

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, February 29, 2024 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, Michigan 48226

- I. **Chairperson QuanTez Pressley called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Chaplain Gregory Wilson provided the invocation.
- III. **Announcements.**

Chief Investigator Jerome Warfield announced the following:

Next BOPC Meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters in the Skylar Herbert Room, 1301 Third St., Detroit, MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., hosted by the 10th Precinct at Dexter Avenue Baptist Community Center, 3350 W. Davison St., Detroit, MI 48238.

Monthly Committee Meeting Scheduled for March 2024

Policy Committee Meeting	Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
Personnel & Training Committee Meeting	Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
Citizen Complaints Committee Meeting	Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

All Committee Meeting are held at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters

IV. Community Impact Report.

Chief Investigator Jerome Warfield presented our plan to move forward as relates to our backlog cases, and how we are assessing and receiving our cases. When we look at the complaints that came in last year, it was a year unlike no other. We had 1,742 complaints that came into our office. That was the highest recorded number of complaints that we've measured since we've been taking these figures. In addition to that as we look at the number of allegations that we were able to investigate or we're still investigating. We have 4,812 allegations that came in. We have to investigate each allegation. When you look at the workload of the Office of the Chief Investigator is significantly increasing. We're in the process of reviewing applicants to hire 8 more investigators to handle this load. In addition to that, when you look at our current inventory what we're doing right now. There are 342 current cases. Those are cases that are 90 days or less or less than 90 days in our office. The backlog numbers are 1,334 cases. Those are cases that are past 90 days. Our total in-house case are 1,671 cases. When you divide our staff up, 15 investigators divided by that number, you're looking at about 114 cases per investigator which is well over the industry standard. The industry standard is between 8 to 15 cases per investigator. But there is a reason how we got here when we referenced those individuals who resigned and left our offices, or took other opportunities. 17 of those 22 individuals were investigators, and so each of those investigators, on average, left about 50 cases behind to be to be picked up by investigators that remained that's about a 1020 cases. However, we do have a process in place and a project in place that we want to move forward, and we are calling this our Timeliness Initiative project or TIP for short. The purpose of this project is to conduct timely thorough investigations by improving investigative efficiencies within the Office of the Chief Investigator. Obviously, we need people, but the one thing we know we can do is make sure that some of our processes are efficient. We have developed a 7-step plan that we believe it addresses some of the efficiencies within our office. One of the first things we're doing is sending out letters to all of the citizens who have filed complaints, and their cases are backlogged to let them know that we haven't forgotten about them, and we are still committed to do thorough investigations for all of the cases that are in-house. Secondly, we want to streamline and automate our investigative reports. Another part of our plan is moving to a case management system that would make that a lot easier than what we're doing right now. We're in talks right now with the City of Detroit and the DoIT. DoIT department to purchase a new case management system that's currently being used by the Ombudsman office, the office of the OIG, as well as the Ethics office It's called WingSwept and technical conversations are being held right now. We are working with Commissioner Woods to implement a mediation process for those cases that would be applicable.

The following inquiries require responses from the BOPC and/or DPD:

COMMISSIONER MOORE: Has there been any type of research done to determine exactly how many investigators we need to get this backlog taken care of?

CHIEF INVESTIGATOR WARFIELD: When we were at the National Oversight Convention in Chicago, the overwhelming sentiment across the country is that pretty much you need investigators that will handle about 15 cases. For our office, we know that looks to be around 22 to 25 investigators. That's what we're shooting for when we hire these next 8 investigators will be right at that 22 threshold. Now, what we also will do is add another team in order to make sure that the workload for the supervisors are not overwhelming as well, and that fourth team will be a training team for those individuals who are seniors that can get the experience of being a supervisor before it's time to be promoted, so there'll be a rotation process for our senior investigators. But we will be there once we get the rest of the investigators on board.

CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I do not know if this process was stalled as a result of the transition of our board secretary, but I know that there was some assistance provided with a lean team that was reviewing all of our processes to see the time that it takes and the amount of cases per investigator.

V. Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance		
	In Attendance	Not-In Attendance
QuanTez Pressley, Chairperson	Yes	
Willie E. Bell		Excused
Tamara Liberty Smith	Yes	
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.		Excused
Cedric Banks	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
Lisa Carter		Excused
Ricardo Moore	Yes	
Jesus Hernandez		Excused
Rory Gamble	Yes	
Darryl Woods	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	7	5

VI. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, February 29, 2024. The motion was accepted and adopted.

VII. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for February 22, 2024, with any corrections. The minutes were adopted as presented. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of Closed Session Minutes for February 22, 2024. The minutes were adopted as presented.

VIII. Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives and Community Leaders.

IX. Chair's Report.

Commissioner Moore motioned, "that the Board of Police Commissioners adopt Acting Supervising Investigator Elgin Murphy annual salary to \$80,000 effective January 18, 2024. The motion passed.

X. Chief of Police Report.

Deputy Chief Franklin Hayes reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property and recent critical incidents impacting the DPD and the community. I would like to address some comments that were made in the media regarding some technology that we have utilized as an agency. We have procured it within the city procurement lines with that process is in protocol, and it has been certainly a tool that has helped us. Again, those record low numbers of gun violence as we continue to see that trend. We talk about low-income communities,

oftentimes the low-income communities are the most victimized, and as public servants it is our duty. Chief White has made the mandate we serve everyone regardless of socioeconomic class, race, creed, sex, religion. We are serving everybody, and we will find constitutional ways with the use of technology to help make this community safe. There is a report that goes out monthly; we talk about the effectiveness of this technology and what it does. And this is the ShotSpotter technology. We are aware that there was a breach from the actual provider who we have the contract with, and we will certainly be having a conversation with them to ensure that their security protocols are in place. That is certainly not acceptable. But the areas that we have described from its initial implementation as well as its expansion. We were very transparent about the areas. We certainly have found extreme value in how we combat gun crime in this city? And we will continue to utilize this responsibly, ethically, and constitutionally, to make our city safe.

The following inquiries require responses from the BOPC and/or DPD:

COMMISSIONER GAMBLE: For the public clarification on the ShotSpotter. That detects gunshots outdoors and indoors and it also makes the distinction?

DEPUTY CHIEF HAYES: Through the Chair, the technology picks up on the percussion noise of a firearm outdoors. It does not pick up on gunfire that is occurring indoors. There'd been some concerns that we dispelled in the community, and our first iteration, as well as the expansion that this could not pick up someone's conversation. And this is not listening for that. It is only activated when again the percussion of an alert of a firearm. There are times where perhaps during our summer months, where fireworks or firecrackers that are similar may alert us, and then, once our officers go out to the scene and make that investigation and find out that it's not gunfire. Its fireworks. But that is what it picks up. Commissioner Gamble.

COMMISSIONER GAMBLE: Is there any discussions about the further development of the technology that would have the capability to do that?

DEPUTY CHIEF HAYES: Through the Chair, there have not been, consistent with the COGIS Ordinance that Council President Sheffield has helped put in place. Any technology that we acquire there are only certain ways that we can use it. We are unaware and not sure, and I certainly don't speak in this case for the chief, but mindful of civil liberties and intrusion, that is something that Chief White is hypersensitive to and broaching that, or acquiring something of that technology has not been consistent with the direction that he has given, as it relates to how we serve this community. And again to even be able to utilize that that would require City Council approval of which we are definitely not seeking. And again unaware of any of those capabilities.

XI. Oral Communication / Public Comments: Ms. Bernice Smith, Ms. Fredia Butler, Former Commissioner Reginald Crawford, Ms. Charnita Williams, Minister Eric Blount, Ms. Agnes Hitchcock, Ms. Sharon Mitchell, Mr. Ronald Foster, Mr. Jahdante Smith, Mr. Chris Gilmer-Hill, Ms. Marguerite Maddox & Scarlet, Ms. Victoria Shah, Mr. Meeko Williams, Mr. Scotty Boman and Former Commissioner William Davis provided public comments.

XII. Presentation to the Board – DPD Victim Assistance Program – Felicia Jenkins, Head Social Worker

A. DPD Victim Assistance Program – Felicia Jenkins, Head Social Worker provided an overview of the Detroit Police Victim Assistance Program. DPD Victim Assistance follows up with all domestic violence, sexual assault and secondary homicide victims with their perspective units through the daily case reports. We provide those crime victims with resources, safety planning, anniversary calls, shelter resources, personal protection order referrals, short and long terms counseling, support groups, etc. We have free and confidential counseling both long term and short term. Court support. If our one of our crime victims had to go to court. We can go and be a support with them.

XIII. Report from Chief Investigator Jerome Warfield / Communications (Submitted to BOPC as incoming information)

- A. DPD Appointment to the Rank of Captain
- B. DPD Promotions to the Rank of Lieutenant, Sergeant, Detective

XIV. New Business.

- A. **Commissioner Moore** motioned “to remove Willie E. Bell as Vice Chairperson from the Board of Police Commissioners immediately. The motion passed.

XV. Adjournment.

Chairperson Pressley adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.