careful because Somebody might be

1 listening. What is our comparison to other cities? What
2 is our comparison to other departments? What is the
3 comparison and the correlation of CCRs and crime? I could
4 show you this. I expect CCRs to increase from crime, but
5 here's the most important part I'm going to leave you
6 with right now. It's a reason that the CCRs are
7 increasing because there's no consequences when you file
8 a false one. I want to deal with the wrong ones. But if
9 you are consoling the false ones with the right ones,
10 then you need to find new people that's going to do the
11 right thing.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

13 MINISTER BLOUNT: Good afternoon, Board.

14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon.

15 MINISTER BLOUNT: I'm Minister Eric Blount from
16 Sacred Heart Catholic Church here in Detroit. This hokey
17 pokey with employees is just a diversion. This doesn't
18 need to happen. We see as a public how very little time
19 and effort is spent on police officer misconduct. The
20 firing, hiring Reverend Warfield was hired and fired and
21 now hired again. Now somebody else may be hired and
22 fired. No, stop it. If you want to talk about cost of the
23 taxpayers, look at Jermaine Warwick. He was the last
24 legal counsel for this Board. He was unduly and
25 unrightfully dismissed and his lawsuit for that reason

1 cost us dearly. But no, you want to go back and forth
2 about hiring and firing and their at will. But as the
3 ministers here especially, don't act like the Sanhedrin.
4 Until somebody has been convicted, don't assume they're
5 guilty. That's what you do when you say get rid of them.
6 Forget the evidence, there's no evidence.

7 MINISTER BLOUNT: That's okay. Let them go. Don't
8 worry about it. They've been on the payroll too long.
9 These are people's lives you're dealing with, not just a
10 dollar and cents. We've seen that before with emergency
11 managers here in this city and in Flint. No, it's not
12 time.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Continue, Mr. Blount.

14 MINISTER BLOUNT: Thank you. I like my time back
15 based on the hecklers. But still the public statements
16 being made and what happened about previous Chairpersons.
17 Remember, you can't continue what the previous
18 Chairperson did because he was caught illegally
19 immorally, and then issuing a false public statement. Who
20 can go by anything he did or what he did, do you ought to
21 go back and look at with a more critical eye?

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

23 MINISTER BLOUNT: Thank you.

24 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next three speakers would
25 be Ms. Karen Gordon, followed by Mr. Ronald Foster,

1 followed by Ms. Charnita Williams.

2 MS. GORDON: Hi.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Hello.

4 MS. GORDON: I'm from the Seventh Precinct. One day I
5 went in the precinct with my service dog and I didn't
6 know there was a commander standing there. I was
7 explaining to a young lady. They asked me, where is my
8 paperwork for my dog? I said, it is no paperwork. The
9 commander came up, and I was telling her a story, how it
10 made me feel, and back into slavery. You all asking me
11 for paperwork. The commander came up, which I didn't know
12 that's who he was, and said, how dare you refer to that
13 dog as to slavery. I said, how dare you say, tell me how
14 I should feel about something. We had a meeting. I asked
15 him at the meeting to apologize for telling me how I feel
16 about my animal and them asking me for paperwork I do not
17 have to have.

18 MS. GORDON: Because the dude takes me to slavery
19 when you ask for something. Another thing, the police
20 officer came out to my house. I had a woman tore up my
21 house three times and I told him I want her arrested. I
22 have it on field. The sergeant said, we can't arrest her.
23 We're waiting on shooting. I have asked for three months
24 to have a meeting with Captain Patty and the commander of
25 the Secondary Precinct and the NPO office supervisor and

1 the NPO officers to none avail. I have not had. They will
2 not call me, return my call, see me. I have sat at the
3 police station. I have the lady next door, the man next
4 door, whatever he is next door to me, tearing up my
5 property. I have the woman across the street tearing up
6 my property. I have wrote reports after I have evidence
7 of them doing this to my property.

8 MS. GORDON: Yet the police asked me, why do you
9 think they do this? I said, I'm not a mind reader, but
10 you know, I said, I do know why they do it. Because they
11 tell you all when you all come out, you all not going to
12 do a thing to them and you all have it. I have had my
13 property tore up more than 10 times by each one of them.
14 I have not—

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm so sorry, ma'am. Your time
16 has run out, but we want to make sure that we have those
17 reports. So we'll make sure that someone connects with
18 you.

19 MR. BROWN: Mr. Foster.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We can follow up on your
21 complaints. Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Hope is there right too, Mr.
23 Kira Hope as well. Who's from our office?

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Cromwell.

25 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you.

1 MR. FOSTER: Good afternoon.

2 COMMISSIONERS: Good afternoon.

3 MR. FOSTER: To our commissioners, our police Chiefs,
4 our dignitaries, our ministers. Just read a little bit
5 out of our charter real quick. Detroit City government is
6 a service institution that recognizes its subordination
7 to the people of Detroit. So I represent the people of
8 Detroit in our community. You go down to the fifth one,
9 the city's police forces are in all cases and at all
10 times in strict subordination to the silver power. I
11 would like to reiterate, the unions have no legal
12 authority or no place in between the people and the
13 government. Bottom line, no meeting with anybody and
14 trying to do anything. It's out of place. Secondly,
15 policy is imperative. If we going to do any changes, that
16 position as void need to be filled. Second thing, third
17 thing. When we talk about protecting employees and
18 everything else, the only allegiance we should have is to
19 our community.

20 MR. FOSTER: If anybody's elected by the community,
21 don't have a loyalty or allegiance to the community, then
22 you have to answer to the community. We, the people of
23 Detroit elected seven BOPC commissioners to handle all
24 and any issues with police without obstruction from
25 anybody else. So until that is settled, we are going to

1 continue to have problems. Now, unions may be necessary,
2 but unions have no place in discipline in which we as a
3 community elect personnel and people to do just that. So
4 until that is taken care of, we don't have issues. I'm
5 just really just fed up a lot of times with the
6 grandstanding here. We want change. We need change. We
7 need new culture within this city. Thank you for
8 listening.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

10 MR. BROWN: Ms. Williams.

11 MS. WILLIAMS: Hi. Can you guys hear me today?

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, we can. Go right ahead.

13 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. I've been coming here for the
14 last few months and I want to know what's the situation?
15 What's going on with the 12th Precinct? I spoke to you a
16 few weeks ago and I like to know what's going on with my
17 cases, especially when this woman came into my home. I
18 have it on video and I can't get a PPO on this woman
19 harassing me and violating my home. All this stuff I need
20 to have, I need answers and I want answers. Everybody on
21 this Board have a job in the position to do, but at the
22 end of the day, if you guys do not do your job
23 efficiently and fair, it's an issue with people that pay
24 taxes. Because when I see the police department fire, I
25 mean, excuse me, when I see patrol cars going up and down

1 the street escorting this woman and the taxpayers are
2 paying for this, the issue about a whole lot of stuff and
3 my life is upside down. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

5 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next couple of speakers
6 would be Ms. Michelle George, followed by caller with the
7 last three numbers. No, followed by Ms. Sheila Harris.

8 MS. GEORGE: Good morning to the Honorable. Good
9 afternoon.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon.

11 MS. GEORGE: Good afternoon to Honorable Board, to
12 the Chair, and to Deputy Chief Bliss. I wanted to make a
13 comment. A few weeks ago, I was at the city council
14 meeting dealing with listening in on public safety. One
15 of the officers was talking about the ballistics as a
16 contract company they've been using in Florida. So I just
17 wanted to make a recommendation is that because we're
18 boycotting a lot of things in Florida because Governor
19 Santis stated that Black people and slavery benefited
20 from slavery. So we are doing a lot of boycotting. So a
21 lot of fraternities and sororities are pulling out
22 sororities, are pulling out. I just want Chief White to
23 look at the contracts because we're trying to drain
24 Florida dry because of what DeSantis is doing with Black
25 History.

1 MS. GEORGE: So I wanted to make that note. Also, I
2 wanted to make a note for the Board to follow the movie
3 Sound of Freedom by Jim Kavio and Tim Ballor. He's a
4 former FBI agent, dealing with sex trafficking among
5 children. He was able to get that movie and talk about it
6 to Congress. So we know we're dealing with a lot of
7 missing children in the city of Detroit. I'm glad they
8 did find the 12-year-old, but unfortunately what happened
9 to him. So keep him in prayer. But just want to hone in.
10 Let's not forget the children, because God's children are
11 not for sale. I would invite you all to look at the movie
12 Sound of Freedom. I went to look at it twice. It was a
13 God-given movie to deal with the global affair with sex
14 trafficking with children.

15 MS. GEORGE: Also, I still have 30 seconds. I wanted
16 to talk about. I know there's a lot of conflict on the
17 Board. I hope you all can resolve it. Dealing with
18 policing. We'll be marching in a few weeks in Washington
19 DC the 60 year of King's march. But I could say I am
20 proud of the police officers at the second police
21 precinct because when I see what's happening policing in
22 Texas around the state, I am proud of Detroit Police with
23 that because a lot of racism that's happening with the
24 community. But also we want to make sure the Board do
25 their due diligence with keeping accountability. Thank

1 you.

2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

3 MR. BROWN: Ms. Harris.

4 MS. HARRIS: Good afternoon.

5 COMMISSIONERS: Good afternoon.

6 MS. HARRIS: My name is Sheila Harris and I'm part
7 organization called Moms Demand Action Against since
8 there's gun violence. I am from Bloomington, Illinois.
9 I'm also part of the NAACP of Illinois as well. My son
10 was killed here in Detroit, even though I lived there.
11 I've been coming down here every year. I live in Chicago,
12 and I've been coming down here every year to speak with
13 law enforcement concerning the cold case of my son's
14 unsolved murder. For a while there I was getting no kind
15 of information pertaining to what was going on with his
16 case. I have diligently done my research so far as going
17 online, checking you all's crime rate of solving things,
18 which has not been updated. I think that you all should
19 take a look into that and update that online for people
20 to be able to see how you all are solving your crimes
21 right down here.

22 MS. HARRIS: As well as I finally got a chance that
23 today to sit down after I emailed Chief White and the
24 Mayor Dugan to have a meet and greet with them pertaining
25 to that. As it turned out, this is my second year of

1 coming, third year of coming down here since that has
2 happened. Today I finally got just a little bit more
3 closure. I want to thank you that I drove down here all
4 the way by myself. I finally got a little bit more
5 closure. I'm just hoping that from here on out, you all
6 stick to the conversation that we had today.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

8 MS. HARRIS: So far as keeping me updated. Because
9 every time I call-

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

11 MS. HARRIS: Every time I call back, I hear it's been
12 changed. You all need to keep the-

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you, ma'am. Thank you.

14 MS. HARRIS: Abreast on what's going on.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Appreciate you.

16 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. You all have a great week.

17 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you for coming to the mic.

18 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair, your next set of speakers will
19 be caller with the last three numbers 124, Ms. Denise
20 Lowes, followed by former Commissioner William Davis.
21 Caller with the last three numbers 124.

22 CALLER 124: Yes. Hello. Can you hear me?

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, I can hear you. Yes. Go
24 right ahead.

25 CALLER 124: Yeah. Well, it was disappointing that we

1 wouldn't go ahead and have the conversation about the
2 body cam videos and technologies and capabilities and
3 sounds like there's different versions of them. Kind of
4 like when you were going to school and they'd put a few
5 more chapters and you'd have to buy a whole new book or
6 something. So it's disappointing that we're not having
7 those conversations. I'm disappointed in the OCI. I don't
8 feel like they're trying really hard. There's a lot
9 that's lacking in the transparency of the process, I
10 mean, as a user. I wish it was someone I could talk to
11 about the process, because when you get a piece of paper
12 back and it doesn't say anything, who am I supposed to
13 have faith in the process?

14 CALLER 124: Supposed to be civilian independent
15 oversight. Civilian independent oversight. I was speaking
16 with someone the other day, he is like, you get tired of
17 living in a place where there's so much violence and then
18 people don't pursue it. It seems when some people are the
19 crime victims as opposed to others, and that's
20 problematic. I've heard it from people here. It seems
21 like some people get targeted and some people don't.
22 That's what it seems to me. I know you can't be in all
23 places at all the times. But I don't know. I wish I had a
24 magic wand Because I give it to the men and women in blue
25 who do their job. Ironically, honestly, ethically, and

1 responsible and can resist forces of whoever may be
2 hoping they do otherwise.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

4 MR. BROWN: Ms. Lowes.

5 MS. LOWES: Good afternoon board. Always a pleasure.
6 Not to open up any cans of worms, but I want to make sure
7 I heard what I thought I heard you say Chair. The
8 positions that the people are suspended with pay, they've
9 already been filled. Is that what I heard? So as a
10 citizen, a resident, a taxpayer, you're telling me we're
11 paying twice for these positions? Or did I misunderstand
12 that?

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'll respond after you finish
14 your minute and a half. I don't want to interrupt your
15 comments.

16 MS. LOWES: Okay, not a problem. Also, I also want to
17 give kudos to Detroit Police for a National Night Out. I
18 was also there and participated. I know we have our
19 problems, but who doesn't? But if you look at the
20 national statistics as far as forces, Detroit DPT are
21 doing great. I'm always stand up for the Tenth Precinct
22 because they're willing to get out and work with the
23 community and that's what it's going to take. All of us
24 working together. Not them versus us, but us and them
25 together. I'm done Chair. Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Secretary Shah, can
2 you speak to the emergency manager policy position as
3 well as the supervisor investigative position?

4 MS. SHAH: So the staff members that were being
5 discussed earlier through the Chair we're two positions
6 currently filled. The executive manager of policy
7 position so that individual's on administrative leave
8 with pay, and there's no one operating in that role right
9 now. So that position is not being paid for twice. Then
10 the other position is a supervising investigator position
11 at OCI. So that position is open as well.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Mr. Brown.

13 MR. BROWN: Former Commissioner Davis.

14 MR. DAVIS: Hello. Can I be heard?

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, we can hear you Go right
16 ahead.

17 MR. DAVIS: Okay. I'd like to start off by saying
18 that the Board in and of itself do have the power and the
19 ability to remove two employees. They do not need
20 corporation counsel. They do not need parliamentarian to
21 tell them that. Also, in so much that you have two people
22 that's costing the taxpayers about \$20,000 a month, which
23 is horrible. Why don't y'all bring them back in a limited
24 capacity and have them work on both of them previously
25 was investigators. Why don't you have them help to reduce

1 the amount of backlogs? Because I think it's horrible you
2 paying people for sitting home not doing anything. You
3 all are just wasting the taxpayer's money. Either you all
4 are going to fire them or just bring them back in a
5 limited role until this investigation is over and have
6 them help reduce the backlog.

7 MR. DAVIS: Also, hopefully next week y'all will
8 agree with the Chief's recommendation about those two
9 officers that was recently in the paper and on the news
10 about sexual assault and vanishing a gun. That's
11 unacceptable behavior from any and everyone, especially
12 if one of those officers now is up under house arrest.
13 Why will you pay somebody if they're under house arrest?
14 This Board needs to be more strongly advocating for the
15 benefit of the community. When officers do stuff, once
16 you have a certainty that they did this, you shouldn't be
17 paying them for not doing anything. Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

19 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chair. That was your last speaker.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. With that, we will
21 now move to new business. Is there any new business
22 Commissioner Holt, I think you might have something.

23 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Oh. As a result of your report.

24 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair.

25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, Secretary Shah.

1 MS. SHAH: We haven't completed the secretary report
2 as of yet.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Well, the secretary's
4 report. I assume we did that when we were awaiting for a
5 quorum.

6 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have several items
7 for the Board and the community in regard to the
8 Secretary report. The first is DPD Student Police
9 Officers, class 2024B. Commissioner Willie Bell, Chief
10 Investigator Warfield and Senior Investigator Coulter
11 will co-facilitate the presentation on the history and
12 overview of BOPC and OCI. Any commissioner who would like
13 to attend is welcome. The presentation will be held
14 tomorrow, August 4th at 10:00 AM at Wayne County
15 Community College at 8200 West Outer Drive in the Lewis
16 Scott building on the third floor. In regard to annual
17 reports, DPD budget, disciplinary enforce data are still
18 needed to complete the annual report. Some disciplinary
19 data was received by the Board's office today, and that
20 is being reviewed. Then we will check in with DPD on any
21 outstanding information that may be needed to finish the
22 annual report.

23 MS. SHAH: A draft of the content to be included, not
24 including the design was passed to the board at the July
25 20th meeting. So, honorable commissioners, if you could

1 please, please continue to review that draft and provide
2 feedback until the final draft is passed to the board for
3 approval. That will be appreciated. Then the last update
4 I have is around staffing updates. If we can bring up the
5 slide in regards to that. So, BOPC is budgeted for two
6 non-union investigator positions, and that is out of
7 compliance with the union agreement. The investigator
8 classification is currently governed by a UAWL212
9 collective bargaining agreement. So no non-union
10 investigators may be appointed by the Board. So since the
11 budget was approved for two non-union investigators,
12 there's a recommendation to have staff submit a position
13 amendment to convert those two job codes from non-union
14 to union.

15 MS. SHAH: So we're moving the job code 81932503
16 Investigator Police Commission non-union and replacing
17 both of those with 9325053 Investigator Police Commission
18 Union. Upon submitting that requisition and the
19 amendment, and then submitting a requisition to recruit,
20 that will allow OCI to recruit and fill the two open
21 investigator positions, adding to that staff and
22 assisting with the backlog of cases. The position would
23 be posted with a starting salary not to exceed 52,500 in
24 order to remain compliant with the current budget amount.
25 So there would not be a negative impact to the current

1 budget to make this change. The final appointment as
2 always, will be made by the vote of the Board. That
3 concludes my report, Mr. Chair.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you, Secretary Shah.

5 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Okay. through the Chair.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Holt.

7 COMMISSIONER HOLT: I move to adopt the secretary's
8 recommendation to submit a position amendment to remove
9 the two non-union investigator positions, replace them
10 with two union investigator position, and begin the
11 recruiting process for two union investigators.

12 COMMISSIONER: Second.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and
14 seconded. That we adopt the secretary's recommendation to
15 make the position amendment to remove the two non-union
16 investigators positions, replace them with two union
17 investigator positions, and begin the recruiting process
18 for two union investigators. Are we ready for the
19 question?

20 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: No. Mr. Chairman, I want to
21 talk about it.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard.

23 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, first
24 of all, why are we doing this? Why are we making union
25 positions out of non-union positions? What's the

1 rationale?

2 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Secretary Shah.

4 MS. SHAH: I can explain that. So the union, I'm
5 sorry. The Investigator classification is currently
6 governed by the UAWL212 Collective bargaining agreement.
7 That's an agreement that the city of Detroit has entered
8 with this union, and that governs the investigator
9 classification. So now that work is union work.

10 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: When did that occur? The
11 reason I ask is that if the positions are, for example,
12 your position is non-union. If I then say, I'm going to
13 solicit workers for your position and say now they're
14 unionized. How, when, where, and why would we do that?
15 Why would we leave the discretion that the Chairman spoke
16 of earlier? You serve at the pleasure, so to speak, of
17 the Board versus moving you into a classification where
18 we have the other, you no longer serve at the pleasure of
19 the Board. Why would we do that?

20 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair. I completely understand
21 Commissioner Bernard's concern and would totally agree if
22 this was a brand-new position that was being unionized.
23 The positions are already unionized. So there are
24 currently 13 investigator positions approved in the
25 Board's budget, and 11 of those are classified as union.

1 Somehow the budget that was approved for the Board
2 included two job codes that are non-unionized. So those
3 are sitting not filled. When staff approached labor
4 relations and HR to fill those positions, the problem is
5 that we can't recruit non-union positions into positions
6 that are currently governed by a collective bargaining
7 agreement. So all the other investigators are unionized.
8 So all of the investigators need to be unionized. There
9 can't be two that are not.

10 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: But there have been all this
11 time.

12 MS. SHAH: No, those positions are not filled. There
13 aren't any people in those positions.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: There were never people in
15 that position?

16 MS. SHAH: No.

17 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Through the Chair.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Hernandez.

19 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Just to add a little more
20 context, we essentially had two improperly classified
21 jobs that were left vacant because we couldn't fill based
22 on the skillset we need. So they were just there. Those
23 dollars were never utilized to fill those two positions.
24 Now we have an opportunity, after meeting with HR and all
25 the relevant parties, we have an opportunity to actually

1 fill those two positions if we reclassify so that we
2 actually use the dollars allocated to us by this year's
3 fiscal budget. It's simple. I get the complexity of union
4 versus non-union. I wouldn't view it that way. I would
5 view it as skill sets needed and dollars available as
6 opposed to not using anything at all. Not having the
7 luxury of those two positions and skill sets.

8 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Says a man that's in the
9 middle of collective bargaining negotiations for Ford
10 Motor Company.

11 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: I'm personally not.

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I mean, but your company.
13 There's a big distinction between management appointees
14 and union workers. We both know that.

15 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Right. The problem that we
16 were solving for was an improper classification that was
17 out of our control. We solved for it and hopefully we
18 will solve for it through this vote.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Okay.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I think we are. Yes. Vice-
21 Chair Holley.

22 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: Just to me, it's just simple.
23 The fact is we need two people and we can't get them
24 unless we classify them so we can get this work done.
25 It's just that simple, Commissioner Bernard.

1 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
2 mean, Commissioner Holley. The other question I have Mr.
3 Chairman relates to our overall personnel issues. We've
4 talked about personnel most of this meeting, starting
5 with your presentation earlier. We have no—

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Point of order because there's
7 a current motion on the floor.

8 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Sure. Yeah. But it goes to
9 this motion. It goes prior to filling any position, quite
10 frankly, Mr. Chairman, I think that we need to have an HR
11 structure for the commission. We haven't had an
12 evaluation of anybody since I've been sitting here. We
13 don't know anybody's salaries. We don't know their
14 benefits. We don't know their tenure. We know nothing. I
15 mean, we're not—

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: That's the general use of the
17 word we.

18 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Yeah. As the commission.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I can answer through the
20 Chair.

21 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Just to provide clarity and
23 I'll allow staff to chime in as well. That's incorrect.

24 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Correct.

25 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Saying that we don't know

1 that there was an audit that was conducted while I was
2 Chair of Personnel and Training which I'm no longer of. I
3 want to make that clear. An audit of all of our staff,
4 including tenure and a variety of other PI items that I
5 won't get into. So we do have that captured. The long-
6 term objective, which was actually an interview question,
7 I believe was around what the long-term plan, including
8 succession planning, including professional development,
9 including all these other elements, what they might look
10 like for our staff holistically. So that's in play. I
11 know that it hasn't necessarily been activated upon, but
12 it's in the long term plan for staff. I won't speak for
13 them much more beyond that.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Well, if we, the rest of the
15 Board could have that report, that would be great that
16 you're referring to that was generated. Because I think
17 it's very important in view of all the discussion that
18 we've had about personnel today, that we take this
19 responsibility seriously. In order to take it seriously,
20 we have to have the data, i.e., people, salary, benefits,
21 et cetera. Even this week, madam-

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you Commissioner
23 Bernardo. I think we understand your point.

24 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: One point Mr.

25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: The matter of the motion.

1 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: No, it is.

2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: The one point we have gone
4 without Board approval to work where people working at
5 home, because the city of Detroit said that
6 organizations—

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I find that not to be germane
8 to the motion of—

9 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Okay, but Mr. Chairman,

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Allowing the Secretary
11 recommendation—

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Not to take this seriously.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Agreed.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: We are not taking it
15 seriously.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Ready for the question. All
17 those in favor, please signify by saying aye. Well, roll
18 call vote. I'm sorry about that.

19 MS. SHAH: Chair QuanTez Pressley — Yes.

20 MS. SHAH: Vice-Chair Jim Holley — Yes.

21 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Annie Holt — Yes.

22 Commissioner Bernard, this should clear up a lot of the
23 fogginess.

24 COMMISSIONER: This's great. That's great.

25 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Linda Bernard — Yes.

1 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Cedric Banks – Yes.

2 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Bell – Yes.

3 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Burton – Yes.

4 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Jesus Hernandez –Yes.

5 MS. SHAH: Mr. Chair, you have 7 = Yes votes, 0 = No
6 votes.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Who said there's no unity on
8 this commission?

9 COMMISSIONER HOLT: Through the Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, Commissioner Holt.

11 COMMISSIONER HOLT: I'd like to also revisit the
12 comment that the commissioners do not have access to the
13 staff and what it is those staff people make. I believe
14 all of us have a spreadsheet that prior to Ms. White or
15 Ms. Shah coming to the board, whereby if had we paid
16 attention to that spreadsheet, we would know who the
17 staff people are over at OCI and the salary of each one
18 of those individuals.

19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Now we'll move on
20 to new business.

21 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, Commissioner Bell.

23 COMMISSIONER BELL: I'd like to see protocol. I think
24 that roll call is Chair or Vice-Chair. If we then from
25 there we move to districts 1, 2, 3, 4, et cetera. Then

1 At-Large or vice versa. But we should not be at random
2 calling individuality. It should be some destination of
3 their position.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: For the roll call vote.

5 COMMISSIONER BELL: For the roll call vote.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Duly noted.

7 COMMISSIONER BELL: Also for introduction, we should
8 have protocol and we as we have here in the past.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Alright, we can explore that
10 moving forward.

11 COMMISSIONER BELL: Thank you, sir.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You're welcome. Any further
13 new business?

14 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, Commissioner Burton.

16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I'd like to put a motion out
17 there to give our citizens additional 20 seconds for
18 public comments. Because we have a community that may
19 have speech impediment or mobility challenges. Then you
20 have those utilizing technology which is Zoom and may
21 have difficulties. I'd just like the move that we give
22 our Detroit residents additional 20 seconds.

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is there a second? Hearing no
24 second that motion is not taken up. Any further new
25 business. Hearing no further new business we're now moved

1 to adjourn. Is there a motion to adjourn?

2 COMMISSIONER: So move.

3 CHAIRPERSON HOLLEY: What about announcements?

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We did announcements while we
5 were waiting for the quorum. Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONERS: Second.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those in favor please
8 signify by saying aye.

9 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed. Thank you
11 so very much for your participation in today's meeting.
12 Meeting is adjourned.

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15 (Meeting Adjourned at 5:02pm)

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STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)
COUNTY OF WAYNE)

RECORDER'S CERTIFICATE AND NOTARIZATION

I, Donald Handyside, Court Recorder, do hereby certify that on August 3, 2023 at 3:00 p.m., I did record the Detroit BOPC meeting, the same being later reduced to typewriting and that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of said electronic recording taken at such time and place.

I further certify that I am not related to or employed by any party of this cause or their respective counsel.



DONALD HANDYSIDE (CER 1464)
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 5/6/2027

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