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CITY OF DETROIT

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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

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VIRTUAL MEETING

12

November 30, 2023 at 3:00 P.M.

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2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It is now 3:00 PM and we're  
3 calling this Thursday, November the 30th, 2023 Board of  
4 Police Commissioners meeting to order. We will begin  
5 today's meeting with invocation which will be offered to  
6 us by Chaplain Cassandra Ford. Chaplain Ford.

7 CHAPLAIN FORD: Shall we pray? Gracious God, we come  
8 right now before asking for anything we want to say thank  
9 you. We want to say thank you for this day that we have  
10 never seen. And Lord, we come into this meeting asking  
11 you just to provide order, because we know that you are  
12 not the author of confusion, but of peace and of sound  
13 mind. We thank you today. We didn't only come here today  
14 just to be seen, Lord God, but we came for guidance and  
15 direction. We came to let you lead the way so we can  
16 follow. We thank you, Oh God. We pray that everything  
17 that be said in this meeting, Lord God will be of you.  
18 Now, Lord God, we lift up Chief White and every officer  
19 that served on the City of Detroit. We lift up right now,  
20 Chairman Pressley, Lord God, and every member that's on  
21 this board, we thank you. We ask you do you to continue  
22 to lead and guide us and show us the way. For every  
23 complaint that is lifted. Lord God, we give it to you for  
24 more directions. We thank you. We give you the praise. In  
25 Jesus' name we pray and everybody say, amen.

1 COMMISSIONERS: Amen.

2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you so very much for  
3 such a powerful prayer. At this time, we'll have an  
4 introduction of our commissioners by Secretary Shah.

5 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman?

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER BELL: Can we pause for a specific  
8 tribute?

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER BELL: The transition of Dr. Charles  
11 Adam? I think we should have a moment of silence. He was  
12 very historic in the City of Detroit. He was very  
13 supportive of public safety, and he was very supportive  
14 of African American black police officers in this city.  
15 So we could pause to acknowledge his transition.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Well said. May we all pause  
17 for a moment of silence to honor the life, the legacy,  
18 and the memory of the Reverend Dr. Charles Gilchrist  
19 Adams? Amen.

20 COMMISSIONER BELL: Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Now, introduction of  
22 commissioners by Secretary Shah.

23 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Chairman QuanTez  
24 Presley - Here.

25 MS. SHAH: Vice Chair Jim Holley - Here.

1 MS. SHAH: Tamara Liberty Smith - Here.

2 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Linda Bernard - Attorney  
3 Linda Bernard, District 2, present.

4 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Cedric Banks -

5 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Bell - Present,  
6 District 4.

7 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Burton submitted an  
8 excused absence. Commissioner Lisa Carter, also submitted  
9 an excused absence.

10 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Ricardo Moore - Present.

11 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Jesus Hernandez, submitted an  
12 excused absence. And Commissioner Rory Gamble is  
13 listening in on Zoom today, Mr. Chair.

14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: With that, we do have a  
15 quorum. At this time, we'll move to the approval of the  
16 November 30th, 2023 agenda. Is there any objection to  
17 this agenda? Hearing no objection, that agenda is  
18 adopted. And next we'll move to the approval of the  
19 minutes for November 17th, 2023. Is there any objection  
20 to these minutes? Hearing no objection, the minutes will  
21 be adopted. And now we'll have introduction to BOPC  
22 staff, Chief of Police, elected Official Representatives  
23 and community leaders by Secretary Shah.

24 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For staff today. For  
25 the BOPC staff, we have Chief Investigator Jerome

1 Warfield, Ms. Teresa Blossom, Ms. Jonya Underwood, Ms.  
2 Candace Hayes, and Ms. Jasmine Taylor supporting on Zoom.  
3 We also have present, Acting Supervisor, Investigator  
4 Elgin Murphy. Also present is the American Sign Language  
5 Interpreters, Dr. Stephanie Beatty and Ms. Yakata. We  
6 have DPD HR Director Katrina Patillo. Don Handyside is  
7 our court reporter, Si is providing video, and Sergeant  
8 Allen Quinn is providing audio. Sitting in for the Chief  
9 today, we have Deputy Chief Franklin Hayes. For elected  
10 officials and representatives, we have Ms. Marie Overall  
11 from State Representative Tyrone Carter's Office. Ms.  
12 LaDon Davis, City Council member Fred Durhal, III's  
13 Office, former Commissioner William Davis. Ms. Fredia  
14 Butler, Community Relations President for the Second  
15 Precinct. And Mr. Ron Thomas, DPOA Vice President.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you so very much. Let  
17 the record show that Commissioner Banks has joined us.  
18 Commissioner Bernard.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Just quickly, I believe Peter  
20 Rhodes is present as well from Councilwoman Callaway's  
21 Office.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. We're so grateful  
23 to have you here. Thank you, Commissioner Bernard for  
24 that recognition, and to all who have joined today's  
25 meeting, whether in person or virtually we're grateful

1 for your attendance and hope that it might add to the  
2 productivity of today's meeting. With that, we will now  
3 move on to the BOPC's Officer's report where we have an  
4 opportunity to read into the record a resolution for a  
5 now retired Commander Kimberly M. Blackwell. But before  
6 we read that resolution let me remind the public that if  
7 you are here in the room, you can fill out a public  
8 comment card and to provide it to Ms. Jonya Underwood if  
9 you would like to speak. And then those online can  
10 identify yourselves if you also would like to speak. And  
11 again, that will take place directly after the Chief of  
12 Police Report. With that Commissioner Moore, the  
13 resolution for retired Commander Kimberly M. Blackwell.

14 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
15 Resolution honoring Commander Kimberly M. Blackwell.  
16 WHEREAS, Kimberly Blackwell was appointed to the Detroit  
17 Police Department on June 12th, 1995. Upon graduating  
18 from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer  
19 Blackwell began her career at the Eighth Precinct Patrol  
20 Operations Services Section. And, WHEREAS, Officer  
21 Blackwell demonstrated leadership and a commitment to the  
22 department's mission and her assignments at the Eighth  
23 Precinct, Police Recruiting, Executive Protection, Office  
24 of the Assistant Chief of Operations, Twelfth Precinct,  
25 Internal Controls and the Police Academy. On December

1 21st, 2010, she earned promotion to the rank of sergeant  
2 at Internal Controls. Further assignments includes the  
3 Criminal Investigative Unit, Detective Bureau, Support  
4 Services Bureau, Patrol Operations Bureau, and City  
5 Council Security. Sergeant Blackwell was promoted to  
6 lieutenant on April 8th, 2019, and assigned to the  
7 Chief's Neighborhood Liaison. On February 8th, 2021,  
8 Lieutenant Blackwell was promoted to captain and  
9 reassigned to Chief's Neighborhood Liaison and the  
10 Special Victims Unit. And, WHEREAS Captain Blackwell  
11 continued to display tremendous knowledge, skills, and  
12 inspirational leadership.

13 On July 25th, 2022, she was appointed to commander  
14 and assigned to the Twelfth, I'm sorry, Tenth Precinct.  
15 Commander Blackwell was assigned as the commanding  
16 officer of major crimes where she served until her  
17 retirement. And, WHEREAS, Commander Blackwell was the  
18 deserving recipient of numerous other honors and  
19 accommodations. Her awards include the Ford Fireworks  
20 Award, the Major League Baseball, All-Star Recognition  
21 Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, both  
22 Consent Judgment Awards, and the Super Bowl XL  
23 Recognition Award. And, WHEREAS, numerous letters,  
24 accommodation from residents and superiors. And, WHEREAS,  
25 she has dedicated herself to the role of a leader that

1 leads by example, with a strong work ethic in eight  
2 years, with her loyalty, integrity, and dedication to  
3 public service. Commander Blackwell is widely respected  
4 throughout law enforcement and the Detroit community as  
5 the consummate profession.

6       THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Detroit Board of  
7 Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens  
8 of the great City of Detroit, recognizes and honors the  
9 lifelong contributions and commitment to excellence in  
10 public service of Commander Kimberly M. Blackwell. Her  
11 display of courage and unwavering community spirit has  
12 improved the quality of life for the citizens of Detroit.  
13 We wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Move  
14 for adoption. Mr. Chairman.

15       CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is there a second?

16       COMMISSIONER BANKS: Second.

17       CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It has been properly second.

18 All those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

19       COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

20       CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed? No. The  
21 Ayes have it. And that resolution is adopted into our  
22 archives. Once again, congratulations to our retired  
23 Commander, Kimberly Blackwell, for amazing years of  
24 service to our Detroit Police Department. With that in  
25 the Board of Police Commissioners report, I want to just



1 share with my colleagues that I do recognize that with  
2 the onboarding of two new commissioners and soon to be  
3 three, and with the leaving Vice Chair Holley, at the end  
4 of the year, there is some business that we will have to  
5 tend to. And so it is my intention that we will  
6 reorganize committees as well as have an election for  
7 Vice Chair in our first meeting of 2024. Okay? I think  
8 that it's appropriate to seat our newest commissioner who  
9 comes on board at the beginning of the year so that he  
10 might have a voice in who the leadership of this board  
11 might be. And so I did want to share that because I know  
12 that there has been some inquiries regarding the vice  
13 chairperson's election, as well as committee assignments.  
14 Any questions or comments for the Board of Police  
15 Commissioners officers report? Hearing none, we will now  
16 move to our Community Impact report where Secretary Shah  
17 and Ms. Blossom will provide us further information.  
18 Secretary Shah.

19 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair, some very exciting news  
20 reached the board's office this morning that we believe  
21 will have a positive impact on the community in the  
22 development of the next generation of oversight  
23 practitioners. I'd like to read a memo from Ms. Teresa  
24 Blossom, which is in the front pocket of your packets.  
25 This is dated November 30th, 2023. The Skillman

1 Foundation shared today that it is awarding \$15,700 to  
2 support the Youth Advisory Panel based on our grant  
3 request for funding. This is great news, as YAP completes  
4 its first year, and now is building capacity and  
5 sustainability. After starting with 5 members last fall.  
6 YAP now has 16 members for the next year. In 2024, based  
7 on the grant requests, the Skillman award will help to  
8 support stipends and refreshments for the 16 youth, to  
9 participate in YAP meetings, transportation assistance to  
10 attend YAP and BOPC meetings and certain DPD youth  
11 events, community capacity building activities by the  
12 program, including civilian oversight of law enforcement  
13 training for youth and YAP led seminar workshops.

14       The board's staff continues to rely on the Detroit  
15 Public Safety Foundation to serve as our fiduciary for  
16 receiving and managing grants and donations. We'll work  
17 with the Skillman Foundation, Detroit Public Safety  
18 Foundation staff, and BOPC fiscal Executive Manager on  
19 the budget implementation and compliance for this grant.  
20 Since YAP got underway in May of 2022, a lot of work has  
21 been done by many people, the Board of Police  
22 Commissioners. The first 5 YAP members, and Wayne State  
23 Partners helping to shape the grant proposal, target  
24 submission opportunities, and ensure this outcome. We are  
25 grateful for and acknowledge the impact of letters of

1 support for YAP from Detroit Public Schools Community  
2 District Superintendent Nikolai Vitti, and Police Chief  
3 James White. Please note that we continue to seek support  
4 to ensure YAP's effectiveness during this pivotal period  
5 of growth and youth engagement. The projected total  
6 budget needed based on market costs and expected full  
7 participation of all youth is \$26,995.50. While the  
8 Skillman grant will make a phenomenal difference,  
9 especially given the notable achievements with no funds,  
10 we continue to pursue opportunities that will support the  
11 goals set in the board's 2022 resolution and  
12 implementation of YAP decisions.

13 Mr. Chair, if you would like Ms. Blossom to have  
14 further comments and or respond to any questions she's  
15 prepared to do so as well.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Are there any further  
17 questions or comments for Ms. Blossom? Ms. Blossom, is  
18 there anything that you would like to add?

19 MS. BLOSSOM: Through the Chair. I just want to say  
20 again kudos to the leadership provided by the board in  
21 particular former Police Commissioner and Vice Chair,  
22 Annie Hope, and to District 6 Commissioner Lisa Carter  
23 for really pushing the idea of a Youth Advisory Panel to  
24 formalize the board's ongoing youth engagement. And I do  
25 want to just echo thanks to Chief White and his team for

1 providing that letter that got us over the hump, because  
2 we had been out in the market all year. Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Commissioner Banks?

4 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Yes. Through the Chair. Thank  
5 you. What does YAP stand for?

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: The Youth Advisory Panel.

7 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Oh, okay. Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You're so welcome.

9 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

11 MS. SHAH: If I may add one more piece.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You may.

13 MS. SHAH: I just want to especially acknowledge Ms.  
14 Teresa Blossom in this effort. She has been working for  
15 quite a long time, and there has been multiple obstacles,  
16 which she probably will downplay in order to get this  
17 grant through. So just thanks to her for her tireless  
18 work. Her excitement was explosive in the office today  
19 when this came through. And we all were very excited  
20 along with her.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yeah, we talking about 15  
22 stacks. Everybody is going to be excited, young people  
23 would say, but of course, with her extreme humility we  
24 know that she pushes away the credit and honor she  
25 deserves. But we are grateful for her diligence and

1 persistence in this matter, and are so looking forward to  
2 the increased impact of the Youth Advisory Panel as a  
3 result. And so, for those who might be listening, as you  
4 can hear, we still are about what's that math, \$11,000  
5 shy of the budget goal that we need. And so if anyone  
6 knows of any others who might support the Youth Advisory  
7 Panel, we encourage you to reach out to our office. With  
8 that, is there any further report under the Community  
9 Impact Report?

10 MS. SHAH: No, Mr. Chair.

11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Alright. Hearing none. We'll  
12 now move to our Chief of Police Report, and we're so  
13 grateful to be joined by Chief James White. Chief White.

14 CHIEF WHITE: Good afternoon. Thank you. Through the  
15 Chair, I'll start with our crime report. Our homicides  
16 are down 18% from 278 to a low of 227 year to date. Our  
17 non-fatal shootings are down 13%, 872 in 2022 to 757 in  
18 2023. Robberies are down 2%, 1,290 in 2022, 1,269 in  
19 2023, 1% reduction in part one, total violent crime and a  
20 36% reduction in carjacking. Also, we looked at our  
21 criminal sexual conduct numbers. It's an area that we  
22 were extremely focused on making sure that victims are  
23 given the opportunity to report the crime. And as such  
24 sometimes you see those numbers increased, which we saw  
25 last year for a period of time. Those numbers have

1 stabilized, and we're looking at a 6.6% reduction in  
2 sexual assaults, about a 1% reduction in aggravated  
3 assaults.

4 So that crime is moving in the right direction.  
5 Certainly not celebrating, when you have the type of  
6 numbers that we have in the city and a number of victims  
7 in our city you know, there is really not a celebration  
8 to go from 278 to 227. But what we do know is that our  
9 plans are working, our deployment is working, our  
10 strategies are working, and we're going to continue to  
11 try to drive those numbers down even lower next year this  
12 time. You know, we still have to get through December,  
13 which historically is a very violent month for the City  
14 of Detroit. On average there is about 30 murders in the  
15 month of December. Some are domestic violence related,  
16 and there are a number of suicides in December with the  
17 holiday season. So, again, not celebrating, but certainly  
18 very happy with the numbers and very happy with the work  
19 that the men and women of the Detroit Police Department  
20 are doing. Moving on to the ShotSpotter Report that was  
21 asked for last meeting, or two meetings ago.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: And Commissioner Gamble is  
23 joining us online.

24 CHIEF WHITE: And Commissioner Gamble, ask about  
25 adding those numbers which we went back and did that back

1 to April. I'll just report out for the month. We'll be  
2 asking the board to consider the firearm numbers, a  
3 monthly report. But we will still provide the weekly  
4 report on ShotSpotter incidents. Tracking the data for  
5 the weapons is a bit of a task to add them in, and  
6 attribute them to each ShotSpotter incident. So we think  
7 we can provide the most accurate numbers if that report  
8 is 30 days, but the weekly report on the actual incidents  
9 will remain the same. Looking at the ShotSpotter arrest,  
10 from October 30th to November 5th, was 4 arrests, 7  
11 firearms. November 6th to November 12th, 7 arrests, 8  
12 firearms. November 13th to November 19th, 5 arrests, 7  
13 firearms.

14       And then November 20th to November 26th, 4 arrests  
15 and 7 firearms. So that concludes that report. I'm not  
16 going to go into the individualized incidents this week.  
17 I'd like to take some time to respond to a couple of  
18 things. First and foremost, today I reviewed a Detroit  
19 Free Press article, authored by Commissioner Ricardo  
20 Moore. And it would be remiss if I did not take a moment  
21 to respond to that. First and foremost, Commissioner  
22 Moore, my heartfelt condolences to you and your family  
23 for the death of your grandfather in 1984. This is my  
24 first time being made aware of that incident. And as  
25 you're fully aware, I was not the chief in 1984. I became

1 chief in 2021. So I'll address the allegations made of me  
2 under my watch. When this honorable board approved me as  
3 chief, I committed to be fully transparent to this board.

4 And I continue to work to that end. I sit here week  
5 in and week out and provide this board with information  
6 very complex information. Those of us in law enforcement  
7 understand and know that there are some things that I  
8 simply cannot disclose, period. And if we hide that under  
9 the cloak of transparency, I think that we missed an  
10 opportunity to understand. Oftentimes, when I speak to  
11 this board I want agreement, but the goal isn't  
12 agreement, the goal is understanding. And I understand  
13 that the board has a duty that they must adhere to, and  
14 they have a responsibility. But there are things that I'm  
15 not going to do and not going to say that's going to  
16 compromise the integrity of an investigation. There are  
17 people that are listening to every word that comes out of  
18 my mouth.

19 I know that because I get FOIA quite a bit about the  
20 things that I say, to confirm the things that I've said  
21 and the FOIA rules are there for a reason. There are  
22 certain things that I can get into, there are certain  
23 things I won't. When we talk about criminal  
24 investigations and the complexities of a criminal  
25 investigation, particularly a homicide, there could be



1 the suspect listening. And if I forecast the moves of the  
2 police department that's a problem for making an arrest  
3 of the suspect. But there's a bigger problem. We are one  
4 piece of the investigatory process in prosecuting a  
5 homicide. We provide a warrant to the prosecutor's office  
6 who has to review it, make a determination, and make an  
7 arrest. That's a multi-layered approach. Oftentimes, what  
8 the board does not know, is that warrant being worked on.  
9 There's information and people we're looking for to  
10 submit information into that warrant. And it's a fluid  
11 process. There are times when I know information that  
12 we're looking for somebody to ask them something about  
13 something, to add to a warrant to submit to the  
14 prosecutor's office. If we act haphazardly, or we act  
15 without detail, we could completely damage a case. You  
16 get one bite at the apple, you don't get to bring people  
17 in, charge them with murder, and then do a shoddy  
18 investigation and have them released, and then they get  
19 charged again for the same crime, it just doesn't work  
20 like that. Double jeopardy is a problem. So we want to  
21 make sure that we diligently work towards providing all  
22 the information and do a quality investigation for  
23 submission to the prosecutor's office so that she can  
24 make a charging decision on the cases that we bring  
25 forward.

1           The second issue that I identified in this article  
2 was this issue of transparency, for me, in other areas of  
3 the department. That's simply not true. Again, I work  
4 toward trying to be transparent in areas in this  
5 department, changing policy and making sure that we are  
6 on the forefront of best practices. I engage in best  
7 practice studying. I talked to my colleagues around the  
8 country. One such meeting happened recently when I was at  
9 the IACP. And I learned of a model that LAPD uses for  
10 releasing officer involved incidents involving critical  
11 uses of force, as well as officer involved shootings.

12           CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm sorry to interrupt you,  
13 Chief. Can you explain what IACP is?

14           CHIEF WHITE: I'm sorry. The International  
15 Association of Chiefs of Police.

16           CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

17           CHIEF WHITE: Major city chiefs from around the  
18 country meet and to discuss best practices. I  
19 participated in that, and we've been looking to move  
20 towards the release of a model that would show officer  
21 involved shootings and critical uses of force, not just  
22 officer involved shootings, but also officer involved  
23 shootings. We looked at a model in LA, we liked that  
24 model. It provided as much information that you could at  
25 the time. Certainly, you made it very clear that in this

1 particular model that because of the nature of these  
2 cases that some of the information is subject to change.  
3 So what we want to do, and what you've noticed we do in  
4 critical incidents, and particularly officer involved  
5 shootings, is we rush to put information out. We do. We  
6 put information out, we go right to the scene, and we  
7 talk right to the community about these incidents. Don't  
8 see a lot of agencies doing that.

9 Detroit does it. We go out, we're standing there.  
10 It's important. I can put out a statement. No, we're  
11 standing there at the scene. We're telling the community,  
12 this is what happened. We put it on our social media.  
13 This is what happened. And we then say, and we always say  
14 it is boilerplate language. This is preliminary  
15 information, subject to change. And most times it does.  
16 We download all our video assets, not just body camera,  
17 but video assets in and around the community that are  
18 germane to the investigation. We talk to witnesses, and  
19 sometimes things change. If there's a charging decision  
20 against the officer, or I make a disciplinary decision  
21 and I can, and I have the authority to do that. And  
22 sometimes I do that. And it's not always tie bar to  
23 whether or not the officer has been engaged in  
24 necessarily an excessive use of force or an improper use  
25 of force.

1 But there's a procedural evaluation that I look at.  
2 Okay. So there have been cases where the officer made the  
3 appropriate decision to administer fatal force.  
4 Absolutely. In one case in particular, that has come up,  
5 the officer used the appropriate level of force with a  
6 threat that he or she was met with. The problem is all of  
7 the facts and circumstances that led to us being in that  
8 circumstance in the first place, that's where the  
9 violation occurred. And that's when I submitted to this  
10 board, a suspension without pay that was candidly refused  
11 based on the inconsistency of the chief. So you've got  
12 the chief now who is trying to hold an officer  
13 accountable, and the board's saying, at least not  
14 publicly, that this is improper. But then, of course,  
15 publicly, we speak to this lack of transparency and these  
16 issues involving releasing information.

17 So as a result, I've repeatedly asked this honorable  
18 board to follow the law department's legal opinion  
19 mandating that the board act according to the City of  
20 Detroit Charter Article 7, specifically Chapter 8, by  
21 citing the relevant portion of the Charter which you may  
22 be seeking the information under. Some of the information  
23 that's been asked for, we know has been talked about at  
24 nauseum. That one incident in particular, the officer's  
25 information was compromised, put on someone's social

1 media platform. And had to do with the officer again, an  
2 alleged inconsistency of two documents, where one  
3 document internally did not speak in specifics as to why  
4 this particular officer was being suspended, which is by  
5 design. Because that first document is an internal  
6 document that goes to payroll. It goes throughout the  
7 department to make a payment decision for the officer and  
8 a status, whether he would be, or she would be suspended  
9 with or without pay.

10 If with pay, before this board could act, then it  
11 would be in an administrative capacity. Without pay, it  
12 would be with benefits. And then the board gets to more  
13 granular, detailed information, which again, changes from  
14 the initial incident as to why I want to suspend without  
15 pay. The two documents were posted side by side on social  
16 media as evidence to my inconsistency. Now, what I find  
17 ironic, is I authored both documents. So if I signed and  
18 authored both documents, one would imagine I would pick  
19 up on the fact that there's a bit of a difference in the  
20 two documents. So again, I offer to this board that that  
21 was by design, because one is internal and one is for  
22 this board and subject to all the rules of FOIA, and  
23 other things such as that. So that is where I'm at.

24 I continue to want to work professionally with this  
25 board. This is not about scorn or ridicule. I took an

1 oath of office and I am very committed to doing my job in  
2 the face of danger, scorn and ridicule. It's actually  
3 part of the officer's code of conduct. But what I am  
4 looking for is this board to continue to engage in a  
5 professional oversight of this police department as I  
6 intend to do and that we not go back to a very dark time  
7 in this city's history where council members were  
8 fighting amongst each other. And certainly that is just  
9 something that I will not participate in. I enjoy having  
10 a measured approach and a professional attitude. And I  
11 think it really does a disservice to the community. It  
12 does a disservice to this police department when you're  
13 looking at a major city reporting numbers such as this.  
14 You have officers working very hard.

15       Lastly, I will say this. There are two cases that  
16 continually come up, two homicides, and we want to solve  
17 them, we really do. We're working very hard. We have the  
18 best homicide group in the country that are working day  
19 in and day out to close these cases. But I spoke to this  
20 board earlier in this presentation and told you that we  
21 have 227 homicides. We've got a 52% closure rate. So that  
22 tells us about 112 have closed maybe 111. And we have  
23 another 100 plus families that we have to deal with.  
24 We're going to put the same energy and effort in the  
25 other 111 as we have in the ones that have closed. Not

1 going to treat any two cases any different than any  
2 others. And I don't have any information I can provide  
3 any different than I have. And when I have more  
4 information on those two cases that come up, I will be  
5 prepared to present them as I have in the past, but that  
6 will not be today. Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. And it is expected  
8 that with the characterization that has been presented in  
9 the article that you're referring to, that you would  
10 speak. And I appreciate the tone and the demeanor in  
11 which you have done so. And I ask that my colleagues  
12 would do the same. I think that there is a way for us to  
13 disagree with dignity and to ensure that our voices are  
14 heard on behalf of the citizens of the City of Detroit  
15 without us losing our composure. And so with that, I ask  
16 you to keep that in mind as I opened up the floor for  
17 questions or comments for the Chief from any of the  
18 commissioners.

19 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Right here, Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Banks.

21 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Chief, blessings to you and your  
22 household. What I wanted to ask you was what type of  
23 information do you have to have to present to the  
24 prosecutor's office to get a warrant? You've been talking  
25 about warrants today, to get a warrant on an individual.

1 What type of information do you produce to the  
2 prosecutor's office to get that warrant?

3 CHIEF WHITE: Through the Chair, it depends on the  
4 nature of the case. But they're very complex cases. All  
5 cases are different. Each case is individual.

6 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Can you give me a little  
7 general, though?

8 CHIEF WHITE: If you want to talk about a homicide  
9 case. If a person is suspected as the person who killed  
10 the person, the victim that you're investigating, they  
11 have to have the ability to do so, the opportunity to do  
12 so. And any witnesses, any evidence, biological evidence,  
13 DNA evidence. When you talk about ability, were they at  
14 work, you have to prove that they weren't at work. You  
15 have to talk to co-workers to ensure that they didn't  
16 leave work, or if they did leave work, that they'd leave  
17 work in the timeframe in which the crime was committed.  
18 You have to have a morgue report. You have to pull down  
19 information from the morgue report about the time of  
20 death, rigor mortis and things such as that. I mean, it's  
21 so complex to give you, you know, anything other than a  
22 Reader's Digest version of what we have to do, would be  
23 very complex. But each case is extraordinarily complexed.  
24 And oftentimes we find ourselves in situations  
25 investigating pieces of information that are revealed



1 upon an inquiry. So I bring someone in who we think is  
2 good for the case, right? But in doing so, we find out  
3 they're not good for the case, but they know who is. And  
4 so now we have to start all over again.

5 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair, I'm all set.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you, Commissioner Banks.

7 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Chair.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard, excuse  
9 me. Commissioner Moore.

10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, sir. First of all,  
11 Chief, thank you for the condolences to my family. I  
12 stand by the article every word by it. I'm sure you  
13 disagree. I stand by every word. But I want to get into  
14 specifics about two of those stories that were mentioned.  
15 Samantha Woll. No, I'm sorry Dr...

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Can you pull your mic a little  
17 closer to you?

18 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Okay. Can you hear me now?

19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Dr. Hoover, you had mentioned  
21 something about snowfall. What did that have to do with  
22 the homicide?

23 CHIEF WHITE: Through the chair? Can you be more  
24 specific?

25 COMMISSIONER MOORE: You mentioned something about

1 snowfall or something about the case being solved before  
2 snowfall.

3 CHIEF WHITE: Yeah. So if we're going to characterize  
4 what I said, we have to use the complete character.

5 COMMISSIONER MOORE: What did you say?

6 CHIEF WHITE: Well, I'm going to tell you.

7 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Speak.

8 CHIEF WHITE: Okay. Well, I don't...

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Chair, both through the Chair.

10 CHIEF WHITE: Okay. So, first of all, you're not  
11 going to tell me to speak. I choose to speak. And now I  
12 choose not to speak about what he's asking me because he  
13 works in a prosecutor's office. Why don't you tell me  
14 what I meant by snowfall?

15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I have no idea.

16 CHIEF WHITE: Okay. And my role in the prosecutor's  
17 office is not investigations.

18 CHIEF WHITE: But your role in prosecutor's office...

19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Alright. Commissioner Moore,  
20 I'm asking that you speak through the Chair, so that we  
21 can avoid what might appear to be contention.

22 CHIEF WHITE: So contention on my part through the  
23 Chair, but for the benefit of the audience, because what  
24 I don't want to do is hold back information from them as  
25 we continue to mischaracterize information for the

1 purpose of our own benefit. What Commissioner Moore is  
2 speaking to is early on in this investigation, probably  
3 around the summertime, I was asked, when will the  
4 investigation close? Do I think we're going to close the  
5 investigation? Well, I don't have a crystal ball, but I  
6 know the work that's being done by the people that do  
7 this work. And so the characterization that I made was  
8 hopefully by snowfall. I may not have said hopefully, I'm  
9 sure it'll be checked, but I said, should be by snowfall.  
10 Well, this is Michigan. That could be June in some cases.  
11 But in any event, probably an awful statement on my part,  
12 snow has fallen and that's why we're here today having  
13 this conversation.

14 And the arrest has not been made. Obviously, in  
15 hindsight, could have used a better choice of words. What  
16 I meant was hopefully by winter it'll be done. Did not  
17 say that. So Commissioner Moore's correct. I did use the  
18 terminology by the snowfall, and it has absolutely  
19 nothing to do to his point with the closer of the case.  
20 But looking at the timeline that was in my mind and  
21 standing outside during the summer, I felt that we should  
22 be able to resolve the case by that time. Realistically,  
23 things have come up that have compromised that, but we're  
24 still on track investigating this case. We're still  
25 confident that we're going to get where we need to get.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I just one quick follow-up, Mr.  
3 Chairman, the Samantha Woll case, you had mentioned that  
4 it was not anti-Semitic. Is that still the case at this  
5 point?

6 CHIEF WHITE: I am confident in that, but again, when  
7 I stated that, my words were, "At this time, there's  
8 nothing that suggests that this is a hate crime. And I  
9 stand behind that. Nothing has come forward. No part of  
10 the investigation has come forward to suggest that this  
11 is a hate crime. But as a retired law enforcement  
12 commissioner knows, in complex investigations, things  
13 change. At this time, nothing has changed to suggest that  
14 this is a hate crime. If it does change, there's no  
15 benefit to me saying that it is not a hate crime, if it  
16 is. The evidence that we have suggests that this is not  
17 in any way a hate crime. And I stand by that, I stand  
18 with that. But if it changes, I will alert this board.

19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: And one final question, Mr.  
20 Chairman.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Moore.

22 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Squatter's Task Force, is that  
23 still in existence?

24 CHIEF WHITE: It is. Through the Chair. It is not  
25 technically the squatter task force, but yes, we do have

1 a task force that aids both those who are shelterless and  
2 also aides those who are property owners and have people  
3 living in their homes, on their property. But it is a  
4 more or less dedicated to all of those people who are  
5 shelterless. But we do have a task force that focuses on  
6 folks who are working to find shelter. Yes.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Any further  
8 questions? Commissioner Bell.

9 COMMISSIONER BELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just  
10 cannot be silence in reference to this dialogue.

11 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Microphone.

12 COMMISSIONER BELL: I cannot be silenced In reference  
13 to this dialogue as a retired police officer and a  
14 similar commissioner. Basically, the homicide is most  
15 critical job, you can work in Detroit Police Department,  
16 in my opinion. I just want to commend these men and women  
17 that work in that area, because we all have been victim  
18 of family members or church members. Overall, I think  
19 persons have been touched in reference to homicide. And  
20 it's a difficult task when I try to interact with  
21 families to explain how it works. Unlike TV, we don't  
22 stop it in 35 minutes. And unlike other issues, we don't  
23 go out and keep everybody happy. It doesn't work that  
24 way. There was a case on the east side of Detroit where a  
25 young lady was killed from Grosse Pointe. They offered a

1 \$100,000 reward. Nothing is materialized in reference to  
2 her death.

3 So it only goes to show you, it is a tedious  
4 process. The Chief has been very open, more so than  
5 probably any other chief in my history. Chief Hart would  
6 rarely do interviews. He would have a spokesman. And  
7 basically, I've been working with this Chief of Police  
8 for my 10th year. I think he's been very open, he's been  
9 very transparent with this board. And we should be  
10 patient to have some type of respect for the office. I  
11 just want to say the men and women of DPD is doing an  
12 excellent, outstanding job. And we commend that with the  
13 issue that we have. I was just in Memphis, Tennessee this  
14 weekend, and they have issues in Memphis, Tennessee in  
15 reference to homicide and issue. And we have a great  
16 police chief here. It's a difficult task. I just want to  
17 close on that note. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Commissioner  
19 Bernard.

20 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Chief, I'd simply like to one,  
21 I just today, got back from Washington, DC. This is the  
22 Washington Post. And on the front page of the Washington  
23 Post, it says that there is a 40% increase in violent  
24 crimes and a 25% increase in property crimes in the  
25 District of Columbia. And so there are all kinds of

1 hearings and everything there about that. So I want to  
2 congratulate you. I want even more than that, the  
3 officers on the police force, and above all of that, our  
4 community for standing down with respect to initiating  
5 criminal activity. Because you are in a reactionary  
6 position, but the community is the one that really is  
7 responding to this issue. And if you will, making peace,  
8 continuing the piece in our community where our  
9 statistics are the exact opposite of Washington DC's. So  
10 I want to congratulate the force for all of that, and as  
11 I said, our community.

12       Secondly, you mentioned your participation in the  
13 Chiefs convention. Many of us participated in the NACOLE  
14 meeting in Chicago for civilian oversight boards. And one  
15 of the most dynamic speakers there was the chief of  
16 police who formerly was the chief of police in Ferguson,  
17 where Mr. Brown, of course was killed by the police. And  
18 what was interesting about a chief, in contrast to our  
19 force, is the fact that the internal affairs there is  
20 governed by civilians. People like the persons in this  
21 audience right now, they're the ones who decide whether  
22 or not the officer should be, I'll say sanctioned for  
23 their behavior. A totally different paradigm from what we  
24 have. Not only that, in the chief's office, everyone is a  
25 civilian, everybody, and there is not a police chief that

1 has been promoted up.

2 I'm not talking about deputy chiefs and so forth,  
3 but everybody else. And as a result, they have a whole  
4 different sort of window through which they look at crime  
5 because it's evaluated and the officer's performances are  
6 evaluated by civilians within the department. I'd like  
7 you to comment on that. And then finally, my committee,  
8 the Policy Committee, as you know, has taken up the issue  
9 of allowing the community to see videos of all officer  
10 involved shootings, et cetera. And we've decided, not on  
11 the Los Angeles model, but on the Chicago model. So close  
12 to city if you will, blacker city, a city that's our  
13 sister. We are sister communities and Cleveland, the  
14 three of us actually. So we are going to report back on  
15 that, but I'd like you to respond to the most attended  
16 session there was by this particular police chief. Very  
17 strong man. I'm sure you know him

18 CHIEF WHITE: Well through the Chair, that's a  
19 fascinating process. I don't know a lot about it. Is that  
20 Ferguson, you said?

21 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Yes. He was the chief of  
22 Ferguson. Now he's in a new city.

23 CHIEF WHITE: Let me take a look at it.

24 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: And incidentally, the person  
25 who was, you know, the evaluator, I'm calling it the



1 evaluator, it's not. The person appointed by the Justice  
2 Department to look into Ferguson and so forth, also spoke  
3 on this issue. She was there, the overseer, not the  
4 overseer the name, but...

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Maybe we can have Secretary  
6 Shah to provide the panel for that so that the Chief  
7 might have the names of the individuals that Commissioner  
8 Bernard is referring to. But to the question around  
9 Chicago versus LA in the release of videos and then  
10 civilians having some input in disciplinary actions. Your  
11 thoughts.

12 CHIEF WHITE: I mean, the CBA, you know, certainly  
13 limits us and some of the things that we could do. I  
14 would like to review the model so I can have an  
15 intellectual conversation about it. I don't know anything  
16 about that. On the surface, it's certainly fascinating. I  
17 mean, we do have a very similar model in the OCI, you  
18 would think. I mean, we've got a civilian oversight body,  
19 and we've got a group of folks who do the non-criminal  
20 investigations. There's some bifurcation there that one  
21 could argue it's no longer needed. They could do them  
22 all. We do have some investigations that happen at the  
23 command level that we could question if that's still  
24 necessary in 2023. Maybe they should all go through OCI,  
25 I don't know. But it's worth entertaining. But I'd like

1 to spend some time reviewing exactly what the process  
2 looks like so I can have an intellectual response for  
3 this body.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: And how about Chicago versus  
5 LA's release of video policy?

6 CHIEF WHITE: Yeah, you know, I looked at Chicago's  
7 model and they're basically without... well, I didn't see  
8 what you're referring to. We may be referring to the same  
9 thing. I just want to be careful. I've found that LA best  
10 provided what we were looking for, we wanted to  
11 provide... and ours is going to be released as soon as  
12 possible. But no longer than 45 days is what our policy  
13 will be. And the reason for that is, well, it's a variety  
14 of reasons. There are a lot of circumstances where the  
15 video could be delayed, the feds could be looking at, and  
16 it could be a number of different things. If in our  
17 model, as, you know, our officer involved shootings in  
18 particular are handled by the homicide task force. On  
19 that task force includes the Michigan State Police.

20 So those investigations involving Detroit are led by  
21 the Michigan State Police. And that's by design. So we're  
22 not investigating ourselves completely. And that could  
23 possibly look like not a fair investigation, right? So  
24 we're trying to eliminate that. There could be some  
25 things in that investigation that are held back in terms

1 of, until the investigation is completed with the body  
2 camera. So we said we can do this in 45 days as soon as  
3 possible, but at least 45 days. And like I said, that's  
4 the one that works for us. The other thing I liked about  
5 LA candidly is the chief of police or the designee that  
6 did the video before the release talked about policy,  
7 which I did in ours. We have a reference to the Board of  
8 Police Commissioners and ours. What the powers of the  
9 board is, what the powers of the police department is in  
10 these instances. And then we bundled it together, put  
11 some context with it. Allergy, excuse me. And we released  
12 the 911 calls with ours. So that's the model we went  
13 with. It's going to be online now, I think today. And  
14 we've set up a, a YouTube page specifically for those  
15 incidents.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Well, that is very encouraging  
17 to hear. I'm sure that there'll be some cautious and  
18 careful eyes to ensure that it meets the community's  
19 expectation. And as the policy committee is also  
20 reviewing their own policy it'll be interesting to see  
21 how it aligns and what changes might need to be made so  
22 that we are on the same page relative to the policy of  
23 release of officer involved shooting videos. Is there any  
24 other questions for the chief?

25 CHIEF WHITE: Through the Chair, if I may?

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

2 CHIEF WHITE: I do want to respond to one thing  
3 Commissioner Bernard said about the community. And I  
4 would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to, again,  
5 thank the officer.

6 CMMISSINER BERNARD: Sorry, I didn't understand what  
7 you said.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: He's responding to what you  
9 said about the community.

10 CHIEF WHITE: Yeah, I was just saying I would be  
11 remiss if I didn't. She's absolutely correct. We must  
12 acknowledge our community being really sick and tired of  
13 this violence and partnering with us and bringing forward  
14 a lot of these crimes in the community. We could not be  
15 where we're at without our community. So thank you for  
16 bringing that up.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Excellent. Vice Chair, Holley.

18 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
19 Chairman. I wanted just ask you, if we come here every  
20 day, every week of oversight. So each commissioner can  
21 basically do interviews and do press releases and things  
22 through the press individually, even though we sit around  
23 this table and do oversight every week. I'm asking you,  
24 because I'm concerned, and this is no respect to any  
25 commissioner that somehow, some policy ought to be made

1 that commissioners cannot just basically do things on  
2 their own. In other words, why are we here, if I have to  
3 look at what the commissioner wants to talk about the  
4 police in the paper? I'm very concerned about that. And I  
5 know my time is out, but I'm just saying to you, again,  
6 as someone that's been around here a hundred years, I'm  
7 just saying to you that somehow some kind of way there  
8 ought to be some stipulation in terms of what we able to  
9 do as commissioners, speaking from the board. This board  
10 is one board, not individually. When we have our  
11 differences about our policies, our differences about the  
12 police department, but I do feel like I'm very  
13 uncomfortable of finding a release in the paper about the  
14 work that we basically should be doing around the table.  
15 Does that make sense to you?

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Your concern is well noted,  
17 and we were trying to explore if there is standing policy  
18 in that regard. There is a difference of philosophy  
19 between commissioners about whether or not we operate as  
20 a body or one's autonomy to operate as individual  
21 commissioners. But again hearing your point, I think that  
22 it's far past time that we at least come to an agreement  
23 so that we move forward with an understanding on how we  
24 are expected to carry ourselves as commissioners and as  
25 this board. Commissioner Bernard.

1 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Mr. Chairman, I obviously have  
2 great perspective and regard from my colleague, but Jim,  
3 you cannot stop free speech. I'm an elected commissioner.  
4 I represent the largest district in the City of Detroit,  
5 just like city council. I'm entitled to my opinion, and  
6 other elected commissioners on this board are as well.  
7 The commission votes through resolution. But individual  
8 commissioners, individual city council people are  
9 entitled to their opinion and entitled to exercise their  
10 right of free speech. It can't be controlled and it won't  
11 be controlled because it would be unconstitutional.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Well, there are factors, and  
13 circumstances, Commissioner Bernard, in which our speech  
14 is restricted. A case in point, when we have a closed  
15 session. No matter how individual you are, you cannot  
16 speak freely about what has been mentioned closed  
17 session. Let me finish there. That's what I'm saying. So  
18 there may be policies that we can put in place not to  
19 stop a commissioner from speaking their mind, but to  
20 ensure that we aren't left in the dark about what has  
21 been spoken about. Because often there can be confusion  
22 on the community's part on whether or not this is in the  
23 individual speaking or the board speaking. And I think  
24 that demarcation is necessary so that there is any  
25 confusion. So to the discussion that the board can have,

1 both options can be held together if that indeed is the  
2 desire of the board. But to just say, because of free  
3 speech, we shouldn't try to put some policies or  
4 procedures in place that might mitigate confusion. I  
5 think that...

6 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Mr. Rhodes in the room, he's  
7 chief counsel to Callaway and also her chief of staff.  
8 It's the same situation exists with city council. There  
9 are 11 commissioners, each of them have different points  
10 of view. Each of them speak to the press independently  
11 about issues that they find and important. That is our  
12 model, quite frankly.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: And from your...

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: And how so?

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I tried my best to communicate  
16 that there are differing philosophies on this board about  
17 how we should move forward. And so what I'm saying is I  
18 think that it's worth the conversation, so we're not  
19 operating off assumptions, but that there is something  
20 that places a standard of expectation on how we should  
21 move forward. And so again, if it is to suggest that our  
22 policy is to mirror city council, then that will be our  
23 policy. But I think it's important to have a policy in  
24 place so that there isn't confusion about how we move  
25 forward. Chief, I just had a final question. No other

1 colleagues had any questions. And this may be something  
2 you can get back to as you suggested, not suggested, you  
3 shared that the department has about a 52% closure rate  
4 on homicide cases or cases in general?

5 CHIEF WHITE: Homicide cases.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Homicide cases. And so I just  
7 want to know like, where does that fit in, like other  
8 major cities? Is that like a median? Is that at the top  
9 range? The bottom range? And so just to get a sense, when  
10 I hear that number, I need to know like, are we doing  
11 well at 52% or is there, I mean, obviously there's room  
12 for improvement there, but where does it situate itself  
13 in relationship to other likewise municipalities?

14 CHIEF WHITE: And in my 28 years it's one of the  
15 highest for us. I mean, we had a year of 8% in the City  
16 of Detroit. This was, you know, when things were really,  
17 really bad. But I'll give you some context on that number  
18 and look at what the national average is. I just don't  
19 have it off the top of my head. But I know that if we're  
20 not close, we may be slightly above it, but I'll have to  
21 take a look.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay, thank you. And to my  
23 colleagues, is there any objection to the gun recovery  
24 data being submitted on a monthly basis as the chief has  
25 requested? Okay. Hearing none, we will accept that



1 recommendation.

2 CHIEF WHITE: Thank you. Alright, if no other further  
3 questions for the chief.

4 COMMISSIONER Banks: Mr. Chair.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes. Commissioner Banks.

6 COMMISSIONER Banks: Not for the chief though.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER BURTON: For you. Now I heard you  
9 mention it that, first of all, the Board of Police  
10 Commissioners, they are oversight of the Detroit Police  
11 Department, so they have a voice. So are you trying to  
12 limit it to certain restrictions on what they can, what  
13 policy...

14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: When you say the Board of  
15 Police Commissioners, are you talking about you or are  
16 you talking about the board?

17 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I'm talking about the board.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. So that's what the  
19 clarification was because I think that there's confusion  
20 on whether or not, when we say the Board of Police  
21 Commissioners, does that mean just a commissioner? Does  
22 that have to be the consensus of the board? So that's  
23 what I'm...

24 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Because a commissioner has a  
25 free right to speak to the media.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Correct. As a citizen

2 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Right, yes. Because the media is  
3 going to come after a commissioner. So what are you  
4 trying to do, limit to what they're saying? Explain to  
5 me.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm trying to be clear so that  
7 when a commissioner speaks, there is clarity on whether  
8 or not that is a commissioner speaking individually or a  
9 commissioner speaking on behalf of the board.

10 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Oh, you mean, okay. Now you're  
11 talking about one commissioner speaking for the whole  
12 board.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Correct.

14 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay. I see what you, okay, I  
15 got it. Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Alright. Thank you. Is there  
17 any further questions, comments?

18 COMMISSIONER BANKS? It should be done through you.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: If it's for the whole board.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: But if, again, I think that  
21 it's probably premature to try to have the conversation  
22 now let's set a space that we can dig into it deeply. And  
23 again, to ensure that we come up with a policy that makes  
24 sense for our work and what the community is asking for  
25 us to do. At this time, we now move to oral

1 communications. Ms. Underwood, who do we have?

2 MS. UNDERWOOD: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair. We have 14  
3 speakers today.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Wow!

5 MS. SHAH: Our first speaker will be Minister Eric  
6 Blunt. Our second speaker is Ms. Tabitha, and please  
7 forgive my pronunciation, Nahabedian.

8 MINISTER BLUNT: Good afternoon board.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon.

10 MINISTER BLUNT: Can I have four minutes again,  
11 today?

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Unfortunately you cannot.

13 MINISTER BLUNT: Had to ask. Just recognize, it took  
14 a brand new commissioner to recognize that critical data  
15 was missing from the ShotSpotter report. I don't think  
16 anybody else was really looking at it or really cared to  
17 look at it. But the number of guns recovered is critical  
18 to measuring the success of this program. But it's not  
19 about success. It's about whatever the police department  
20 wants. And surveillance is what they want, surveillance  
21 is what they get no questions asked. On the issue of the  
22 quality and transparency of what happens so many times in  
23 this police department. They're lacking. Where was the  
24 quality when a woman, a black woman, eight months  
25 pregnant, was falsely arrested using facial recognition

1 technology, detained so long, she almost lost her unborn  
2 child. So don't brag about transparency and quality and  
3 especially on the best practices. Where was that in  
4 Porter Burks, it took over a year to have any release of  
5 the body-worn camera footage of a man being shot 38 times  
6 by the police department. And yet what is released and on  
7 the BOPC website completely blocks out Porter Burks, so  
8 we don't know if it's him or not, or what he was doing or  
9 not, or what he had in his hand or not. No. That's still  
10 another cover-up. And no, no one on this board should be  
11 relying on the law department's legal opinion. They are  
12 not an independent council. They are part of the city,  
13 not part of an independent board. We like to call the  
14 Board of Police Commissioners. So when it comes to video  
15 releases, the day of all interaction with citizens, not a  
16 45 day delay, the facts are the facts, we don't need to  
17 watch.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

19 MS. UNDERWOOD: Ms. Tabitha Nahabedian.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Ms. Tabitha? May have stepped  
21 out. We can go to our next

22 MS. UNDERWOOD: Mr. Peter Rhodes, and after Mr. Peter  
23 Rhodes, it'll be Ms. Smith.

24 MR. RHODES: My name is Peter Rhodes. I'm with the  
25 Office of...

1 MS. UNDERWOOD: Microphone.

2 MR. RHODES: I'm with the Office of Detroit City  
3 Council member Angela Whitfield Galloway District 2. I'm  
4 just here to observe the Board of Police Commissioners  
5 meeting. I'm very interested in new business item B2 and  
6 3, concerning video release policy. And depending on the  
7 actions of the board today, we'll be looking forward to  
8 going forward in January of 2024, concerning any policy  
9 that may need a city ordinance. Also, I'd like to point  
10 out that there's an issue concerning murder and missing  
11 black women and girls. It's a city problem, a state  
12 problem. It's a national problem. There is national  
13 legislation now before the United States Congress  
14 concerning this issue. And I just wanted to make the  
15 Board of Police Commissioners and the public aware of  
16 this pending legislation and ask for your support. Thank  
17 you very much. I yield back my time.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

19 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon.

21 MS. SMITH: Commissioners. An interesting meeting  
22 today. As you all know, my thing is crime in this city,  
23 but when you come after the police, then I have to have a  
24 say so about it. The police has done a magnificent job  
25 for the City of Detroit. I have friends in Chicago,

1 matter of fact, I was born in Chicago. Every now and then  
2 I call to find out what them, I won't say what I want to  
3 say.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

5 MS. SMITH: But anyway what the police do in Chicago.  
6 They don't do nothing compared to Detroit. I'm telling  
7 you. I had the conversation. It was the mayor's office. I  
8 got their number, believe it or not. And I spoke with one  
9 of the officers that was answering the phone and the  
10 information that he gave me was quite interesting. So I  
11 want to let you know, I'm going to continue to support  
12 our Detroit Police Department as long as I have breath in  
13 my body and I happen to be 91 years old, and I think I'm  
14 doing a hell of a good job by advertising the protection  
15 that we have of our police department here.

16 I don't know what environments that you've been  
17 under, but I know I raised five kids here, five children,  
18 and they all doing wonderful. One is with the Ford Motor  
19 Company, one's executive with PNC. Then I have one that's  
20 with Ford for 34 years. So if I can do it with my  
21 children, and then one is retired from Cadillac. So I  
22 want all of you to know, and one's a postmaster, I'm  
23 sorry about her. But I want all of you to know, realize  
24 that our department police is doing a hell of a job out  
25 here. They're risking their lives for us. And for you to

1 come here and complain to the newspaper or anybody else  
2 about what they're doing, go to them and let them know  
3 what your feelings are. You don't have to broadcast it.  
4 We're doing a hell of a job here in the City of Detroit.  
5 And I want all of you to know it. I feel that way.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. That's your time.

7 MS. SMITH: It's all over?

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: yes.

9 MS. SMITH: You doctoring that clock.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I gave you more time.

11 MS. SMITH: I think you're doctoring that clock on  
12 me.

13 MS. UNDERWOOD: The next three speakers will be Mr.  
14 Brian Douglas and Ms. Fredia Butler.

15 MR. DOUGLAS: Thank you for taking the time to listen  
16 to me today. I'm a lifelong resident of Detroit. I'm  
17 going to speak for District 5, because I don't really  
18 know my district because I move around, but right now I'm  
19 in Northwest Detroit. This is about Dr. Devon Hoover.

20 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Microphone.

21 MR. DOUGLAS: I'm sorry.

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you.

23 MR. DOUGLAS: Is it good?

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yep. Go right ahead.

25 MR. DOUGLAS: He didn't need to be here. Devon could

1 have been anywhere, with that brain, he could have gone  
2 anywhere. He didn't have to stay here. He chose this  
3 city. He chose us. He loved this city. About him, like I  
4 said, to our mutual friends who are all gay in this  
5 community, and we've known him for 20 plus years. He was  
6 the best of us. He was a fantastic man. He had a  
7 fantastic character. He did the best in this town. With  
8 that being said, he loved grandiose things.

9       That house was grandiose. He loved the art of it. He  
10 loved the culture. He loved the history. That's all he  
11 cared about. He didn't care about anything else other  
12 than people because that's why you become a doctor. And  
13 then this, I'm going to say, kindness was the beginning  
14 of his demeanor, and faith in God was the end of his  
15 understanding. We all understand that this is an ongoing  
16 active investigation and its integrity must be intact by  
17 court of law. With that being said, his family, they're  
18 heartbroken, they're destroyed. Ascension is heartbroken.  
19 It's destroyed a little bit. They lost a valuable member.  
20 Henry Ford is also hurting. Patients, thousands of  
21 patients that I've talked to, a few, 10 or 12, they're  
22 still distraught. This murderer is still walking around.  
23 I don't know how else to put that. This is serious. This  
24 seemed insidious. And on top of killing the man, you go  
25 on a character assassination through his funeral on a



1 live feed and then through internet channels to destroy  
2 him, his character as a man and how he walked in this  
3 city. We have to do better. Chief White already addressed  
4 half of what I had in this, so I'm going to stop talking  
5 now and give you back your time.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you, and our  
7 condolences.

8 MS. BUTLER: Good afternoon.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon.

10 MS. BUTLER: Commissioners, at the Second Precinct,  
11 Police Community Relations Council meeting, November  
12 14th, 2023. Mr. Jeremiah Wheeler was our guest speaker.  
13 He is 26 years old. I chose his topic, "Bridging the  
14 Gap." During his presentation, Mr. Wheeler stated that  
15 his heart skips a beat when he encounters police. And  
16 later I spoke with a former police officer and he also  
17 expressed being uncomfortable coming in contact with the  
18 police. Commissioners, these expressed feelings, I  
19 believe comes from the history of negative behaviors of  
20 policing, especially with black males. I also have  
21 negative feelings when I see two white officers together  
22 at night due to being traumatized as a child. I have a  
23 member in the community who has been traumatized from  
24 childhood and refuses to attend our monthly meetings  
25 because of having to be around police and guns.

1 Commissioners, how many people have these same feelings?  
2 Our commanders and officers must be chosen carefully,  
3 especially those who do not live in the city and know the  
4 culture of the people who lives there. I don't know what  
5 can be done, because after having worked for many years  
6 and passed exams, they do deserve to be promoted. And the  
7 young officers, black or white, I believe, feel they have  
8 power because they have badge and a gun. Please share  
9 these comments during your training sessions to help the  
10 officers change what we perceive of police officers.  
11 Thanks for listening.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

13 MS. UNDERWOOD: The next two speakers will be Ms.  
14 Shanita Williams and Ms. Carol Gore.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: And can you call that name  
16 that was missing earlier?

17 MS. UNDERWOOD: Tabitha. And again, forgive me for  
18 the mispronouncing name. How do you spell your last name?  
19 N-A-H-A-B-E-D-I-A-N?

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Has Tabitha returned? Okay.  
21 No, come right ahead.

22 MS. WILLIAMS: Hello everyone.

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Hello.

24 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. You all know I've been  
25 complaining about the Detroit police officers stalking me

1 in civilian vehicles, and I also made several complaints  
2 concerning my vehicle being broken into at MGM casino. So  
3 I just found out recently that MGM, the security guards  
4 and Detroit police officers are involved in breaking into  
5 my car illegally. And I do have legal listening devices  
6 in there. And that's not the kicker. Pardon me. And like  
7 I said, no disrespect. All officers are not bad officers.  
8 But when you take an oath and wear that badge, I expect  
9 you guys to respect it, period. So now police officers  
10 that are at that casino gambling, hacking into them  
11 devices, all types of stuff. They didn't hack into my  
12 car. It's all type of stuff going on at MGM, not just  
13 MGM. It's not just the Detroit police officers either.

14 That's my problem. And it's going on three years.  
15 Deputy Chief said, we all have a great social media  
16 platform. I have a target on my back. I have to worry  
17 about the cuckoos coming at me, then I have to worry  
18 about police officers not respecting their badge. And my  
19 life is in danger every day. And it's going on three  
20 years. Something needs to be done because like I said,  
21 I'm trying to diffuse the situation because I come here  
22 all the time discussing the same stuff over and over  
23 again. Something needs to be done. Somebody needs to do  
24 their job correctly. Thank you very much.

25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you

1 MS. UNDERWOD: Ms. Carol Gove and Mr. Jeff Cohen.

2 MS. GOVE: Hello, it's Carol Gove. I'm here to speak  
3 about Dr. Devon Hoover. I am aware that there are serious  
4 problems with the investigation for what happened during  
5 the first two days. So I think it's going to be a real  
6 problem for the prosecutor's office. So I understand all  
7 of the delays. But given all of that, is there a reason  
8 the FBI has not been called into this, or what does it  
9 take to get the FBI into this case? And I'm not  
10 criticizing anybody, these things just happened and we  
11 seem to be here and I believe the snowfall thing. So I  
12 can't tell you how disappointing that was. And the family  
13 has not been communicated with, no one has been  
14 communicated with. So it's just very, very frustrating.  
15 And I just want to wrap this up with what was said  
16 before. You know, my personal loss is huge. He was my  
17 best friend. I know it looks weird. I'm 30 years older  
18 than he is, but, you know, he was my best friend. But the  
19 people that aren't going to have their brain tumors  
20 operated on and the people that aren't going to walk  
21 again, this murderer killed them too.

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Our condolences. DC Hayes,  
23 what's the process for FBI getting involved in cases? You  
24 can come right ahead, sir.

25 DEPUTY CHIEF HAYES: I would need to get back with

1 you. There are certain triggers which they will adopt a  
2 case. So I can get you what those are. I'll get back to  
3 the board secretary.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Go right ahead.

5 MR. CHEN: Good afternoon, honorable police  
6 commissioners. I just want to say how grateful I am for  
7 your service. I found out recently how little you're  
8 compensated monetarily for your investment of time and  
9 service to our community. I want to thank every single  
10 one of you for what you provide. And Chief, I appreciate  
11 the excellence, your department, and Chief White...

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Can you speak up please?

13 MR. COHEN: You're excellent service to our community  
14 is appreciated every single day and every night. I'm a  
15 block club president, resident of 19 years. And the  
16 police department has nothing less than excellent. I'm  
17 here today just to help us continue that level of  
18 excellence in every department within the force. When Dr.  
19 Hoover was murdered, I became more aware that there is a  
20 police commission of what you all do. And I started  
21 paying close attention because he was a neighbor and  
22 learned that the neighbors were not canvased in Boston  
23 Edison following the murder.

24 And the other issue with the several weeks coming in  
25 after the murder was that when the victim's friends and

1 neighbors were calling the homicide line, we couldn't get  
2 through and we couldn't get a return phone call. And I  
3 heard that from one of Dr. Hoover's closest friends had  
4 the same experience. Months went by without a return  
5 phone call from the homicide department. So I just think  
6 that this department needs to be funded. You've heard,  
7 you know, defund the police. We need to fund any  
8 department that needs help. If, if the workload is such  
9 that we can't do all the things that we really want to do  
10 when they need to be done because we're just keeping up  
11 and working our butts off, then let's fund that  
12 department and let me know, let the public know. Thank  
13 you for your op-ed and the free press. Let the city know  
14 what's going on. Let us know what resources are needed.  
15 We'll come back you up. And with this recent murder of  
16 Ms. Woll in Lafayette Park, again, I'm concerned where  
17 the neighbors canvassed, cameras are everywhere these  
18 days. And the memory on them, you might have 30 days'  
19 worth of footage if you're lucky. I checked in with a  
20 friend who, and I've got the...

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm sorry sir, that's your  
22 time. Thank you.

23 MR. COHEN: He walked past police and left the  
24 country same day as the murder.

25 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, may I

1 just ask one question of the chief? Deputy Chief Hayes,  
2 can you respond to his question please, regarding the  
3 fact that nobody would pick up the phone and talk to  
4 people who had, I guess, tips or whatever about this  
5 killing or how does that work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF HAYES: Through the Chair. Anytime  
7 someone would like to come forth with information. Three  
8 ways. Certainly calling the investigative entity. In this  
9 case it's Detroit Police homicide, certainly Crime  
10 Stoppers and also Rewards TV. I'm not sure, and to that  
11 point, certainly our condolences go out to the loss of  
12 your dear friend or loved one. Sometimes when calls come  
13 in, I know a lot of people are concerned and want to ask  
14 questions in addition to tips and see where the  
15 investigation is going, but there's one single source of  
16 contact oftentimes with families. So a person may call  
17 and say, "Hey, my friend was a victim of such and such  
18 crime." Those that may come in contact with, if they are  
19 not that family member or that point of contact, we're  
20 unable to release that information to them and give them  
21 that update that they would like. So I can't speak to the  
22 specifics of this, of the interactions or the phone calls  
23 or whether the information was either trying to be either  
24 relayed or ascertained. But that is the processes in  
25 which we would disseminate information. Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Next speaker.

2 MS. UNDERWOD: The next speaker is Cheryl Minifield.  
3 Cheryl Minifield. Mr. Ronald Foster, Johnson, and then  
4 we'll go into Zoom.

5 MR. FOSTER: Good evening. Just want to come down and  
6 just say a few things today. First thing is that we are  
7 coming upon the election year. Law enforcement is not to  
8 protect administration, okay? It's to protect the  
9 community. And I think that's important that you all  
10 know, and exhibit integrity. It's very important. The  
11 Ruben Hurricane Carter Case, in its ruling, the federal  
12 judge ruled that convictions that appeal to racism rather  
13 than reason and concealment, rather than disclosure, is  
14 more harmful than the accused accusations of them  
15 themselves. And so I do want to encourage you all that  
16 free speech is a law and you have a duty and obligation  
17 to protect free speech. Our community has suffered for  
18 over 20/30 years with the Strawberry case, with White Boy  
19 Rick, and as consequences to speaking out. And until you  
20 guys change that culture, it's going to be hard for you  
21 to go around and say, stop snitching. We need you all to  
22 take accountability here. I don't care if it's an elected  
23 official or administrative official. Do your job and  
24 enforce the laws appropriately. There's a new law, a duty  
25 to intervene. Officers have a duty to intervene, whether



1 it's a federal law, whether it's a state law, whether  
2 it's an ordinance. So anything else, you have a duty to  
3 protect all laws at all costs that you come across, even  
4 if it comes from your corporate counsel. As far as free  
5 speech, I did want to just say elected officials have a  
6 duty and obligation to represent their constituents  
7 regardless of anything. And that there is a debate clause  
8 to protect them and to avoid anything else, I suggest  
9 that you guys assign a board spokesman and do not  
10 infringe upon nobody's first amendment rights.

11 MS. UNDERWOOD: Next is Johnson and then Mr. Darrell  
12 Ford.

13 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Is it Mr. Johnson, you said?

14 MS. UNDERWOOD: It didn't say Mr. or Ms. It didn't  
15 say. Johnson.

16 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Johnson. Welcome Ms. Johnson.

17 MS. JOHNSON: Good evening.

18 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Your full name again, please.

19 MS. JOHNSON: Ms. Johnson. I've been here as many of  
20 the other speakers have before.

21 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Microphone.

22 MS. JOHNSON: I'm right into the microphone. Can you  
23 hear me, okay? I have the same three questions. How is a  
24 felony arrest record and subsequent felony bench warrant  
25 generated from the Third Precinct in 2015 issued without

1 any evidence of support? We heard from Chief White  
2 tonight about best practices. How is a felony bench  
3 warrant withheld for over three years without process  
4 serving to the person? And three, how and why are records  
5 of action for a crime that was never committed, not  
6 destroyed, despite a judicial order and decree for  
7 destruction of records? I will continue to ask these  
8 questions until they are answered. Thank you.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

10 MR. FORD: I'll put Detroiters up against anybody  
11 expressing their opinion. I just want to say happy  
12 holidays to everybody and I'll just say that and I want  
13 to just say the greatest gift that you can give anybody,  
14 your relatives coming into the city, the greatest gift  
15 that you can give them is please tell them to count 1, 2,  
16 3, 1, 2, 3 before they enter a green light, because  
17 people are driving pretty reckless out here. And I just  
18 want to say this other thing. I just want to say this  
19 right here, it's spreading. You saw what happened in  
20 Grosse Pointe. If you didn't get on the internet, it's a  
21 terrible thing happened in Grosse Pointe about red lights  
22 and drag racing. The other thing I want to say is, I echo  
23 this lady right here, and I say this right here. Please  
24 take your hat off and say, police, you're doing a good  
25 job, sometime.

1           Holler out the window, congratulate them, shake  
2 their hand, do something to them because you know, they  
3 have mama drama, they have baby mama, they have daddy  
4 drama and they have some very interesting relatives that  
5 they have to deal with too. And you know that. So give  
6 the police a handshake sometimes, or something. Help them  
7 because they need some help. I'll say this again. They  
8 are looking out for you. And that's the first person  
9 you're going to call the police. The other thing is just,  
10 I'll be going back to Florida. I'll be going for six  
11 months. You probably going to see me, right? See me one  
12 or two times, but when I come back, I hope I have  
13 something good to say to you. But again, tell the police  
14 they're doing a good job. It may help you, it may make  
15 them appreciate you and do a better job. God bless you.

16           CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. And safe travel to  
17 you

18           MS. UNDERWOOD: Mr. Chair. We're going into Zoom now.  
19 Your next speakers will be former Commissioner William  
20 Davis. Mr. Ruben Crowley, and DC CAC member, Scotty  
21 Bowman.

22           CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Former Commissioner  
23 Davis.

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

25           CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, you can, go right ahead.

1 MR. DAVIS: Okay. I'd like to start off by saying I  
2 think it is imperative that everyone knows that the City  
3 of Detroit, the Board of Police Commissioners and the  
4 Police Department need to have greater transparency.  
5 because that is/has, and continues to be a problem  
6 because I know a number of groups have filed freedom of  
7 Information requests and they get a big runaround and  
8 they ask to get paid a large fee for information that  
9 should be readily available, especially if you can  
10 transmit it via email to those individuals or those  
11 organizations. So there is a problem, you know, that you  
12 all may be hiding, and you all may be sticking your head  
13 in the sand, but that is a problem. Also, I think you  
14 need to make sure you let the new people know that, you  
15 know, sometimes part of the problem has been the board  
16 leadership.

17 I'm pleased to see so many new people coming on the  
18 board. And hopefully whenever there is an election, the  
19 person elected to be the new vice chair won't be also an  
20 appointee. You know, I think it's horrible that you could  
21 have two appointees running this board especially that  
22 the appointees are only liable, and only look to serve  
23 the mayor. Hopefully, everyone there should be there to  
24 serve the community because we need our numbers to go  
25 down for homicides. We need our numbers to go down for

1 break-ins, we need our numbers to go down for a number of  
2 things. And there are a lot of good officers, but we want  
3 to make sure that you weeded out the bad officers and you  
4 can't do that with your head in the sand. Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Was that Ruben  
6 Crowley, who is next?

7 MR. CROWLEY: Yes to the citizens, taxpayers  
8 residents, City of Detroit, news flash. Today, during the  
9 debriefing with the mother of Kaniesha Coleman, DPD case  
10 20- 11112. The Michigan State Police MSP acknowledged  
11 that there is not enough evidence to place the tag of  
12 suicide, the classification designation and label of  
13 suicide on Kaniesha Coleman's death. They so much  
14 acknowledged that in a debriefing. Now, in the same  
15 breath, I want to give a public service announcement. I  
16 want to personally commend DPD, Chief James E. White,  
17 when presented with additional evidence that was not in  
18 the homicide file, he picked up the phone and called in  
19 the Michigan State Police. He did what was needed to be  
20 done, and you can't ask anything other or anything more  
21 of the man than what was needed to be done. I want to  
22 commend him on his leadership and being a standup guy.

23 Now, I would also like to bring to the attention of  
24 citizens, taxpayers, residents here in the City of  
25 Detroit, and especially Willie Bell and Dr. Reverend

1 Bishop, Dr. Reverend Snake Oil salesman, Jim Holley. Your  
2 actions that you took to stand in the way of what needed  
3 to be done have been duly noted. Now, to all the police  
4 officers, those that wear the badge honorably, I commend  
5 you for putting that badge on, leaving your residence and  
6 coming out to protect and serve the citizens of the City  
7 of Detroit. And that's for everybody that wears that  
8 badge honorably. Deputy Chief Hayes, I would like to  
9 thank you and appreciate you.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you.

11 MS. UNDERWOOD: Mr. Chair, your last speaker is DC4  
12 CAC member, Scotty Bowman.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Mr. Bowman.

14 MR. BOWMAN: Hello.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead.

16 MR. BOWMAN: Yeah, thank you. First of all, I'd like  
17 to say that civilian oversight and accountability are not  
18 about loving or hating the police. It's about individuals  
19 doing something improper and being held accountable for  
20 doing something improper, even though they're police who  
21 often get a pass because, you know we expect so much of  
22 them and we think highly of them. But in general, it's a  
23 matter of just individuals who are officers and the  
24 police department being held accountable for proper or  
25 improper behavior as police officers. It isn't about

1 painting with a broad brush and liking or disliking  
2 people with that occupation.

3       Secondly, the issue of license plate readers.  
4 There's been an expansion of license plate readers in the  
5 City of Detroit. A whole bunch of them have become  
6 available due to some grants. And I'm very concerned that  
7 people's privacy is not going to be adequately protected.  
8 I understand there are some pretty strict standards as  
9 far as what information the police use that the license  
10 plate readers bring in. However they are still bringing  
11 in that information and that information is going  
12 someplace other than the camera that's reading the plate  
13 before a decision is made, whether or not to use the  
14 information. And to me, that's still a problem. If you  
15 want to flag certain license plate numbers, then that  
16 information needs to go out to the device itself so that  
17 it will only transmit from that device to the network  
18 information about that vehicle, if that vehicle is seen.  
19 Anything else still lends itself to the possibility of  
20 abuse and overall tracking of individuals. And then we  
21 have development of artificial intelligence that could  
22 take that over and make use of it.

23       CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you and thank everyone  
24 for their public comment. At this time we'll move on to  
25 the report from Board Secretary Victoria Shah, as well as

1 communications Secretary Shah.

2 MS. SHAH: Thank you Mr. Chair. Through the Chair,  
3 Commissioners, your incoming correspondence outlining  
4 your agenda, and I'll touch on several items here. As a  
5 reminder, effective December 1st, staff will no longer  
6 send BOPC related information to personal email addresses  
7 for the board. So if your city email address is not  
8 active and or you are having trouble accessing it, please  
9 reach out to Mr. Robert Brown for assistance. This matter  
10 was brought to the staff's attention by Attorney LaBelle  
11 in regards to city policies. And so, again, if you are  
12 having difficulty accessing or activating your city email  
13 address, please reach out to the office. The  
14 administrative leave without pay considerations for  
15 Police Officer John Balbert and Police Officer Darrell  
16 Partlow have been rescheduled by DPD personnel. Partial  
17 administrative leave without pay packets were emailed to  
18 commissioners on Tuesday this week for your preliminary  
19 review. Staff is waiting on responses from DPD to the  
20 questions posed to get further clarification on the  
21 matters. If the disciplinary Administrative Request  
22 Committee would like to meet on these requests prior to  
23 the full board hearings, please let the office know at  
24 least two days in advance of the desired meeting date.

25 Mr. Chair, for the next item in the secretary



1 report. Some security concerns at the Merrill Plaisance  
2 Building have been raised by Chief Investigator. And if  
3 you don't mind, I'd like to allow him to speak for this  
4 part of the report.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: No problem.

6 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Merrill  
7 Plaisance Building needs to be open and accessible to the  
8 public to make filing of citizen complaints and inviting  
9 and a supportive process for those who are filing citizen  
10 complaints for Detroit residents and our guests. At the  
11 same time, the building needs to be secured as this  
12 building is secured and staff needs to be confident that  
13 appropriate protocols are in place for guest admissions  
14 to the building, and steps taken in case escalated  
15 situations arise. If the board has no concerns, I would  
16 like to work directly with the DPD members in that  
17 building the Merrill Plaisance Building to strengthen the  
18 security equipment and the protocols for the safety of  
19 the staff and our public guests.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Commissioner  
21 Bernard?

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: What are you suggesting  
23 specifically?

24 MR. WARFIELD: Through the Chair. What I'm suggesting  
25 specifically is that we work very directly with the DPD

1 staff there in the building to establish security  
2 protocols for screening those individuals who are coming  
3 in into the building. And we have a plan of support for  
4 any escalations that might occur as a result of  
5 interfacing with citizens and guests.

6 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Well, everyone in the building  
7 just about carries a weapon. They're all sworn. Many of  
8 them are sworn officers and many of our staff do so as  
9 well

10 MR. WARFIELD: Through the Chair.

11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I don't think that that should  
12 preclude us from looking into policies that ensures that  
13 nobody has to use their firearm in the building.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: We have a metal detector at  
15 the door.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Chief investigator.

17 MR. WARFIELD: Through the Chair. There needs to be  
18 significant security implemented at the building.

19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Vice Chair Holley.

20 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Mr. Chairman, can you guys submit  
21 to us what is the plan you'd like to have?

22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I think they were like asking  
23 us permission that he can do it, and then he'll come to  
24 us with a plan. So I don't think there's any objection  
25 for you to move forward in coming up with a plan on how

1 we can better secure the building.

2 MR. WARFIELD: Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Secretary Shah.

4 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Moving on to the  
5 2022 annual report, also included in your packets behind  
6 tab number 6, is the final draft of the 2022 annual  
7 report. I would like to recognize Ms. Teresa Blossom for  
8 extensive work also on this project. The analysis of the  
9 data was particularly challenging due to recent changes,  
10 albeit improvements in reporting and dashboards of  
11 citizen complaint data, as well as additional shifts in  
12 data reporting from DPD. Either way, the report is  
13 comprehensive, is well designed, and the staff is seeking  
14 the board's approval for the draft that you have in front  
15 of you today. Mr. Chair, would you like me to pause my  
16 report for the board to entertain this item?

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: The Chair entertains a motion  
18 to approve the final draft of the Board of Police  
19 Commissioners 2022 annual report.

20 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So moved.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is there a second?

22 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Second.

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and  
24 second. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion...

25 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Mr. Bell?

2 COMMISSINER BELL: We just received it.

3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER BELL: So why are we going to approve  
5 something? We just received it and I haven't had a chance  
6 to look at it, so we just received it. Just leave it at  
7 that.

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Well...

9 COMMISSIONER BELL: It's just a draft.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It has already been moved and  
11 seconded. Is there the desire of... who moved? Was it  
12 Commissioner Moore?

13 CMMISSIONER BERNARD: Me.

14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard, is there  
15 a desire for you to repeal?

16 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Reviewing it, you know, right  
17 now? I mean, you know, it's an annual report. It just  
18 says what we did in 2022. It's not anything new. It  
19 shouldn't be new to the board.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Secretary Shah.

21 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair, just to clarify for the  
22 board this is the third or fourth draft that's been  
23 passed to the board. And so over the last several months,  
24 the board has had a chance to review the iterations and  
25 there have not been very many changes since the last

1 draft that was submitted a couple weeks ago. However, if  
2 it pleases the board to wait for a vote that's up to  
3 the decision of the board. I just want to clarify that  
4 the drafts have been issued over the last several months.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Any further  
6 discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor of approving  
7 the final draft of the Board of Police Commissioners 2022  
8 annual report please signify by saying, aye.

9 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those who oppose say, no.  
11 The Ayes have it. The draft, well, I guess the Board of  
12 Police Commissioners 2022 annual report has been  
13 approved.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Mr. Chairman, if I may, I want  
15 to congratulate the staff on what appears to be a first  
16 class report. Great graphics, great pictures, great.  
17 Everything. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. And thank you to  
19 the staff. Secretary Shah, your report.

20 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For staffing updates  
21 for open positions investigators per the board's last  
22 vote on the 17th of November, contingent offers are out  
23 to 8 investigator candidates for the salary of 54,500 and  
24 a tentative start date of December 4th. The position is  
25 also being reposted to fill additional open positions for

1 investigators. And for the executive assistant 2, 76  
2 applicants were received and are being reviewed by myself  
3 and the acting attorney, and will be shared with all  
4 commissioners. Recommendations will go to the Personnel  
5 and Training Committee first. The last item on my report  
6 today is in regards to Civilian Oversight Analyst  
7 Determination memo dated 11/16, which is in your packets  
8 as well. As the board is aware, the staff has been  
9 working with HR Class Compensation to review all salaries  
10 for BOPC and OCI staff. Class Comp is conducting analysis  
11 and making recommendations on changes in job  
12 descriptions, salary ranges, and or current compensation.

13 Those recommendations are brought before the board,  
14 before any implementation for the board's approval. The  
15 board has been asking to, or the board has been seeking  
16 to staff an analyst for some time. As Class Compensation  
17 conducted its research, the board agreed to recruit for a  
18 temporary analyst in the meantime, and those negotiations  
19 with that candidate, continue. For BOPC's permanent  
20 analyst position, Class Comp is recommending creating a  
21 new job classification to meet the needs of the board.  
22 Class Comp's memo is included in your packet behind tab  
23 number 6, and I'll read that memo for the benefit of the  
24 board and the community. A Class Compensation request  
25 form was submitted to create a new title for the Board of

1 Police Commissioners that resembled the duties and  
2 responsibilities of a data analyst. The following memo  
3 contains a proposed recommendation after a review was  
4 completed by the Class Comp department after receiving  
5 the request to create a new title, classification and  
6 compensation looked internally for similar roles already  
7 created within the city to serve as a direct comparable.

8       Aligning the newly created job specification to that  
9 of a data analyst, we were able to find a large number of  
10 similarities between the two roles. Unable to create a  
11 subclass, we extracted the information within the job  
12 specification that was applicable to what this role will  
13 be responsible for within the Board of Police  
14 Commissioners, and created the new job specification.  
15 With this information in mind, we established the new  
16 range for this role at 60,553 to 84,836, aligning it to  
17 the data analyst role. It is a recommendation of the  
18 Classification and Compensation Department that the new  
19 title named Civilian Oversight Analyst, Board of Police  
20 Commissioners utilize the range mentioned above. Upon  
21 approval from the board, the classification and  
22 Compensation Department will schedule this role to be  
23 reviewed by City Council for approval. I would like to  
24 just clarify for the board that this is not an additional  
25 role. This is the analyst position that the board has

1 been working for all year, and this is just another step  
2 in the process to establish this as a permanent role for  
3 the board's support. Mr. Chair, if you would like, I can  
4 entertain any questions that the commissioners may have  
5 on this matter.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Are there any questions for  
7 Secretary Shah? Vice Chair Holley?

8 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman.  
9 And just a concern, I'm looking through all of this Mr.  
10 Chairman and we brag about Ms. Blossom and the staff, but  
11 bragging about them and paying them are two different  
12 things. And it seems like to me that we have people  
13 coming in here at a high rate, and I have no problem with  
14 it, but people have been with us for 17, 18, 19 years,  
15 and we are basically not giving them the number that I  
16 think they should have. I would be humiliated if I've  
17 been here this long to see somebody coming in 10,000 over  
18 me, and I've been here for a number of years, making 50.  
19 So I'm just saying to you, again, just an observation.  
20 And I'd like really to put it on the conscious of the, of  
21 the board and the staff to look out for people like, you  
22 just brag about Ms. Blossom. She does a good job, Mr.  
23 Brown and Mr. Underwood. I think we ought to be concerned  
24 about their salaries too.

25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Point well taken. And our



1 fiscal manager is on that as well. And so these are dual  
2 tracks. We're doing a comp analysis on all of our staff  
3 to make sure that we bring them up to market rate. But at  
4 the same time, want to make sure we don't delay this  
5 position as well. Any further questions for Secretary  
6 Shah? Hearing no questions, the Chair would entertain a  
7 motion to approve City HR Class Comp to submit the  
8 request to City Council for a new job, classification of  
9 Civilian Oversight Analysts, Board of Police  
10 Commissioners with the salary range of \$60,553 to  
11 \$84,836.

12 COMMISSIONER HOLLEY: So moved.

13 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Second.

14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and  
15 seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion,  
16 all those in favor, please signify by saying, aye.

17 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed say, nay.  
19 The ayes have it. That motion passes. So, secretary Shah,  
20 have you conclude your report?

21 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes the  
22 Secretary Report. Would you like me to give  
23 announcements?

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, please go right ahead.

25 MS. SHAH: Thank you. The next Board of Police

1 Commissioner's meeting is Thursday, December 7th at 3:00  
2 PM here at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters. And the  
3 next community meeting is Thursday, December 14th at 6:30  
4 PM. The Third Precinct is hosting at Considine Recreation  
5 Center in the auditorium, 8904 Woodward Avenue in  
6 Detroit. The list of monthly committee meetings for  
7 November are listed in the agenda. All of those have  
8 occurred, so there are no other committee meetings  
9 scheduled for the remainder of November at this time. If  
10 any gets scheduled, then a notification will go out to  
11 the public.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. And now we'll move  
13 on to new business where we'll begin with a...

14 COMMISSIONER BANKS: New business right here. Mr.  
15 Chair.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I am on the agenda,  
17 Commissioner Banks. And so we'll begin with A, which is a  
18 committee report from the Personnel and Training  
19 Committee.

20 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Mr. Chairman, because by this  
21 time my speech is kind of... can I have the secretary  
22 read the report?

23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: That's fine. Secretary Shah  
24 will be reading the Personnel and Training Committee  
25 report on behalf of Chair Holley, the Chair of the

1 committee.

2 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The memorandum in  
3 your packets is from Reverend Jim Holley, Chairperson of  
4 the Personnel and Training Committee dated November 21st.  
5 Dear colleagues, on behalf of the Board of Police  
6 Commissioners, November 21st, board attending committee  
7 Chairperson Jim Holley and Commissioner Lisa Carter. For  
8 the first item, consideration of contingent appointment  
9 and salary for Akari Jenkins to the position of  
10 administrative special services staff exempt analysts.  
11 The Personnel and Training Committee discussed the  
12 originally recommended salary offer, the counter offer,  
13 and the market analysis provided by Class Comp. The  
14 committee approved the recommendation to the full board  
15 to revise Akari Jenkins salary offer from 58,600 to  
16 72,694. The next item consideration to appoint Mary  
17 Barber to this position of administrative special  
18 services staff exempt two analysts. Since the committee's  
19 recommendation is to continue to pursue the offer with  
20 the other candidate, this agenda item was not  
21 entertained.

22 Lastly, the investigator interviews. Six  
23 investigator candidates were invited to interview on  
24 November 21st. Only one candidate arrived and was  
25 interviewed, Marcellus Ball. The interview lasted

1 approximately 30 minutes and consisted of the following  
2 elements, introductions, instructions, and overview of  
3 position, interview questions, and writing sample, as  
4 well as candidate questions and next steps. After the  
5 interview, the committee compiled scores and agreed on  
6 the following next steps. Pending Commissioner and HR  
7 availability schedule an additional committee meeting for  
8 the week of November 27th to interview additional  
9 candidates from the current candidate pool to clarify  
10 schedules did not align, and so that additional meeting  
11 for interviews did not occur. And then also request that  
12 HR repost the investigator position to recruit for  
13 remaining open positions. And that request has been  
14 submitted. At this time, Personnel and Training Committee  
15 does not have another meeting scheduled. Sincerely,  
16 Reverend Jim Holley.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Is there any action  
18 out of the committee? Chair, Holley?

19 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: Please.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I kind of would need you to  
21 read the motion if that's what you're talking about. So  
22 I'll do it this way. The Chair entertains a motion by  
23 direction of the personnel and Training Committee to  
24 amend the appointment offer for Akari Jenkins for the  
25 position of administrative special services staff exempt

1 two analysts from \$58,600 to \$72,694 as a final offer.  
2 Pending background checks. This doesn't require a second  
3 because it comes out of committee, but is there any  
4 discussion? Hearing No discussion, all those in favor  
5 please signify by saying, aye.

6 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed, no. The  
8 ayes have it. And that motion passes. Is there anything  
9 else from the Personnel Training Committee?

10 VICE CHAIR HLLEY: Nothing else.

11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We will now move on in new  
12 business. I'm getting to you, to the Policy Committee  
13 report.

14 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay. I'm sorry.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. So now we have the  
16 Policy Committee, and we'll turn it over to the Chair of  
17 the Policy Committee, Commissioner Linda Bernard.

18 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The  
19 Policy Committee met myself and Commissioner Ricardo  
20 Moore on May, I'm sorry, November 21st. What am I  
21 thinking of? November 21st, 2023. The first item that we  
22 discussed was the Outlier Media request regarding the  
23 issue of what's happening with tenants and the police  
24 department and those sorts of issues. We could not really  
25 discuss it because the request that we received from

1 Outlier Media regarding squatters and the Squatters  
2 Action Team, we don't have the responses to their  
3 questions. Their questions were, and we've referred them  
4 to the Board of Police Commissioners, the results of the  
5 investigation into the Squatter's Action Team. That was  
6 number one. Number two, was revised protocols and  
7 policies mentioned in the memo that, I guess came from  
8 the police department. Three, information about if, and  
9 how the Squatter's Action Team has been reorganized. And  
10 four, any other information related to the Squatter's  
11 Action Team. They had...

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard, just for  
13 a point of clarification. You said that you referred  
14 those questions to the Board of Police Commissioners,  
15 which means you referred them to the Detroit Police  
16 Department Police Department?

17 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Police Department.

18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Okay. So, yeah, we have not  
20 received a response yet to those questions so that we can  
21 obviously respond back to Outliers Media, but hopefully  
22 we'll get a response before the next meeting. The second  
23 thing that we addressed were actually 1, 2, 3, 4 policies  
24 of the City of Detroit. We had on the agenda the facial  
25 recognition policy, but the Chief sent a memo asking that

1 we defer on that policy currently and to allow DPD to  
2 make additional amendments to it. So it didn't make sense  
3 for us to address it if in fact, we were going to get  
4 amendments in the future, so we pull that off of the  
5 agenda. The second thing that we discussed was the  
6 eyewitness identification and lineup special order. We  
7 reviewed that policy in depth. We've had, obviously,  
8 discussions with the department on it. And I am prepared  
9 today to recommend to the board that we adopt the policy  
10 as written and as revised with the consent and approval  
11 of the department.

12 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair.

13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Secretary Shah.

14 MS. SHAH: Just to clarify, through the Chair,  
15 Commissioner Bernard, at this time, I think you're  
16 referring to the eyewitness identification and lineup,  
17 which is next on the committee's list to review. The  
18 committee wasn't ready to make a recommendation on that  
19 just yet.

20 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Okay. Alright. I apologize for  
21 that. Okie doke. The third item that we discussed was the  
22 draft video release ordinance, which we spent a  
23 considerable amount of time on. And attorney Peter  
24 Rhodes, who's here, a Policy Analyst and so forth for  
25 Councilwoman, Angela Calloway also assisted in that

1 meeting and was very responsive, quite frankly. We have  
2 finalized a draft of that policy/ordinance, which we are  
3 prepared to refer to city council. We elected to prepare  
4 this as an ordinance and not as a policy, because that's  
5 what the other cities have done. It's not a matter of  
6 internal policy. It's a matter of city law, if you will,  
7 as an ordinance. And that ordinance has been prepared.  
8 And I'll let my colleague speak to the changes that we  
9 made to the initial referral.

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Moore.

11 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The  
12 main thing that we changed was the timeline. Initially it  
13 was 60 days, and then I started thinking about the San  
14 Juan incident where Hakim Littleton. The department  
15 released that video in less than two hours because it was  
16 to the department's favor to release it quickly to stop  
17 any disruption of city and the city services. So I  
18 started analyzing 21 days would be fair to gun down from  
19 60 in the interest of public confidence in the police  
20 department.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard.

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So, our policy requires that  
23 videos be released within 21 days. There's certain  
24 exceptions to that, of course. If the Department of  
25 Justice is involved or those sorts of issues, then of



1 course, the video couldn't be released if in fact,  
2 there's a supervening federal power that is involved with  
3 the ordinance. So that was the major change we made from  
4 the original. I don't know if Secretary Shah wants to  
5 read the ordinance into the record, the proposed  
6 ordinance, if you would do that, please?

7 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair, just to clarify,  
8 Commissioner Bernard, your request is to read the entire  
9 ordinance at this time into the record?

10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Let's just read the  
11 amendments.

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Oh, I know it's not that long  
13 though. It's really pretty brief, actually, compared to  
14 most ordinances.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: What parts have been changed?

16 MS. SHAH: Well, just to clarify, this is a draft of  
17 a brand new ordinance, so the whole thing is new. And it  
18 has been posted to the website. It was read during the  
19 committee meeting as well. Would it be more appropriate  
20 to just read off some highlights or do you want the whole  
21 thing read?

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Highlights. You don't mind my  
23 colleagues?

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: VICE CHAIR Holley.

25 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: My concern is, Mr. Chairman, that

1 we ought to have this written, it's supposed to be in the  
2 record. But I'm concerned. I got seven people not here. I  
3 mean, this ought to be something that the whole board  
4 ought to be very much involved in. The other thing I'm  
5 concerned about, that we're giving the city council the  
6 role that we have, we giving it to another entity of the  
7 city? I just feel like we need to have some... I  
8 appreciate the work that they're doing, but I'd like to  
9 have some time to talk about this and have other  
10 committee people, board members involved in this. I just  
11 feel like it's not fair to the others. I know if I wasn't  
12 here, I would feel unfair about it, but I think it ought  
13 to be basically where we can see it, not just before you  
14 read it into the record, for once it's in the record,  
15 it's in the record.

16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Well, it is in your packet  
17 after tab 9, in writing as a policy. And I do appreciate  
18 the fact that we would want a full attendance at the  
19 meeting. But you know how difficult that can be. And so  
20 we are in a catch 22 because we don't want to delay the  
21 policy because then the citizens won't get the video. So  
22 we do have to operate as it relates to our quorum. But if  
23 it is the desire of this board to postpone this, you  
24 know, that it again is your will. But this is a  
25 recommendation that has come out of the Policy Committee.

1 And so it's our duty to respond. Commissioner Bell.

2 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman, my understanding by  
3 the city charter and our goals and objectives that is the  
4 board, DPD and the mayor involved with policy making. Has  
5 that taken place? Is DPD and the mayor and the board,  
6 it's not a one handed effort.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I disagree with that.

8 COMMISSIONER BELL: I'm looking at it correctly, if  
9 we're looking at city charter.

10 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: If it goes to city council, go  
11 ahead.

12 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Just excuse me. Commissioner  
13 Bernard, through the Chair, this is a recommendation from  
14 the board to go to city council for an ordinance. City  
15 council passes ordinances, it's not a policy. What you're  
16 referring to, Commissioner Bell, is a policy created by  
17 the three-headed monster, known as the chief, the mayor  
18 and the board.

19 COMMISSIONER BELL: Well, this is different. This is  
20 something different. This is rather unique as  
21 Commissioner Vice Chair indicated. So the full board to  
22 the opportunity to weigh in on, because you already  
23 released a public statement on this, it's out there, but  
24 we haven't had a chance to have discussion in terms of  
25 sitting on this board.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's just this draft policy  
2 that it has been released. And again as the Policy  
3 Committee has done this work they are borrowing from best  
4 practices from other municipalities. And what has been  
5 seen is that when it has been made an ordinance relative  
6 to a policy, that it provides more teeth to ensure that  
7 it's followed. And I don't think that there should be  
8 much a challenge in working collaboratively with our  
9 other legislative body to ensure, again, that this work  
10 is being done. It's not the only time we go to city  
11 council for assistance. And I think that this might be  
12 beneficial now. If again, you're uncomfortable with that,  
13 you know, your vote can be, no, or...

14 COMMISSIONER BELL: Mr. Chairman, I would say you're  
15 working with other entities, but you haven't even worked  
16 with this board in reference to this particular matter.

17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Pardon me. Who haven't?

18 COMMISSIONER BELL: We have not, the Policy  
19 Committee, have not worked with the board in reference to  
20 this matter.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Isn't this what they're doing  
22 now?

23 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: And this meeting...

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: They had it. Sorry, let me  
25 speak. They had a committee meeting. This is how our

1 structure is set up. They deliberated the work in the  
2 committee meeting, and now they're bringing what they did  
3 in the committee meeting to this board.

4 COMMISSIONER BELL: After the fact.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I mean, that's kind of how it  
6 works. I mean, we were clear... hold on, I'm speaking. We  
7 were clear on the agenda items on their committee. That  
8 was shared. We were aware that these were policies that  
9 they were going to review. They've done their part and  
10 they brought it here. And if you're saying now that it's  
11 here that you don't like it, or it needs to go back, or  
12 we can do something different, then that's your right.  
13 But it is not them usurping the board's agency in this  
14 regard. And they had no control over who was going to be  
15 absent and present. This is our standing meeting. There  
16 is an expectation that you're here. And so I don't think  
17 that it's reasonable to utilize that as a reason as to  
18 not move forward.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Correct.

20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: So with that, the Chair by  
21 direction of the Policy Committee, excuse me, the Chair  
22 by the Policy Committee, entertains a motion to adopt the  
23 draft video release policy for the city council, excuse  
24 me, let me read that again. The Chair entertains a motion  
25 by direction of the Policy Committee that we move to

1 adopt the draft video release policy for the City of  
2 Detroit-V4.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: As an ordinance, yes.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It doesn't require a second.

5 And so is there any discussion?

6 VICE CHAIR HOLLEY: It require 3, 4, 7, does it?

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: No

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: No. It's just a simple  
9 majority, and so no further discussion. All those in  
10 favor, please signify by saying, aye.

11 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed?

13 COMMISSIONERS: No.

14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: The Chair calls for roll call  
15 vote.

16 MS. SHAH: Mr. Chair for roll call vote, Chair  
17 QuanTez Pressley - Yes.

18 MS. SHAH: VICE CHAIR Jim Holley - Absolutely, no.

19 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Tamara Liberty Smith - No.

20 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Linda Bernard - Yes.

21 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Cedric Banks - Yes.

22 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Willie Bell - No.

23 MS. SHAH: Commissioner Ricardo Moore - Yes.

24 MS. SHAH: Mr. Chair, you have 4 = yes votes, and 3 =  
25 no votes.

1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: With 4 yes votes and 3 no  
2 votes that motion passes.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead with your  
5 report.

6 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: The final item, where are my  
7 notes here. On this on this agenda...

8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Where is the final item?

9 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Well, almost, yeah, it is.

10 MS. SHAH: Through the Chair.

11 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: It is two items that we have.

12 MS. SHAH: Well, it's three. Through the Chair. The  
13 second piece to the ordinance is the resolution to go  
14 along with the ordinance.

15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. So we still have  
16 business to handle in this regard. And so you might make  
17 your motion, Commissioner Bernard.

18 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: To approve the resolution as  
19 drafted in support of our proposed policy/ordinance  
20 regarding video releases by the police department to the  
21 community.

22 MS. SHAH: Mr. Chair, for the record, the resolution  
23 if adopted by the board, should be read into the record.

24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. So there's been a  
25 motion. It does not need any second. Any discussion?

1 Hearing no discussion, all those in favor, please signify  
2 by saying, aye.

3 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Let me get a point of  
5 clarification. Were you saying that that needs to be read  
6 before we vote or once it's adopted, it needs to be read?

7 MS. SHAH: Yes, Mr. Chair, it should be read before  
8 voting.

9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Well go ahead and read  
10 the resolution.

11 MS. SHAH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just to read the  
12 resolution from the Policy Committee, Board of Police  
13 Commissioners, resolution for City Council's adoption of  
14 the video release ordinance as drafted by the Board of  
15 Police Commissioners. WHEREAS, the City of Detroit paved  
16 the way for civilian oversight of law enforcement for the  
17 United States of America with the establishment of the  
18 Detroit Board of Police Commissioners in 1974, and must  
19 continue to strive to be the benchmark and example of  
20 transparency and accountability. And, WHEREAS, other  
21 cities such as Detroit Sister City of Chicago, have  
22 progressively adopted policies and ordinances mandating  
23 the timely release of videos and supporting documentation  
24 related to police use of force incidents. And, WHEREAS,  
25 the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, the Detroit



1 City Council and the public, have repeatedly experienced  
2 selective, delayed, and redacted fulfillment of video  
3 footage from the Detroit Police Department. Currently,  
4 video is released within the Detroit Police Department's  
5 discretion, and, WHEREAS, public safety is dependent upon  
6 the establishment and maintenance of transparency with  
7 respect to the operations of the Detroit Police  
8 Department and trust and communication between the police  
9 department and the community whom it serves. And,  
10 WHEREAS, the people of Detroit have an undeniable, and in  
11 some cases, paramount interest in being informed in a  
12 timely fashion and based on the most accurate information  
13 possible about how their police department conducts this  
14 business, especially when the use of force by the police  
15 results in the death of, or great bodily harm to a  
16 civilian. And, WHEREAS, when police interactions  
17 tragically end in serious injury or death of a civilian  
18 and or Detroit Police Department member, there is  
19 heightened public desire for transparency into what  
20 occurred.

21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Let the record show that we  
22 have lost our quorum, and without a quorum, we cannot  
23 move forward with the business of this agenda. So the  
24 Chair entertains adjournment. This meeting is adjourned.

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1 (Meeting Adjourned at 4:59pm)

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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 November 30, 2023 at 3:00p.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

DBOPC  
11/30/2023

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