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9	CITY OF DETROIT
LO	BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
L1	May 23, 2024 at 3:00 P.M.
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- 1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Chaplain, Mr. Leslie Walker,
- 2 will be joining us by Zoom.
- 3 CHAPLAIN WALKER: Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you
- 4 so much for the opportunity to come and pray for this
- 5 august body of believers. We thank God for this time.
- 6 We're going to pray. Father, in Jesus name, we thank you
- 7 now for your goodness, mercy, and your grace. We ask that
- 8 you lead and guide this Board of Police Commissioners,
- 9 meeting with wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- 10 Father, give us even a spirit to agree to disagree
- 11 without being disagreeable. And we rebuke every spirit
- 12 that will come in to cause disagreement or confusion, or
- 13 division in Jesus' name. Now, Father, we thank you now
- 14 that no weapon formed against them shall prosper. And
- 15 every time they rise up against them in judgment, they
- 16 shall be condemned. If there's healing needed, then
- 17 there's healing. If there's deliverance needed, there's
- 18 deliverance. And we give you praise now in the name
- 19 that's above every name, Jesus Christ of Nazareth, and in
- 20 Jesus name, thank God. Amen.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Amen. Thank you so much for
- 22 your words of invocation. At this time, we'll move
- 23 forward by asking our acting board secretary to provide
- 24 us with the incoming correspondence as well as
- 25 announcements. Mr. Brown?

- 1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon.
- 2 MS. UNDERWOOD: Our first speakers will be Ms.
- 3 Charnita Williams, former Commissioner Reginald Crawford,
- 4 and Lieutenant Mark Young.
- 5 MS. WILLIAMS: Hello everyone.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Hello.
- 7 MS. WILLIAMS: So I'm going to continue to talk about
- 8 my rape. And last week I left off the person that raped
- 9 me, and I was also talking about the gift cards and the
- 10 way they are covering up my rape, and I'm, I'm going to
- 11 say it officers, police officers, not the whole Detroit
- 12 Police Department. I found out about the one 800 number
- 13 they have for the cash app, gift cards, and all this
- 14 stuff. So the man who raped me, I was his caregiver, and
- 15 he was on drugs. And apparently they did not know that he
- 16 was going to drug me and rape me. So, like I said, I'm
- 17 going to continue to talk about my rape while they
- 18 continue to try to cover up my rape. That's not
- 19 acceptable, and something needs to be done. I've been
- 1) acceptable, and something needs to be done. I've been
- 20 speaking about this over and over again, constantly
- 21 concerning the illegal corruption of Detroit police
- 22 officers in the city.
- 23 And also, they are working together. The city
- 24 workers are stalking me. I'm at a shelter. So yesterday,
- 25 it was a helicopter following me for 45 minutes. I went

- on, Mr. Chair.

 1 to make a police report the other day. They are
 2 communicating with DOT drivers because it was a shift
 - 3 change at the 2nd Precinct. I'm very familiar with the
 - 4 officers' vehicles because I've been complaining about
 - 5 officers following me in civilian cars for over a year.
 - 6 So I can go to any Detroit precinct, and pick out the
 - 7 civilian, I mean, officer civilian vehicles, like I told
 - 8 Internal Affairs before and I'm quite sure... I come to OCI
 - 9 all the time to make these complaints concerning the
 - 10 illegal corruption. And no, I'm not getting no help
 - 11 concerning my rape and something needs to be done,
 - 12 period.
 - 13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Alright. We do now have a
 - 14 quorum, and so we will return to our standing agenda. And
 - 15 public comment will come as we move forward through the
 - 16 agenda. But at this time, we'll have the introduction of
 - 17 Commissioners by Acting Secretary Brown
 - 18 MR. BROWN: Chairperson Pressley Here.
 - 19 MR. BROWN: Vice Chairperson Smith Present.
 - 20 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Bernard -
 - 21 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Banks Present.
 - 22 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Bell Present, District 4.
 - 23 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Burton Present.
 - 24 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Carter -
 - 25 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Moore Present.

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- 1 MR. BROWN: Yeah. Good afternoon, Mr. Chair.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Good afternoon.
- 3 MR. BROWN: Currently, we have three administrative
- 4 leaves without pay from the Chief of Police Office. We
- 5 have a FOIA request waiver, and we have a LAPDOIG
- 6 sufficient activity report that came in from the OCI 7 report from the Office of the Chief Investigator. The
- 8 announcements. The next BOPC meeting is Thursday, May 30,
- 9 2024, at 3:00 PM, located here at Detroit Public Safety
- 10 Headquarters. And the next community meeting is Thursday,
- 11 June 13, at 6:30 PM The 7th Precinct will be hosting at 12 Detroit Edison Public School Academy Auditorium. That
- 13 address is 1903 Wilkins Street, 48207. Among the
- 14 committee meetings scheduled for May, 2024. At this time, 15 we have a meeting... I don't believe I have that date for
- 16 a meeting that may be coming up at the end of May, sir.
- 17 So as of now, that's the announcement.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. And if we can get
- 19 confirmation on that date before today's meeting ends, we
- 20 will make sure that we communicate that. Thank you. Okay.
- 21 So now that we have completed the items that we can do 22 under an amended agenda, we are still waiting on one more
- 23 commissioner to arrive. And so we will move forward to
- 24 oral communication. For those, we've already signed up.
- 25 MS. UNDERWOOD: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair.



- 1 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Hernandez - Present.
- 2 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Woods -
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Alright, with that, we do
- 4 indeed have a quorum. And so now we'll move on to the
- 5 approval of the May 23rd, 2024 agenda. Before we do so,
- 6 because I have to leave early today, I'm asking, if there
- 7 is no objection that we can move new business directly
- 8 after the Board of Police Commissioners report. Is there
- 9 any objection to that change? Hearing none, the Chair now
- 10 entertains a motion for approval.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, Commissioner Burton.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I recommend that we keep the
- 14 agenda the way it is today.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. And so there has been an
- 16 objection stated. So now the Chair entertains a motion to
- 17 move new business directly after the Board of Police
- 18 Commissioner's Officers report.
- 19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: So moved.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is there a second?
- 21 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Second.
- CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and
- 23 seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion,
- 24 all those in favor, please signify by saying, Aye.
- 25 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

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- 1 these minutes? Hearing none, those minutes are approved.
- 2 And now we'll move on to the introduction of BOPC Staff,
- 3 the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or
- 4 Representatives, as well as Community Leaders by Acting
- 5 Secretary Brown.
- MR. BROWN: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair. Currently, we
- 7 have with us, Chief Investigator Warfield, Attorney
- 8 Stephanie LaBelle is on Zoom, Ms. Candace Hayes, Ms.
- 9 Jonya Underwood, Ms. Jasmine Taylor, and Ms. Teresa
- 10 Blossom. Ms. Artemisia Joshua ASL Interpreters, Ms.
- 11 Yakata, and Ms. Joyce Washington, Supervising
- 12 Investigator Ainsley Cromwell, DPD HR Director Patillo.
- 13 Mr. Dan Handyside, the court reporter and Media Service
- 14 is doing video and audio. And along with us sitting in is
- 15 Chief White, James White. Ms. Marie Overall, State
- 16 Representative Tyrone's Carla's Office. Ms. LaDon Davis,
- 17 Officer, and Council member Fred Durhal III Office,
- 18 former Commissioner Reginald Crawford, former
- 19 Commissioner William Davis, Lieutenant Mark Young, LSA
- 20 President, and Mr. Ron Thomas. DPOA Vice President.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Thank you. We're
- 22 grateful for everyone's attendance today, and it is our
- 23 hope that it will add to the productivity of today's
- 24 meeting. And now we'll move on to the Board of Police
- 25 Commissioner's Officers report. Is there anything to be

- 2 Ayes have it. And so now we'll move on to the approval of 2 move to the amended agenda, which calls for new business
- 3 the May 23rd, 2024 agenda with this amendment. Is there

CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed, no? The

- 4 any objection to the agenda? Hearing none, the agenda is
- 5 approved as amended. Now, we'll move on to the approval
- 6 of the minutes for May 16th. So we'll start with the
- 7 approval of the minutes for May 16th, 2024. Is there any
- 8 objection to the approval of these minutes? Hearing none.
- 9 those minutes are approved. We had several closed
- 10 sessions last week, which requires the approval of the
- 11 minutes of these closed sessions. And so we began with
- 12 the approval of the closed session minutes for Police
- 13 Officer Caleb Williams from May 16th, 2024. Is there any
- 14 objection to the approval of these minutes? Hearing none,
- 15 those minutes are approved. Now we'll move on to the
- 16 approval of closed session minutes for Police Officer
- 17 Glenn Bines, May 16th, 2024. Is there any objection to
- the approval of these minutes? Hearing none, these
- 19 minutes shall be approved. Next, we'll move on to the
- 20 approval of the closed session minutes for candidate
- 21 Koren Crowley on May 16th, 2024. Is there any objection
- 22 to the approval of these minutes? Hearing none, those
- 23 minutes are approved. And then lastly, the approval of
- 24 closed session minutes for candidate Darrice Caine on May
- 25 16th, 2024. Is there any objection to the approval of

- 1 shared by the commissioners? Hearing none, we now will
- where we'll have the Personnel and Training Committee
- 4 memorandum by the Chair of that committee, Commissioner
- 5 Hernandez.
- COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you so much. So I
- 7 don't actually have the memorandum in front of me, but we
- 8 met yesterday, the 22nd of May. We had a full
- 9 representation in the form of Commissioner Banks,
- 10 Commissioner Carter, and myself. The main agenda item
- 11 that we covered was the vacancy for the board secretary
- 12 position. As this body fully knows, and as we voted a few
- 13 weeks ago to move it into Personnel and Training. The
- 14 ultimate recommendation that we came up with was to redo
- 15 or enhance the current job description to make it more
- 16 comparable with the executive director role that we're
- 17 actually trying to fill. And so there are a few action
- 18 items that need to be followed through in partnership
- 19 with HR, but we're scoping over the next two weeks to be
- 20 able to, not only enhance the job description, but also
- 21 post it on City HR for a two-week period. So we are no
- 22 longer going with the iAdvantage firm that we retained
- 23 prior. A few factors that led into that consideration was
- 24 primarily, if we were to retain an additional firm, as 25 this body knows, and, as you've been briefed before, we



- 1 would have to go through a bidding process through
- 2 procurement that would take at minimum 90 days. And so we
- 3 obviously don't have that luxury. So with that, I'll make
- 4 a motion that... which is out of committee, I'll make a
- 5 motion
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: By the recommendation of the
- 7 Personnel and Training committee
- 8 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: By recommendation of
- 9 personnel on training committee, I'll make a motion that
- 10 we upgrade and enhance the current job description for
- 11 board secretary and ultimately repost the position under
- 12 City HR for a two-week period.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Noting that that is a
- 14 motion that comes out of committee. It does not require a
- 15 second, but is there any discussion? Just for
- 16 clarification on that timeline. So we're hoping to have
- 17 the updated position description in two weeks, and then
- 18 two weeks from there, it would be posted on City's HR?
- 19 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: So we're targeting to have
- 20 it actually, or
- 21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- 22 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: We're actually targeting
- 23 having it on June 4th. So we'll have a Personnel and
- 24 Training Committee meeting there. And we anticipate
- 25 having every stakeholder that we might need from HR
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 - prepared beforehand on that date so that we can finalize
- $2\,$ and ultimately post immediately the next day. So I'm
- 3 anticipating at the soonest, I'm hoping for the 5th of
- 4 June. That would be that Tuesday in about a week and a
- 5 half
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: That it would be posted.
- 7 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: That it would be posted for
- 8 a two-week period from that moment on.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Any further questions or
- 10 discussions?
- 11 COMMISSIONER BURTON: To the Chair.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Burton.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I'd like to know, have
- 14 Personnel and Training looked at the other applicants
- 15 from the search firm that also applied for that position?
- 16 And have they considered possibly interviewing them as
- 17 well, giving them, you know, the opportunity to come
- 18 before the board. We may have someone within that pool.
- 19 So that's the question that I have at this time
- 20 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Through the Chair, if I
- 21 could. So, I'll actually just remind this body that we
- 22 actually had two guests yesterday, two commissioners who
- 23 were guests, including Commissioner Burton, as well as
- 24 Commissioner Moore online. So as I briefed yesterday, the
- 25 current pool of applicants, which is just north of 65,

- 1 applicants that came in via HR and also in partnership
- 2 with the iAdvantage Group. Those ultimately went through
- 3 a very traditional review, which is typical of HR. That's
- 4 how we ended up landing on the seven candidates, which
- 5 Personnel and Training narrowed down to three. So in
- 6 looking at the entire pool of candidates, we don't have,
- 7 unfortunately, a pool of candidates that might be
- 8 adequate to serve in the capacity of board secretary. So
- 9 because of those factors and because of how critical it
- 10 is that we actually fill this vacancy, that's why we're
- 11 deciding to move forward and it's going to be the most
- 12 expeditious way that we can actually accomplish filling
- 13 the role
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Any further discussion?
- 15 Hearing no further discussion, again, is by
- 16 recommendation of the Personnel and Training Committee
- 17 that we update the position description for board
- 18 secretary and have that to be ready to be posted at the
- 19 beginning of June. So all those in favor, please signify
- 20 by saying, Aye.
- 21 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed, no?
- 23 Alright, the Ayes have it. That motion passes. Let the
- 24 record reflect that Commissioner Woods has joined us. Is
- 25 there any further new business?

- 1 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Yeah, right here, Mr. Chair.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Banks.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I was speaking on this last
- 4 week, but I guess I spoke out of turn, but I want to
- 5 speak on it again this week because I didn't get it all
- 6 out last week. You know, Rory Gamble, Commissioner Rory
- 7 Gamble, has left, and we have some capable leaders that
- 8 follow this board. Minister Eric Blount, Commissioner
- 9 William Davis, Scotty Bowman, and Reggie Crawford, who
- 10 stands for justice. Can we get a message to the mayor to
- 11 look into these people and maybe bring them on board?
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm not quite clear what you
- 13 are asking to be the action of the board as the
- 14 replacement of vacated seats for this commission as
- 15 within of the purview of the mayor, but it's well...
- 16 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Right. To be interviewed.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yep. It's well within your
- 18 rights... Allow me to continue to speak. Commissioner
- 19 Banks, it is well within your rights as a sitting
- 20 commissioner to share that communication with the mayor.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: In whatever capacity that you
- 23 see fit.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: No problem.



- 1 COMMISSIONER BANKS: And I have one more.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, go right ahead.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BANKS: You know, we need our own
- 4 attorney. The board needs its own attorney, not an
- 5 attorney that works for the City of Detroit. The board
- 6 needs to become more independent, but we need our own
- 7 attorney; that's ours.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Burton.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I'd like to make a motion at
- 12 this time, and I actually agree with my colleague from
- 13 District 3, Commissioner Cedric Banks. I'd like to move
- 14 that we post the board attorney position because it has
- 15 been 90 days, and I feel that this, you know, would be a
- 16 good time to do that; that we post that position along
- 17 with the other positions.
- 18 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Second.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and
- 20 seconded that we post the board's attorney position. Is
- 21 there any discussion? Yes, Commissioner Hernandez.
- 22 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Again, through the
- 23 Chair, I'll remind everyone that's present, including
- 24 those who were present yesterday, that was actually one
- 25 of the questions that came up from Commissioner Banks in
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- 1 committee. That's an action item that I think right now
- 2 is entirely premature to vote on, especially a motion to
- 3 be able to vote, or to actually post a position entirely
- 4 premature. We still have a review to confirm when the
- 5 actual tenure began for our current sitting board
- 6 attorney to be able to determine when that 90-day period
- 7 actually expires. So, I'm very happy to take that item
- 8 under Personnel and Training. But right now, it would be
- 9 entirely premature.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Banks and then
- 12 Commissioner Burton. Commissioner Banks.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BANKS: That 90 days should have expired
- 14 a while ago. Hasn't it expired?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm confident that the 90 days
- 16 have expired, yes.
- 17 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I remembered when she came in.
- 18 It's been 90 days.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. We've come to an
- 20 agreement on that. Commissioner Burton.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair. You know, I
- 22 do not serve on that committee, Personnel and Training. I
- 23 brought my motion to the full board at the full table,
- 24 and it was definitely properly seconded by my fellow
- 25 Commissioner in District 7, the honorable Commissioner

- 1 Ricardo Moore. I'd like the call for the vote, Mr.
- 2 Chairman.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Is there a second?
- 4 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Second.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved and
- 6 seconded for a call for the vote. And so, all those in
- 7 favor, please second out by saying, Aye.
- 8 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed, no?
- 10 Alright, the Ayes have it. Now we move on to a vote on
- 11 posting the board's attorney position. All those in
- 12 favor, please signify by saying, Aye.
- 13 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Get the roll call, please.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: A roll call vote has been
- 15 called. Commission... I mean Acting Secretary Brown.
- 16 MR. BROWN: Yes. Chairperson Pressley No.
- 17 MR. BROWN: Vice Chairperson Smith No.
- 18 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Banks Yes.
- 19 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Bell No.
- 20 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Burton Yes.
- 21 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Moore Yes.
- 22 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Hernandez No.
- 23 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Woods No.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Right. With 3 yes votes and 5
- 25 no votes, that motion fails. And so, to be clear, my

- 1 opposition to that motion is, just as Commissioner
- 2 Hernandez said, that it's premature. We had documentation
- 3 on what that description looked like. We still have to
- 4 have conversations about the budget allocation for how
- 5 much we would pay that individual. And so, you know, I am
- 6 in line once we get done with this board secretary
- 7 position, sending that to our Personnel and Training
- 8 Committee to do that due diligence for us. So again, we
- 9 are clear on what we're actually hiring for. So again, I
- 10 encourage us to return to this matter after we've
- 11 concluded with our board secretary. Commissioner Woods.
- 12 COMMISSIONER WOODS: I share those sentiments as
- 13 well. You know, we don't want to make an emotionally
- 14 charged decision, and we want to do our due diligence to
- 15 make sure that we are in proper protocol.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Thank you. Any further
- 17 comments or any further new business? Hearing none, we'll
- 18 now move on to the Chief of Police Report. Chief White.
- 19 It's on you.
- 20 CHIEF WHITE: Good afternoon, honorable board. If it
- 21 pleases the board, I would like to submit an abbreviated
- 22 crime report today to get into the incidents occurring on
- 23 May 19, regarding the protest.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: That is fine.
- 25 CHIEF WHITE: Homicides are down 24%. Non-fatal



1 shootings are down 23%. Robberies are down 29%. Total

- 2 part one crime for the City of Detroit is down 11%. And
- 3 that's inclusive of a 56% reduction in carjackings.
- 4 Outstanding work by the men and women of the Detroit
- 5 Police Department. And on that vein, to begin with, I
- 6 want to thank all the members of the Detroit Police
- 7 Department who work day in and day out to keep our
- 8 citizens and this entire city safe... those who live, work,
- 9 and visit our city. I do want to spend some time on
- 10 incidents that occurred on May 19th. Regrettably, the
- 11 department... let me start over. I'm going to talk about
- 12 the... I want to give you the subject matter... the protest
- 13 of May 19th. Regrettably, department has come across
- 14 several issues arising out of the protest event on May
- 15 19th.
- 16 It started with, as we are all very well aware, a
- 17 video that went viral involving one of our lieutenants.
- 18 In that video, the lieutenant said to a protester, one of
- 19 the protestors on the front line, one of the lead
- 20 protestors, to go back to Mexico. Like many people, I was
- 21 outraged by the statement and directed that an immediate
- 22 investigation take place, particularly out of concern
- 23 that there was some type of racial animus directed at the
- 24 protestor. You will note that in subsequent videos, you
- 25 see them going back and forth, and you see that the
- Page
 1 protestor had indicated that she was not, in fact, even
- 2 Mexican but, you know, was still frustrated. There was
- 3 no... regardless of her nationality, those are certain
- 4 terms that you do not use.
- 5 But in doing an investigation, we wanted to know
- 6 what happened. The lieutenant's position and others was
- 7 that he was commenting on the fact that she had just
- 8 returned from a vacation. Evidence later surfaced that
- 9 provided that context that he did in fact go to Mexico
- 10 and that he was responding to her, albeit
- 11 inappropriately, by directing comments at her to go back
- 12 to the vacation that she had just come back from where
- 13 she was having a good time. Despite this revelation, I
- 14 remain concerned about the lieutenant's conduct, the way
- 15 that he was presenting himself, certainly at the front
- 16 line; certainly as a lieutenant, certainly as a person
- 17 who's responsible for setting an example and leading men
- 18 and women of the Detroit Police Department. But let me
- 19 say this, there's no doubt that there were at least two
- 20 protestors who were lobbying insults at Lieutenant Cole
- 21 and other officers.
- And certainly, when you've gotten somebody in that
- 23 emotional moment, those comments will evoke emotion. I
- 24 would like to bring some clarification on one thing, one
- 25 of the protestors, the lead protestor, did not make

- 1 comments about his spouse. It was someone in close
- 2 proximity, but it was not revealed in the video that we
- 3 looked at, that it was not, in fact, the lead protestor
- 4 who made those comments. But certainly we understand that
- 5 there could be an emotional response when somebody's on
- 6 the front line. But at the end of the day, that's not an
- 7 excuse. I mean, we are trained specifically to deal with
- 8 that type of conduct, that type of commentary. When we
- 9 were in the academy, our attack officers were yelling at
- 10 officers, and in their faces, not to haze them, but to
- 11 teach them how to deal with people who were yelling. And
- 12 you cannot react like a regular citizen. Our peace cannot
- 13 be broken. We're police officers, it's just the way it
- 14 is. This training is important because, at the end of the
- 15 day, a person can't be disorderly to a police officer.
- 16 Our uniforms often serve as our soundboard. Some may say
- 17 that's unreasonable, but that's what this comes with.
- 18 That's what we do. But moving on, yesterday I was briefed
- 19 regarding additional video that had surfaced. This
- 20 additional video revealed an altercation with a separate
- 21 protestor, raising concern about bias based policing. I
- 22 saw something in there in that commentary to another
- 23 protestor that was very, very concerning. Details of the
- 24 interaction were transmitted to the Board of Police
- 25 Commissioners, albeit late last night. But by the time we
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- 1 finished up everything, I don't know if this honorable
- 2 body's had a chance to look at it yet.
- 3 It was very late in the evening that we did that. I
- 4 exercised my authority to suspend with pay, and I'll be
- 5 submitting to this honorable body a suspension without
- 6 pay. Once again, I want to emphasize that our officers do
- 7 a great job at protests. I mean, we have shown that we
- 8 have worked very hard. We have also implemented a number
- 9 of changes in policy since the protest a couple years
- 10 ago. This is pretty much the largest protest we've had in
- 11 the past couple years. What was unique about this protest
- 12 is that, in large part, it was a stationary protest. We
- 13 learned a lot. We're going to continue to look at some
- 14 things that we can do better. One of the things that I'm
- 15 going to implement, I'm going to bring Grant Ha up very
- 16 quickly, just to give you a couple of things that we're
- 17 changing right away.
- But one of the things in these stationary protests
- 19 that I think is important is the rotation of the front
- 20 line. On the front line, those officers stayed there in
- 21 the heat for well over an hour, interacting directly with
- 22 a relatively hostile group. That's not a good practice.
- 23 You need to rotate those folks off that front line and
- 24 get a fresh set of eyes and emotions on the front line,
- 25 particularly, when it's hot, particularly when you find



- 1 that you are engaging like that. Ironically, the person
- 2 who should have done that is the lieutenant, the captain,
- 3 and the commander who were out. The captain and commander
- 4 were there, but they were engaged in other activities.
- 5 And the lieutenant, as we know, was engaged in the
- 6 activity that brings me to this conversation today. At
- 7 this time, I'd like to bring Grant Ha, just to add a
- 8 couple pieces of information before I take any questions.
- 9 SECOND DEPUTY CHIEF HA: With your permission, sir.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead.
- 11 SECOND DEPUTY CHIEF HA: In regards to our department
- 12 rules and regulations, our department rules and
- 13 regulations require that all mobile field force members,
- 14 when engaged in First Amendment related activities, have
- 15 their body-worn cameras on. And that they properly have
- 16 their badge numbers and names readily apparent to the
- 17 individuals that they're dealing with. Specifically, in
- 18 going forward, what we're going to do is mandate that our
- 19 supervisors ensure that each member is equipped with a
- 20 body-worn camera that is operating, and that the badges
- 21 and identification, not, I'm sorry, the badges and names
- 22 are permanently displayed. If not, the supervisor has a
- 23 responsibility to ensure that all those things are done.
- 24 Thank you.
- 25 CHIEF WHITE: With that, I'll take any questions.
 - Page 23
- 1 Obviously, before we get into questions, we know that
- 2 body cameras are required. We know that they're required.
- 3 We know that he should have had a body camera on. And the
- 4 expectation from a captain is that if a lieutenant who is
- 5 on the lead doesn't have a body camera on, before they're
- 6 able to even engage, that should have been corrected. We
- 7 are looking at everything. We're picking the whole thing
- 8 apart. We're looking at other videos. We're not even
- 9 done. There's so much video from this, from cell phones,
- 10 that we continue to get from businesses in the area. So
- 11 we'll be looking at everything. With that, I'll take any
- 12 questions.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Mr. Chair, you have one right
- 14 here.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Banks.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair. Chief, peace
- 17 and blessings to you, chief.
- 18 CHIEF WHITE: Thank you.
- 19 COMMISSIONER BANKS: What category usage is that,
- 20 with that lieutenant, with the woman from Mexico. What
- 21 category?
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: She's not from Mexico. Just
- 23 the citizen...
- 24 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I thought the lieutenant said...
- 25 told her to go back to Mexico, from my assumption.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: That is the correct phrase
- 2 that the lieutenant used, but he was incorrect in
- 3 suggesting that.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Through the Chair.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Woods.
- 6 COMMISSIONER WOODS: If I may? I know that this is on
- 7 our agenda, and I believe for our closed session.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: There's no closed session.
- 9 COMMISSIONER WOODS: There's no closed session, but,
- 10 oh, it's in our documents.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yep. It's incoming
- 12 correspondence.
- 13 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Alright.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead, Commissioner
- 15 Banks.
- 16 COMMISSIONER WOODS: But do we anticipate a closed
- 17 session on this?
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: We do. As the Chief has just
- 19 suggested, he's going to recommend suspension without
- 20 pay, which is the board's prerogative to...
- 21 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Absolutely. So is it fruitful
- 22 for us to talk openly about if it's going to be a closed
- 23 step?
- 24 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I think that it is within the
- 25 commission's right to be able to ask questions of the

- 1 Chief relative to the report that he just provided.
- 2 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Okay. I just want to make sure.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yep, no problem. Was there a
- 4 clarification or anything? Commissioner Banks was not
- 5 done speaking yet. Go ahead.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I'm all... No. I'm done. I'm set.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You're sure?
- 8 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Yeah, I'm all set.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Commissioner Hernandez.
- 10 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you so much.
- 11 Through the Chair. I think, Chief, we had a very clear
- 12 example just moments ago of the types of damage that
- 13 ethnic undertones can have on a community. And so I think
- 14 there's going to have to be a lot more engagement when it
- 15 comes to our Hispanic and Latino community to be able to
- 16 begin laying the foundation of repairing the damage
- 17 that's been done. Whether it be perception, lack of
- 18 information, or just the fact that in today's age, people
- 19 only take the sound bite and don't peel back the layers,.
- 20 And I'm very, very clear and understand that if you still
- 21 remove the ethnic undertone of that engagement and that
- 22 encounter at a time when we're welcoming so many people
- 23 on a national and international level, as a department,
- 24 the perception could be that we're not welcoming guests,25 that we're not welcoming demonstrators.



- We're not welcoming our own residents, to be on our
- 2 own streets. And it just so happens that it was downtown.
- 3 And so I'm actually looking forward to a very deliberate
- 4 action plan for how you and your department are going to
- 5 actually start laying that foundation to repair in our
- 6 community because It's very disappointing. And I
- 7 understand that the information is preliminary, and
- 8 especially having been on this board for a few years,
- 9 it's critical. And I'll remind our public that it's very
- 10 critical that the information that's shared be
- 11 preliminary until more facts are gathered. And I
- 12 understand that the investigation is still ongoing. But
- 13 again, I can't just do away with the very clear example
- 14 that we just saw and heard a few moments ago. So I
- 15 appreciate it, and I look forward to some kind of debrief
- 16 from you on it.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Moore. Oh, I'm
- 18 sorry.
- 19 CHIEF WHITE: I mean, through the Chair. I don't
- 20 disagree with anything that you said. Sadly, on the heels
- 21 of probably one of the more successful moments in time
- 22 that we've had in this department's history, we welcomed
- 23 775,000 people to our city with very few or minor
- 24 incidents happening. I'd much rather be before this body
- 25 celebrating that work, celebrating our historic crime

- 1 things we're looking at because
- 2 COMMISSIONER MOORE: People are automatically making
- 3 that into your Seehawks.
- 4 CHIEF WHITE: Absolutely.
- 5 COMMISSIONER MOORE: This brings scrutiny on a number
- 6 of different levels. Going back to the body-worn camera
- 7 issue, I learned that there was an issue with body-worn
- 8 cameras a couple years ago. And I learned it from a
- 9 person in this room that's a lieutenant who brought it to
- 10 me, because I didn't know it was as severe as it was. So
- 11 I would just hope that you all can break up this pattern
- 12 of people not wearing body-worn cameras. because it's
- 13 very severe.
- 14 CHIEF WHITE: Yes, sir. Can I go back? I want to
- 15 address what you said about the Seehawks. Commissioner
- 16 Moore, you're absolutely correct. We have been
- 17 scrutinized these past few days. It is illegal for us to
- 18 track and... what's the term I'm looking for? Grant
- 19 SECOND DEPUTY CHIEF HA: Store.
- 20 CHIEF WHITE: Store, one more word. Could you explain
- 21 it?
- 22 SECOND DEPUTY CHIEF HA: Through the Chair.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead.
- 24 SECOND DEPUTY CHIEF HA: The department does not
- 25 maintain, store, or have a repository or database of

- 1 reductions. We're going into June, looking at some pretty
- 2 good numbers with an opportunity to close out the year at
- 3 a historic rate, much like we did last year. Instead, I'm
- 4 talking about this, and we've got a number of protocols
- 5 in place to ensure that this behavior is not tolerated.
- 6 They were not followed. I can't guarantee that 2,600+7 people are going to do things the right way every day.
- 8 But what I can commit to this board is that I'm going to
- 9 hold them accountable when they don't, particularly in an
- 10 area so sensitive. So very sensitive to the success of,
- 11 and important to the success of this organization. So, I
- 12 hear what you're saying, and I will be providing updates
- 13 to this board.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Moore.
- 15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How did
- 16 the lieutenant know that the young lady had just come
- 17 from Mexico?
- 18 CHIEF WHITE: Yeah. And so, through the Chair,
- 19 Commissioner Moore, we have found that there is some
- 20 communication. Now, I don't know what level of
- 21 communication she has, but we do know that she has a
- 22 social media page. My understanding, as I sit in front of
- 23 you right now, is that it is an open page, it's not a
- 24 private page. So perhaps he got on her page and saw that.
- 25 I don't know. I will find out. But yes, that's one of the

- 1 individuals engaging in First Amendment related
- 2 activities. That is clearly unconstitutional. And we do
- 3 not do that. How Lieutenant Cole came upon that
- 4 information is something that will have to be ferreted
- 5 out during the investigation.
- 6 CHIEF WHITE: The second. Thank you. The second
- 7 comment, it is correct. Two years ago, we had a horrible
- 8 problem with body cameras. We didn't have enough. And so
- 9 we would run details, there would be officers out there
- 10 with no body camera on. And frankly, we didn't have an
- 11 aggressive enough audit system. Since that time, we have
- 12 purchased over a million dollars in new body cameras,
- 13 everybody has a camera. I have already checked. There was
- 14 a camera available for the lieutenant. He wasn't wearing
- 15 it. Other officers were, he was not. And that's a
- 16 problem. And it's certainly a problem for a lieutenant
- 17 who has to lead by example so that other people wear body
- 18 cameras. So all of this is problematic.
- 19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Just very quickly too, his body
- 20 armor, was he required to wear a bulletproof vest?
- 21 CHIEF WHITE: Well, by policy, yes. Oftentimes my
- 22 understanding, as I sit here right now and I want to
- 23 preface with that because I continue to get more and more
- 24 information. The heat caused him to take the vest off, to 25 cool down. I was also told that the body camera was on



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- 1 the vest. So I asked for all the video on the body camera
- 2 when he had the vest on. I have yet to receive that,
- 3 that's a problem for me. But going well...
- 4 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Okay.
- CHIEF WHITE: We'll be looking into that. But with
- 6 regards to the vest, yes, you should have had one. If he
- 7 took the vest off to cool down and left the line, he
- 8 shouldn't have been interacting with anybody. If he's on
- 9 a cool down break, cool down. But certainly he shouldn't
- 10 have been interacting, and then he should have been
- 11 replaced by another supervisor. That's what the protocol
- 12 requires, and that's what we'll be looking into.
- 13 COMMISSIONER MOORE: My last question.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead.
- 15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Was regarding the statement you
- 16 sent out.
- CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Would you put your mic down 17
- 18 just for the audience. Thank you.
- 19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Better, sir?
- 20 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes. Thank you.
- 21 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Alright, last question. The
- 22 statement you sent out last night, It said, despite the
- 23 hard work of the officers at the event, the recent
- 24 protests were one of larger ones, which you had stated
- 25 we've had to deal with over the past couple of years,
- Page 31
- 2 What are those deficiencies? CHIEF WHITE: And that's, you know, the deficiencies
- 3
- 4 that I see is that I don't have a protocol. I have a 5 protocol. I don't have folks following the protocol to
- 6 ensure that the lieutenants, you know, weren't supposed

1 which has revealed deficiencies in the operational unit.

- 7 to be doing that, right? But the lieutenant wasn't doing
- 8 it. So what we're going to do now is change that. So the
- 9 captain who's responsible for that unit, when there's a
- 10 protest, can protest whatever they want. Our job is not
- 11 to tell you if you're right or wrong. Our job is to
- 12 provide safety for you and for those people who are in
- 13 our city. If one side of the street is protesting ketchup
- 14 and the other is protesting mustard, we don't get to tell
- 15 you which one tastes better. We get to stand there, and
- 16 we get to provide safety for both sides of the street.
- 17 Now what did not happen, and what should have
- 18 happened at the beginning of the protest, is that someone
- 19 at the beginning should have said, everybody's got a body
- 20 camera. Everybody's got a visible badge and a visible
- 21 name tag. And now you can engage in that. That didn't
- 22 happen. And so the expectation was that the lieutenant
- 23 would do it. Now it's going to be mandated that the
- 24 command officer do it, that's on the ground, and that is
- 25 communicated and recorded in our process. The other thing

- 1 that we're implementing immediately is that there will be
- 2 a videographer separate from the body camera that will
- 3 videotape all of these interactions. And I will be
- 4 reviewing those videos.
- CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yep. Any further questions? 5
- 6 Commissioner Woods
 - COMMISSIONER WOODS: How you doing, Chief? I want to
- 8 first applaud your leadership and your promptness in
- 9 dealing with this issue head on. And secondly, I want to
- 10 ask how many people were arrested in that protest?
- 11 CHIEF WHITE: Thank you for the comment and the
- 12 numbers that I have. There were two physical arrests.
- 13 There were six additional detentions that were ticketed
- 14 and released at the scene.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Okay. So far, have there been
- 16 any felony arrests?
- 17 CHIEF WHITE: One felony arrest and all the arrests
- 18 are being reviewed, and I'm going to review the felony
- 19 arrest.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Yeah. And that's why I strongly
- 21 encourage you to take a look at that. You know, because I
- 22 have received a whole lot of complaints from the
- 23 Palestinian community, and a lot of folks felt that there
- 24 was some injustice there. I don't know, I haven't
- 25 reviewed anything, but I strongly urge you to take a look Page 33
 - 1 at all of that. And as it relates to moving forward, will
 - 2 there be training in this regard in terms of dealing with
 - protestors and things of that nature? I think that should
 - 4 be a part of your training
 - 5 CHIEF WHITE: Through the Chair. We have some of the
 - 6 best trained men and women to deal with protests. They do
 - 7 a great job. This incident doesn't represent the work
 - 8 that they've done. I mean, they've been doing this... I
 - 9 mean, for years, but it really picked up again in
 - 10 January, and they've been going at it strong. I have not
 - 11 lost any confidence in the men and women of the Detroit
 - 12 Police Department as engaged in this. They train
 - 13 biweekly, they train with other agencies, and they train
 - 14 internally. They have some of the best training. Some of
 - 15 the things I think we need to do is help them out. We
 - 16 need to manage and lead them effectively. And we're going
 - 17 to do that. That falls on me. With regard to the arrest,
 - 18 you know, I've got one arrest I'm very concerned about,
 - 19 and that's the assault of an officer, and I'm going to
 - 20 support him on that. But I have a really used committee
 - 21 that I assembled from time to time that's representative
 - 22 of various members of the department, including the DPOA
 - 23 and the LSA. And it's a policy committee that I assemble
 - 24 when we have something that's unusual that I need a
 - 25 little bit of help with, and I'm going to assemble them.

- 1 I have already assembled them, and they're going to
- 2 review the arrest individually, support it by a video,
- 3 and then they're going to make a recommendation to me.
- 4 And that way, I'm out of it, but I'm in it. And then they
- 5 will make the recommendation with those six or eight sets
- 6 of eyes that will look at it. And then we'll move from 7 there.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Any further questions or
- 9 comments for the Chief?
- 10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chief, I mean,
- 11 through the Chair.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Go right ahead, Commissioner
- 13 Burton.
- 14 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You know, given the most recent
- 15 abuse committed by Lieutenant Cole against peaceful
- 16 protestors, our community calls for greater transparency
- 17 and accountability, but also calls for this police
- 18 oversight board to weigh in. And so I have a question for
- 19 both Chiefs, to my immediate left, Chief White. The
- 20 question for you is will you support demoting Lieutenant
- 21 Cole for his most recent actions out there with innocent
- 22 protestors? Sir, I'm calling for you to demote Lieutenant
- 23 Cole, but also provide us with an updated overview of
- 24 police officer training.
- When it comes to interacting with protestors, the
- Page 35
- 1 department and the city have settled millions of dollars
- 2 in a Detroit Will Breath situation. It looked like the
- 3 department should have learned something from that
- 4 incident pertaining to peaceful protestors. And my
- 5 question to Chief Warfield, where do your office stand in
- 6 regard to this most recent abuse by Lieutenant Cole
- 7 against civil protestors, Lieutenant Cole agitated, you
- 8 know, with those protestors. This is not acceptable by
- 9 this department; it's not acceptable by the city. And we
- 10 expect Lieutenant Cole, as a lieutenant, to lead with a
- 11 good example. But this was not the case at this most
- 12 recent protest. And so what strong punishment are you...
- 13 what stronger measures are you going to send, Chief
- 14 White, pertaining to this?
- 15 CHIEF WHITE: Through the Chair, I'll start with the
- 16 first part with regard to the disposition of discipline.
- 17 You know, as difficult as these situations are, we must
- 18 remember that the lieutenant has due process rights. And,
- 19 you know, he has an opportunity to defend himself,
- 20 explain what happened. We have to conduct a thorough
- 21 investigation. I don't believe in making, you know,
- 22 emotional and cosmetic decisions. If we're going to make
- 23 a decision about where we go from here with this
- 24 particular lieutenant, I think it needs to be a sound
- 25 professional decision, not just for him, but for every

- 1 member of this department to put their lives on the line
- 2 every day. There are 2,600+ people out there every single
- 3 day that are dealing with mentally ill folks, protestors,
- 4 guns, knives, and everything else. And they're not
- 5 necessarily always going to do everything perfectly. I
- 6 have the privilege of looking at things after the fact. I
- 7 have the privilege of sitting at my desk and replaying
- 8 videos back and forth, rewinding, and playing them. And
- 9 I'm asking them to make split second personal,
- 10 professional, and perfect decisions oftentimes. This
- 11 situation with the lieutenant is unacceptable. I have
- 12 been transparent about it. But despite all of that, and
- 12 occii transparent about it. But despite an of that,
- 13 despite how I may personally feel about it or
- 14 professionally feel about it, I have to go through a
- 15 process. When that process is complete, I will be making
- 16 a recommendation to this board. Well, I've already made a
- 17 recommendation to this board about suspension without
- 18 pay. I will be providing an update to this board as to
- 19 what the discipline will be and what the disposition will
- 20 be. But that will take some time, not a lot of time, but
- 21 some time. It's an expedited, thorough investigation. And
- 22 as far as the training curriculum, the officers'
- 23 training; well, they do an amazing job. This is not
- 24 representative. One person is not going to represent
- 25 2,600. This is one incident. I'm going to hold them

- ars 1 accountable. The officers will be right back out there
 - 2 tonight, tomorrow night, and the next night, and they're
 - 3 doing a great job, and they're not coming before this
 - 4 body. Commissioner, I would love to not have an issue to
 - 5 deal with, but in my 28 years, I have never had an issue
 - 6 to deal with. So I think we're going to continue to have
 - 7 issues. We're going to continue to need this board. We're
 - 8 going to continue to need supervisors. We're going to
 - 9 continue to need chiefs to be transparent and hold folks
 - 10 accountable. And my commitment to this board is I'm going
 - 11 to do that. Judge me on what I bring to this board. Judge
 - 12 me on the transparency of this process, but don't judge
 - 13 the department on an isolated incident.
 - 14 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
 - 15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm going to pause that
 - 16 question because you also posed a question to our Chief
 - 17 Investigator, and then I'll come back to you. Go right
 - 18 ahead.
 - 19 CI WARFIELD: Through the Chair and to Commissioner
 - 20 Burton. Our office has received 24 inquiries to date
 - 21 concerning this situation. We've already conducted a
 - 22 preliminary investigation concerning the events on May
 - 23 19th. And upon our preliminary investigation, we do
 - 24 understand that Internal Affairs is in the process of
 - 25 conducting an investigation as well. One of the things



- 1 we've decided to do is close this case, and transfer it
- 2 over to Internal Affairs, primarily for the purpose to
- 3 not end any future criminal cases that may arise from the
- 4 department's investigation. If we move forward with an
- 5 investigation and Garrity the officer, we significantly
- 6 handcuff the department's ability to meter out any
- 7 discipline that may be needed in this situation. So for
- 8 this particular situation, we are transferring this case
- 9 to Internal Affairs.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Right. Thank you. And let the
- 11 record reflect that Commissioner Bernard has joined us.
- 12 Okay. Go right ahead, Commissioner Burton.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Thank you for the update, Chief
- 14 Warfield, Office of the Chief Investigator's Office, but
- 15 also for a question to Chief White. You know, I'd like
- 16 for you to provide an updated overview of police officer
- 17 training and procedures and interacting with civil
- 18 protestors. This appeared to have been a civil protest,
- 19 to my understanding, as far as what I'm hearing. But
- 20 also, Chief, you know, our community calls on you to
- 21 demote Lieutenant Cole for this abusive behavior against
- 22 innocent protestors, violating their constitutional
- 23 rights, the First Amendment, freedom of the press,
- 24 freedom to assemble, freedom of religion, and where do
- 25 we, you know, stand as the department and as an oversight

- 1 a leadership capacity, this is not the type of lieutenant
- 2 we want on this department, on this force, wearing that
- 3 uniform, serving in our community, violating civil
- 4 liberties, free speech; or the First Amendment.
- 5 CHIEF BURTON: May I respond?
- 6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes, you may.
- 7 CHIEF WHITE: Okay. Once again, we support peaceful
- 8 protests. We support...
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURTON: That was not a protest.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Burton, I'm going
- 11 to ask that you be as respectful...
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order, but that was
- 13 not a peaceful...
- 14 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: A point of order to you,
- 15 Commissioner Burton. Go right ahead, Chief.
- 16 CHIEF WHITE: For whatever reason, he's indicating
- 17 it's not a peaceful protest, and he's speaking
- 18 specifically to that protest as not being a peaceful
- 19 protest. And that's his opinion.
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: No, that was a peaceful
- 21 protest. The Officer...
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Burton didn't...
- 23 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You're out of order...
- 24 COMMISSIONER BURTON: respect a peaceful protest...
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You are out of order.

- 1 board if we don't do our due diligence?
- 2 You know, we have 23, 24 complaints that came in
- 3 today. And this behavior is just totally unacceptable,
- 4 especially from any member of the department or a
- 5 lieutenant, and body-worn cameras, why the body-worn
- 6 camera was not on. My understanding, this wasn't the
- 7 first incident... most recent incident with Lieutenant Cole
- 8 out there with innocent protestors. There were a few
- 9 other incidents pertaining Lieutenant Cole on that day 10 with innocent protestors, including the accusations that
- 11 he had made to a black protestor, asking him why they
- The flad flade to a black protestor, asking fifth why they
- 12 were out here with these white folks or white people. And
- 13 so those were some of the remarks that also surfaced
- 14 pertaining to Officer Cole's behavior. And not to
- 15 mention, we don't even know what else is out there, but
- 16 we should, as a city, have learned something from a few
- 17 years ago where Detroit would brief, where the City of
- 18 Detroit has settled for officers' misconduct and behavior
- 19 against innocent and civil protestors.
- 20 You know, constitutional rights should never be
- 21 violated, not here, not anywhere. And we would like for
- 22 you to demote Lieutenant Cole for his behavior on that
- 23 day. It's not acceptable, Chief, you know it, I know it,
- 24 members of this board know it, and our community knows
- 25 it. To have an officer with this level of behavior and in

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 COMMISSIONER BURTON: The officer did not respect...
- 2 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Burton, you are
- 3 out of order, Commissioner Burton.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BURTON: That was a peaceful...
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You are out of order. Okay.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: That was a peaceful protest...
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You are out of order,
- 8 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Not a peaceful protest...
- 9 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: You are out of order,
- 10 Commissioner Burton, you are out of order.
- 11 CHIEF WHITE: Here's my response.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: That was for clarity.
- 13 CHIEF WHITE: I have submitted paperwork to this
- 14 honorable body that should signal just how serious I'm
- 15 taking it. I am not going to render a disposition on his
- 16 career today because we have an incomplete investigation.
- 17 And once the investigation's complete, I will make the
- 18 appropriate determination. I have exercised my authority
- 19 as Chief of Police to suspend him with pay. I have made a
- 20 recommendation to you, among others, and the entire body
- 21 of commissioners to take that pay, which signals the
- 22 seriousness of this action. And I am going to act quickly
- 23 on the disposition, but it will not be today. It will not
- 24 be today. We support peaceful protests. I am not going to 25 tell you I'm going to demote him, but if there is a

- 1 constitutional right violation, he has a bigger issue
- 2 than demotion. We are not going to tolerate race bias,
- 3 bias-based policing, or constitutional rights violations.
- 4 This department spent many years under a consent
- 5 judgment. It's not going to happen. So once the
- 6 investigation is complete, I will look at it, I will do
- 7 an assessment, and I will make a recommendation. And
- 8 that's where we are. It's not happening today.
- 9 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Through the Chair.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Woods.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Through the Chair. It is a shame
- 12 that we would sit here and placate to this issue. This is
- 13 a very serious issue. This is not a game. The Chief has
- 14 made his recommendation. We have received it. If you
- 15 don't know about it, read your package. Because this is
- 16 disgraceful. And for Commissioner Burton to continue in
- 17 his actions toward this board and toward this community,
- 18 I am recommending that well... I'll make a motion that we
- 19 censor Commissioner Burton for his behavior on this body.
- 20 It's just unacceptable. So, I'm making a motion that
- 21 Commissioner Burton be censored.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: There's been a motion. Is
- 23 there a second?
- 24 VICE CHAIR SMITH: Second.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: It's been properly moved, and
- 1 seconded, Commissioner Burton be censored. Is there any
- 2 discussion on that motion? Hearing no discussion. All
- 3 those in favor, please signify by saying, Aye.
- 4 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: All those opposed, no?
- 6 Commissioners: No.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: A roll call vote, please.
- 8 MR. BROWN: Chairperson Pressley Abstain.
- 9 MR. BROWN: Chairperson, I mean, Vice Chairperson
- 10 Smith Yes.
- 11 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Bernard No.
- 12 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Banks No.
- 13 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Bell No.
- 14 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Burton No.
- MR. BROWN: Commissioner Moore Nope.
 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Hernandez Abstain.
- 17 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Woods Absolutely, yes. You
- 10 1------
- 18 know, and
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Just your vote, please.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Okay.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: And so with 2 yes votes, 5 no
- 22 votes, and 2 abstain, which also are no votes, that
- 23 motion fails.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Through the Chair.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Let the Chair speak. Oh, Chief
- 2 White, a few things that were mentioned that I just
- 3 wanted to follow up on. One is that it is our
- 4 understanding that Lieutenant Cole has not yet been
- 5 interviewed.
- 6 CHIEF WHITE: I have to check with IA. He was
- 7 scheduled for an interview. I can't tell the board if it
- 8 happened yet or not.
- CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. And then a part of your
- 10 recommendations for protests moving forward is to have a
- 11 videographer there. And while I know that may not seem
- 12 like an issue, because body-worn cameras are already
- 13 present on the scene, I'm just wondering how a
- 14 videographer plays into the notion of over surveillance
- 15 that protesters might feel. And so, can you give some
- 16 sense to, like, the presence of that videographer and
- 17 maybe the perspective that that videographer is taking on
- 18 the protest
- 19 CHIEF WHITE: Through the Chair, obviously everybody
- 20 has got a cell phone camera, and we get different
- 21 perspectives from everybody who's present. The idea would
- 22 be is that the entire engagements are captured just to be
- 23 used as another tool to understand exactly what happened.
- 24 There are times when there's interaction at these events,
- 25 not necessarily this one, but in times past where body
- Page 45
- 1 cameras get dropped, whether it be from engagement,
- 2 moving fences, or trying to control crowds. We're just
- 3 looking for a videographer to provide us some additional
- 4 perspective into what occurred,
- 5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: But primarily on the side of
- 6 police officers, because again, what my secondary
- 7 question to that would be in case there is a
- 8 videographer, can there be any police action taken from
- 9 what might be captured in that video?
- 10 CHIEF WHITE: Well, here's the thing. These are
- 11 public spaces, right? And so we won't be violating
- 12 anyone's constitutional rights. I'm not going to commit
- 13 to that. It will just be one view of just the police 14 officers. This needs to be a whole view of both the
- 15 police and the protestors and what they're engaged in.
- 16 Both what they're saying, what they're doing; the
- 17 officer's reaction to it the whole thing So it will be
- 17 officer's reaction to it, the whole thing. So it will be
- 18 both.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Well, I just encourage what I
- 20 know is already your thoughtfulness and consideration
- 21 around that issue. Again, we know how cameras can impact
- 22 behavior and just to know that in a protest environment,
- 23 that there are cameras there that are being, let's say24 endorsed by or let out by the Detroit Police Department,
- 25 might be another issue that may arise between protestors



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and police. So just thinking through how the presence of 2 that, which makes absolute sense to ensure that we have some record of what has occurred, does not exacerbate the

4 issue when we're attempting to try to mitigate it.

5 CHIEF WHITE: Yeah. I just hope that, you know,

6 everyone understands that, again, this is a peaceful

protest. This is not a commitment not to take enforcement

8 action. If you are engaged in violence or its attempt on

9 officers or citizens, we're taking police action. What we

support and will continue to support and not disrupt or

interfere with are peaceful protests. Not protests, where

you should have concerns with the engagement that you are

13 in. Because if you've got that level of concern, the next

logical question is, what are you doing? The officers are

already wearing body cameras, and they're standing right

in front of you. The idea of this was to give a full view

of both sides. One of the things that was missing, well,

18 not missing, but what was missing initially is the fact

19 that the lieutenant didn't have a body camera on.

20 To have that videographer there to capture the

21 entire protest, I think is very beneficial. And I'll deal

with what comes from that. But my commitment is, that if

we do get something that we've got to move forward with

24 either criminal prosecution or presentation to this

25 board, you're going to see the whole view. You're going

1 to see the 360. You're not going to see just my

2 perspective or the officer's perspective, which

3 ironically is exactly what you see from a body camera.

4 It's facing forward, and you get one perspective. This is

going to give you a whole view of the incident.

6 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yeah. And again, I may not be

7 doing an effective job in communicating. Again, I

8 understand the effectiveness of that policy. I guess I'm

9 just more so encouraging that there is a clear and

10 transparent communication to the citizens, so that when

11 they see a camera that is not a body-worn camera, but

taking footage, they're not alarmed or that it might

incite them to act in any kind of outrageous way. The

second point of that, as you just mentioned, is that the

15 lieutenant is not have the camera. I'm wondering if there

can be anything done when we think about the culture of

policing in the City of Detroit, whereby officers

obviously have each other's back, but in this regard,

have each other's back when they see that a body-worn

camera is not present. I'm just wondering, is there any

kind of incentivization or encouragement that has been

22 given among police officers that if they see one of their

colleagues not wearing a body-worn camera, or is not

24 operable to, you know, encourage, strongly encourage that

25 to avoid these sorts of incidents?

CHIEF WHITE: Through the Chair, sir, I'm sure in the

2 hundreds of thousands of runs that are happening in our

3 city every year, that is occurring. But because it's

4 occurring, I don't know about it, right? I mean, I know

5 that an officer's looking over and saying, hey, you got

6 your body camera on, or step back. That's why we have

7 supervisors. That's why I have captains and commanders,

8 and that's why they're appointed by me and by this body,

9 and who's approving of my recommendation to do their

10 jobs, to have those tough conversations, to have

11 unpopular conversations, right? To walk up to someone in

12 the heat of battle and say, step back and put your camera

13 on. That's what the expectations of a captain is. And I'm

14 going to hold the captains accountable for that, because

15 that's what you're supposed to do.

Maybe he lost track. I don't know. I'm not going to 16

17 speak for him, but he was too engaged. And had he been

18 pulled out, we wouldn't be here. Had a leader stepped up

19 and said, put your camera on and calm down, we wouldn't

20 be here, but we are here. And so it's unacceptable. And

21 my expectation for a captain, when, you know, you have a

22 protest and a line and a protest isn't moving, it's a

23 stationary protest, and it's 90 degrees outside, and

24 they've been standing there two hours, and you've got a

25 lieutenant that's engaging a protestor, which should

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1 never happen. He should have been pulled out, and the

2 camera should have been on him. So we're fixing that. And

3 here's the response, in a nutshell, it's a mandate. It's

4 not a request, right? It's a directive. Okay. And I'm not

5 asking you to agree with it. I'm directing you to do it.

6 And it's part of your responsibility as a command

7 officer. And so if it's not done, then I have to do my

8 job as Chief.

CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yeah. And so, to that point,

10 again, I recognize that this is, you know, a very high

11 profile, or, for lack of a better term, an incident that

12 occurred. But even anecdotally, from my observation, you

13 know, we review CCRs, and one of the highest categories

14 that we're now seeing in sustained cases is around

15 procedure. And that procedure, more often than not, is

16 that body-worn cameras aren't being worn, or they aren't

17 on. So, while this is one incident, you know, where the

18 heat and these things can be mentioned as explanations... I

19 don't want to say a larger pattern, but it's definitely

20 happening more than this particular incident. And so, you

21 know, again, speaking about the culture that might exist

22 in the police department, you know, just making sure that

23 as much as you would, you know, look after your officer,

24 if you see that they're in harm's way, that same level of

25 urgency should be there if they're witnessing an officer



1 who doesn't have their body-worn camera.

2 CHIEF WHITE: I appreciate that, sir. And let me just

3 say this last thing about that. I've just hired a risk

4 manager literally a couple days ago, not because of this.

5 I had already interviewed him. And one of the things is,

6 is to work with OCI and look at what the trends are. What

7 is the trend? Commissioner Moore has mentioned this body-

8 worn camera thing for quite a while. There should be no

o worn camera timig for quite a winte. There should be no

9 trend of people not wearing body cameras, but there's

10 going to be a person who's responsible for tracking

11 trends. We hired him yesterday, and he's an attorney.

12 He's got a huge background in risk, in EEO. And we're

13 going to have, again, accountability. I need the

14 supervisors to supervise. If someone is not in possession

15 of their body cameras, progressive discipline, we can't

16 have your body camera on three times on a major incident,

17 and you still get a verbal warning. That's not what the

18 progressive discipline process looks like. And these are

19 the things that are traceable as part of my report card

20 to this body. If I'm sitting here with all this, and then

21 six months from now you say, okay, what's your body

22 camera problem? And I'm still, I've still got a hundred

23 people not wearing their body cameras; something's wrong,

24 right? I've got enough people who are responsible for

25 this. I will be providing an update based on what you

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1 just said to this body, based on those cases, we should

2 not have repeat offenders. And so I'm going to be asking

3 Grant Ha to reach out to OCI and get those cases for the

4 last year, and let's see what we've done about them.

5 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you. Alright.

6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Bernard.

8 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Hi. It's good to see you,

9 Chief. Long time no see. First and foremost, I have a

10 question, but I also want to congratulate you on what

11 happened with the Draft. As a matter of fact, I wrote an

12 article about it, and I talk about you in it. I

13 euthanized James Brown's song, "Papa, don't take no

14 mess." I said, Papa, "Chief White, don't take no mess."

15 And that's why we were so safe during the Draft. So I

16 want to congratulate you, "Papa," for doing a great job.

17 But my question relates in part to what you just said,

18 and that relates to the fact that you're going to be

19 taking this video and so forth. This video, I assume,

20 will not be used for facial recognition purposes.

21 CHIEF WHITE: No, ma'am.

22 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Okay. So two different, that

23 was no crime, none of that. Okay. And the second thing

24 regarding body-worn cameras, I'm sure you saw the

25 accounting of what happened in Chicago, where they shot

1 that guy 90 times. And you can hear the sergeant and all

2 those guys were in plain clothes, saying, turn off your

3 body-worn cameras, turn off your body-worn cameras so

4 they could get their story straight. And to my knowledge,

5 they've not taken any disciplinary action. Again, it is

6 the lady, it was the lady sergeant who approached the guy

7 at first and said it. And I always tell people that that

8 couldn't happen here. If somebody tells you, turn off

9 your body-worn camera during an incident, that person

10 would be in trouble with me. And anybody who followed

11 that command should also be in trouble. Is that the case?

12 CHIEF WHITE: That is the case. That's what I'm

13 hoping is occurring. I'm not going to guarantee anything

14 until I put my own eyes on it, right. I don't, at least

15 to my knowledge, have a case. Well, you know what, I

16 think we do have at least one case where someone told

17 someone to turn the body-worn camera off, and they both

18 will be held accountable. We absolutely do. I just

19 remembered it. That's why your Chief is shaking his head.

20 Yes. I just thought about it. So we will be dealing with

21 that. We're very serious about this body-worn camera. You

22 know, I said before you got here, ma'am, I would love to

23 be sitting in front of you talking about the Draft, and

24 we're a hundred percent on point with everything. That is

25 not the case. It's never been the case, but I'm going to

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1 hold folks accountable.

I don't want to miss on the fact that we've got a

3 really good police department. We do. And this incident

4 here doesn't represent the hard work of the men and women

5 of the Detroit Police Department. What that means is that

6 Draft 775,000 people over four days worked their tails

7 off and they still got those runs answered in those

8 neighborhoods, and they still got those parks patrolled.

9 And they didn't flinch. And I'm so proud of them, and I

10 feel bad for them that they have to deal with this right

11 now because this is not the majority of our officers.

12 We're dealing with an isolated, huge incident that you

13 talk about. I don't take, I got myself into a mess, and

14 I'm dealing with it, but you've got a lot of good cops

15 out there. Right now, as we sit here, they are getting it

16 done. And I don't want to miss on that.

7 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yeah, it definitely is

18 isolated, but there... I don't want to say a trend, but in

19 the shadows of the NFL Draft, and our past two meetings,

20 we had the Cinco de Mayo incident, and now this incident.

21 And so I do think that it reinforces our need to focus

22 on, as you said, you know, that there's no bias in

23 policing because we're culturally sensitive. So again,

24 the good work that the Detroit Police Department is doing

25 isn't being sallied by these unfortunate incidences of



- 1 insensitivity.
- 2 CHIEF WHITE: Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I have one more question. It's
- 4 on a separate basis, Chief, and this is maybe about a
- 5 month or so ago now. It was brought to us that there was
- 6 an officer involved in shooting non-fatal one on Rameau
- 7 and Fenkell, where officers fired two shots, rather than
- 8 striking the suspect in the leg. It was a 16-year-old. I
- 9 don't know if you remember that.
- 10 CHIEF WHITE: I do remember.
- CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: I'm only bringing it up 11
- 12 relative to the video release policy. One, I don't know
- 13 if this board has received a debriefing, and I'm not for
- 14 sure whether or not that's the clarification on whether
- 15 or not it's a fatal shooting versus a non-fatal shooting
- 16 that we haven't received. And then it took 45 days for
- 17 that body-worn camera footage to be released. Any update
- 19 CHIEF WHITE: It's been released. Yeah, it's been
- 20 released. We have adhered to our, the policy since we've
- 21 put it out. It's out, it's on social media, and it's been
- 22 published. The Public Information Team makes sure that we
- 23 meet that timeline and it's out. We'll make sure we send
- 24 the board a link.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Thank you.
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- 1 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Yes. Commissioner Burton. 2
- 3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You know, I just want the
- 4 record to reflect that I am saying that that was a
- 5 peaceful protest, not the other way around. And I also
- 6 want the record to reflect that I am calling for our
- 7 Chief White to demote
- CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: The record, has that.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Lieutenant Cole.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Several times committed...
- COMMISSIONER BURTON: Also, you know, our community 11
- 12 wakes up every day in pain when their constitutional
- 13 civil rights, are violated. You know, we have seen and
- 14 witnessed where police officers use Gestapo tactics and
- 15 police commissioner's meetings, as well as City Council
- 16 meetings. We have seen how the department have interacted
- 17 with peaceful protestors inappropriately, and violated
- 18 constitutional rights. We have seen, and witnessed law
- suit settlements, you know, in the millions. And we have
- 20 also witnessed how officers are not wearing body-worn
- 21 cameras. And Chief Warfield can contest to that over the
- 22 complaints and stuff that his office has to deal with
- 23 countless times. But, you know, this board is in a
- 24 position to do something.
- 25 You know, we have to defend civil liberties and

- protect our community and our community has the right to
- 2 assemble, to protest. You know, under the US
- 3 Constitution. Lieutenant Cole agitated with protestors,
- 4 was not, you know wearing a body-worn camera or something
- 5 of that nature. Where, we as a board, come in from an
- 6 oversight body fulfilling for our judiciary
- 7 responsibilities. You have some really good commissioners
- 8 here. Commissioner Moore, I served with, under my first
- 9 term, him and Commissioner Crawford, all for the
- 10 department to wear body-worn cameras at a time where we
- 11 didn't have body-worn cameras. And now we have body-worn
- 12 cameras as of 2016, 2017. And now we still have the
- 13 problem that a lot of officers are not wearing their
- 14 body-worn cameras.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner
- 16 Burton. It's somewhat ironic. A few weeks ago we had a
- 17 matter that was brought to us by Chief White regarding a
- 18 change of duty status. And I believe it was communicated
- 19 by you, Commissioner Burton. Your statement was, "Police
- 20 officers have rights." I think that was your statement,
- 21 "Police officers have rights." And I think what the Chief
- 22 has attempted to communicate is, again, those rights, is
- 23 the rights of due process. And while ultimately there may
- 24 be a landing where you are, again, due process has to be
- 25 followed so that the rights of officers are respected. So
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- 1 again, it is on record, your desire for this lieutenant
- 2 to be demoted. But again, there is a process that has to
- 3 be adhered to for that matter to be resolved. With that
- 4 in mind, yes, please, completely urgent. Commissioner
- 5 Woods.
- COMMISSIONER WOODS: Absolutely. Chief White, again,
- 7 I want to applaud you on your promptness on this issue. I
- 8 was, in fact, at the Freedom Fund Dinner, I walked in the
- 9 midst of those who were protesting, and I walked where
- 10 the officers were at, and for the most part, they were
- 11 very, very stellar. I see Officer Jalen back there at the
- 12 Freedom Fund Dinner, patrolling the area and other
- 13 officers who did a phenomenal job. And I'm sure I can
- 14 speak on behalf of the Detroit Branch NAACP in terms of
- 15 how the officers in there protect that particular space.
- 16 And so I want to applaud that first and foremost, but I
- 17 also want to applaud you for working with the University
- 18 of Michigan Law School and with the ACLU, as well as with
- 19 Mr. Williams, who sued this department.
- You sat at the table, your team sat at the table,
- 21 and we were able to create one of the most historical
- 22 policies in the country to protect people from wrongful
- 23 convictions and things of that nature. Folks voted
- 24 against it, folks walked out of the room when that was
- 25 about to be voted on to try to lose a quorum. But many of



- 1 us stood there under Commissioner Bernard's leadership,
- 2 and we were able to get that policy passed through. That
- 3 was very historical. And so I believe that this
- 4 department is moving in the right direction. And I'm
- 5 appreciative of a Chief who had not waited until the next
- 6 day, but that very night started to respond to those
- 7 issues, you know, and I watched you with my own eyes, and
- 8 we were in communication. So this is not a thing, a fly
- 9 by night type of situation, you know, we could play for
- 10 the cameras, we could play for the community, but
- 11 commissioners need to be here with the interest of the
- 12 people of the City of Detroit at heart, and really,
- 13 really understand that it's about the citizens of the
- 14 City of Detroit. And I thank you for your leadership in
- 15 that regard.
- 16 CHIEF WHITE: Thank you, sir, and thank you for your
- 17 comments.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Thank you, Chief, for being
- 19 here and for your presentation.
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Commissioner Burton, quickly.
- COMMISSIONER BURTON: You know, you have more 22
- 23 confidential informants right here in the City of Detroit
- 24 than you have college graduates. This is not the body of
- 25 the board where we say, great job department every day
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- 1 and every week, or great job Chief every day and every
- 2 week. This is the body where we deal with police abuse,
- police accountability, and police reform issues. This is
- 4 where we address those issues, like Lieutenant Cole's
- 5 behavior aggregating with peace for protestors. This is
- 6 where we call for Lieutenant Cole's demotion. This is
- 7 where we go to see more videos. This is where we call on
- 8 Chief Warfield and OCI, asking about how many complaints
- 9 have been filed. But this is not the place where we say,
- 10 "Great job every day." We, as police commissioners'
- 11 judicial responsibility is oversight, not to be an
- 12 appendage of the mayor or the Chief. For those who cannot
- 13 serve, get in line with former Commissioner Gamble. In
- 14 turn, submit your resignation because this is not the
- 15 stage or the place for rubber stamps.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON PRESSLEY: Alright, with that, we will
- 17 now move to oral communications. Who do we have?
- MS. UNDERWOOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We have 15 18
- 19 speakers. Our next speakers are former Commissioner
- 20 Reginald Crawford, Lieutenant Mark Young, and Ms. Bernice
- 21 Walker. I mean, Ms. Smith.
- 22 MR. CRAWFORD: Good afternoon, commissioners. My
- 23 name's Reggie Crawford. I'm a citizen of the City of
- 24 Detroit. I was one of those, and I may have been one of
- 25 the first to file the 24 complaints with OCI. And I look

- 1 forward to, once this investigation has been completed,
- 2 getting the finality or final answer as to what occurred
- 3 out here. I will say this, Commissioner Burton said it
- 4 pains people every day to wake up. I'm not pained every
- 5 day to wake up, but this is a very painful incident that
- 6 occurred. It was very egregious, very bad, and very
- 7 disrespectful, it was embarrassing to the City of Detroit
- 8 and the Detroit Police Department. But as the Chief
- stated, you know, the recommendations or the
- 10 recommendation for suspension with or without pay were
- 11 forwarded to the commission. The onus is on you,
- 12 commissioners. Have the courage; find the courage to do
- 13 the right thing. As it pertains to this particular
- 14 incident, the comment by Lieutenant Cole, go back to
- 15 Mexico, I consider it as many citizens do. And those who
- 16 know the history of such comments that have occurred in
- 17 the past know that this is a very racist comment. It was
- 18 racist. The racists and the enablers of racism don't get
- 19 to define it. In other words, the narrative, the initial
- 20 police narrative, as I call it... talked about the social
- 21 media that was related. That was obviously viewed and
- 22 surveilled by the lieutenant. And that's where that
- 23 comment came from. That is totally irrelevant. It was
- 24 racist. Also too, in reference to Lieutenant Cole's
- 25 uniform, it was embarrassing. I've been a part of three
- 1 departments, and I've never seen a supervisor dressed
- 2 that way. I mean, he looked like a police bumb. That's
- 3 what he looked like. And prior to this meeting, I talked
- 4 to Mark Young, President of the LSA. Mark Young, I
- 5 commended him when he walked into this room on what was
- 6 in the media yesterday. And that was...
- COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Sir, that's your time. Thank 8 you.
- 9 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. Thank you.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Mr. Chairman.
- 11 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Yeah.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I recommend that we finish
- 13 hearing the statement of the commissioner proper.
- 14 MR. CRAWFORD: I'll come back next week.
- 15 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you, sir.
- 16 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: You're out of turn, sir.
- 17 COMMISSIONER BURTON: He's an honorable man, and I
- 18 serve with him.
- VICE CHAIRPERON SMITH: Thank you, sir. 19
- 20 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 21 LT. YOUNG: Good evening, Madam, Chair. Let's give
- 22 Lieutenant Coles the due process that we give criminals.
- 23 He deserves that. He deserves that because we give
- 24 criminals due process. And this board ensures that we do
- 25 the constitution our way, also ensures that we do, and



- 1 let me say this, due process to the pendulum swings. The
- 2 pendulum swings both ways. That's why we should be
- 3 careful in our rush to judgment. It's a shame that we
- 4 don't give the good work of these awesome colleagues of
- 5 mine, the time that we do for allegations of bad work or
- 6 for bad work. Because it does happen. But it's a mustard
- 7 seed compared to the outstanding work. I didn't hear much
- 8 praise about the draft. I didn't hear much praise about
- 9 the crime reduction. I didn't hear much praise about the
- 10 sacrifice of men and women. You would never be able to
- 11 measure the sacrifice, the multitude of positive work,
- 12 because we don't talk about that. Peaceful protests
- 13 versus violent protestors. Let us be clear that those
- 14 were professional protesters that came here. They came
- 15 here to agitate, the same protestors that will protest
- 16 mustard versus ketchup. They were here for Hakeem
- 17 Littleton. They were at every scene. I'm not justifying
- 18 what happened. I'm going to wait for due process. because
- 19 Lieutenant Coles deserve that. These peaceful, so-called
- 20 protestors came here. They took resources from the city.
- 21 They took response time from the city, from actual
- 22 victims that needed care. Talk about peaceful protestors,
- 23 you should be ashamed.

1

- 24 MALE SPEAKER: And I'm embarrassed.
- 25 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.

- 1 people could walk down the street. Here you have guests
- 2 coming in to over a hundred something dollar dinner, and
- 3 you have to walk in the street to get to where you're
- 4 going. No, I don't approve of that. But in the meantime,
- 5 do not give guilt to the police. They have done a hell of
- 6 a job. Look what they did last month. 750,000 people came
- 7 to our city. The people in Chicago that I talk with say,
- 8 you all did a good job. So don't tell me about the police
- 9 department. I see to them every time I see them; you are
- 10 doing a good job. And I'm proud of you. And I'm still
- 11 proud of you. They make mistakes. They're not perfect,
- 12 but we have some commissioners in here that are so
- 13 disrespectful. They need to get the heck out of here.
- 14 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Okay, thank you. That is
- 15 your time.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair, one quick
- 17 second.
- MS. SMITH: Don't answer me. You just shut up.
- 19 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you. Thank you
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Madam, Chair, one quick second.
- 21 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you. Commissioner
- 22 Burton, please.
- 23 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I want to just say that we do
- 24 have some good officers on this force, but we also have
- 25 some that should be demoted. And we think that this board

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- MS. UNDERWOOD: Ms. Smith.
- 2 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon.
- 3 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Good afternoon. I have heard
- 4 enough for me to tell you my part. I was there. My
- 5 daughters brought me there, and I was sitting there
- 6 waiting to go down the line where they had a curve going
- 7 into the garage. The protestors are on my right. Now,
- 8 what I had fought with the city for, they should have had
- 9 that barricade on the other side of the street because,
- 10 number one, the guests and the people that were going
- 11 into the dinner could not walk down the street. They had
- 12 to walk in the street. The police were across the street,
- 13 encouraging them to stop the noise and so forth. So he
- 14 sent the police... I saw him, sent the police over there by
- 15 eight or nine of them to make them move because the 16 people had to walk in the street. The barricade was
- 17 between the street and the protestors. And they were
- 18 acting like fools. I saw this. Nobody can tell me
- 19 anything. And as far as your commissioner defending the
- 20 protestor, they should have done it in a decent,
- 21 respectful way. Someone was cursing. because I heard them
- 22 because I had my window down. So don't tell me that the
- 23 police were totally wrong. They were not wrong. Some of
- 24 them should have done what they should have did. And they
- 25 eventually did move the protestors either way so that

- 1 should look more into the disciplinary histories of some
- 2 of our officers that are mistreating innocent protestors
- 3 and residents as well. I'm not saying that all officers
- 4 are bad. I'm not saying that all officers are good
- 5 either. But in this situation by Lieutenant Cole, I do
- 6 strongly feel that he should be demoted. You know.
- 7 because he violated the department's code of conduct. As
- 8 well, you know, we all have the department's manual. You
- 9 know, but overall, you know, we are an oversight body. We
- 10 not here to say, great job, Chief every day.
- 11 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: We can say that we have to move
- 13 forward. It's above and beyond.
- 14 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 15 COMMISSIONER BURTON: And also the women in blue,
- 16 whom we can acknowledge. VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank
- 17 you.
- 18 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Those are good officers from
- 19 the department.
- 20 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you...
- 21 COMMISSIONER BURTON: That's the time to say that
- 22 it's, but right now we are oversight...
- 23 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: We heard you. Thank you.
- 24 It's been on record since you said that. Thank you. We
- 25 need to please move forward for oral communication.



- 1 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Madam, Chair, please have a 2 little respect.
- 3 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you, sir.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BURTON: For the matter.
- 5 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: I'm not getting ready to go
- 6 with you today. Thank you, sir. Can you please move 7 forward?
- 8 MS. UNDERWOOD: Yes, ma'am. Madam, Chair, you have
- 9 three more speakers in the in the room. Rella Lanfair,
- 10 Minister Eric Blount, and Ms. Michelle George. Then we'll
- 11 go into Zoom.
- 12 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 13 MS. LANFAIR: Okay. My name is Rella Landfair. I
- 14 would like you guys to recognize me. It's Michael's mama.
- 15 I was here a couple of months ago to kind of get some
- 16 answers about what happened with my son. I am the mother
- 17 of Michael Dawes II. He was missing initially, and he was
- 18 found by myself as well as the rest of the family. Well,
- 19 ever since then, I was given that day, when I came here
- 20 to the commissioner's meeting, I was informed by the
- 21 Chief of Police that I would be provided total
- 22 transparency. There was going to be total transparency,
- 23 and there was going to be follow up. I spoke with
- 24 Lieutenant Timothy Jones, and he set an appointment. We
- 25 were supposed to have an appointment on the third, but
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- 1 since I was supposed to go out of town, I asked if we
- 2 reschedule that.
- 3 I was supposed to get a call back. Never got... I
- 4 apologize. I did get a call back. I got a bunch of
- 5 callbacks, but never no results. I spoke with Captain
- 6 Maddox, some Maddox. I spoke with Commander Severy a
- 7 couple of times. And I was even told during the Draft
- 8 season or during the draft that you know, it's just busy,
- 9 and you know, we'll try to get back with you, but we're
- 10 just so busy with the Draft. As a constituent of the City
- 11 of Detroit, and as the grieving mother who has a son who
- 12 is now gone and has no knowledge of what's really going
- 13 on, how could you basically tell me that you don't have
- 14 time for me because of this Draft? Those people are going
- 15 to go home. When they go home, I'm still here. The last
- 16 time I talked to someone was on April 29th. I have yet to
- 17 have a meeting with the Chief, I have yet to get the
- 18 ballistics from the weapon. I have yet to receive my
- 19 son's phone unlocked.
- 20 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Okay, ma'am, that is your
- 21 time, Michael's mom. But I do have homicide in here. And
- 22 if I can have Commander Severy...
- 23 MS. LANFAIR: I want to know what you all are going
- 24 to do.
- 25 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: If you can speak...

- 1 MS. LANFAIR: Like, I want to know what... because you
- 2 all are supposed to work for us. We are all working
- 3 together.
- 4 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: I understand and I will talk
- 5 to you after the meeting. But can Commander Severy take...
- 6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair, can we have
- 7 Chief Warfield Office take a look at Ms. Rella before the
- 8 board.
- 9 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Excuse me, sir.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order...
- 11 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Do not speak over me.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Madam, Chair. I'm requesting
- 13 that...
- 14 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: And they can have someone
- 15 that will speak with you.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BURTON: The Chief Investigator's Office
- 17 is supposed to... Warfield's Office, speak with the lady at
- 18 the podium
- 19 MS. LANFAIR: I understand the process, and I don't
- 20 have a problem with the process or the protocol, but how
- 21 many times do I have to keep calling to not get answered?
- 22 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Right. We have someone here
- 23 in the room that can speak with you.
- 24 MS. LANFAIR: The same person that's been avoiding
- 25 me?

- 1 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: I don't know, but there's
- 2 someone here right now. Thank you. Can you please talk to
- 3 her?
- 4 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I recommend the OCI Office;
- 5 Warfield's Office speak with the lady.
- 6 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Excuse me, Commissioner
- 7 Burton, you are out of turn.
- 8 Thank you, sir. Oral communication.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You don't know who she should
- 10 speak with. I think she should. For the board. Therefore,
- 11 she should speak with someone from the board.
- 12 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Madam, Chair, if I could be
- 13 recognized?
- 14 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Go ahead, Commissioner.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Fellow commissioners, we cannot
- 16 allow this gentleman to continue to bully this lady. It's
- 17 terrible. It's disgraceful for him to continue to try to
- 18 bully her.
- 19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Point of order. No one's
- 20 bullying anyone.
- 21 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Commissioner...
- 22 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair, Madam,
- 23 Chairperson does not know who be best for her to speak
- 24 to. She brought our case to the board.
- 25 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Commissioner Burton.



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- 1 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Therefore...
- 2 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: You are not recognized.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Therefore, Mr. Warfield's
- 4 Office should look into it.
- VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: We are still in oral 5
- 6 communications.
- COMMISSIONER WOODS: Go ahead, Madam, Chair. 7
- 8 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you, sir. Go ahead, 9 please.
- 10 MINISTER BLOUNT: Good afternoon, board. The
- 11 situation with Cinco de Mayo, and now the May 19th
- 12 protestors just reiterates the demands for a consent
- 13 decree. There aren't a lot of bad officers, but how we
- 14 don't deal with those that are bad is what makes this
- 15 whole situation so dangerous. So, I agree, a consent
- 16 decree is in order. Yep. This department has a lot of
- 17 rules and regulations, policies and procedures, but it's
- 18 the pattern and the practices that, again, make this
- 19 whole situation very dangerous. And then, yes, we have
- 20 the union contract. No matter what happens to this
- 21 officer by the Chief, by this board, the union will
- 22 ensure he keeps his job, he gets his back pay and is
- 23 eligible for a promotion whenever he decides to be
- 24 qualified for. Again, I say release the body-worn camera
- 25 footage. If it's available to the Board of Police

- ASST. CHIEF EWING: No.
- COMMISSIONER WOODS: Are you guys planning to release 2
- 3 the video in regard to that situation at the appropriate
- 4 time?
- 5 ASST. CHIEF EWING: As the Chief talked about it, it
- 6 is still on investigation, and that we're still getting
- 7 more videos in. So I can't give you a timeline for that
- 8 at this particular point.
- COMMISSIONER WOODS: Okay. Thank you.
- 10 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you. Commissioner
- 11 Bernard.
- COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Quickly, Chief Ewing, 12
- 13 generally, when there are incidents that, for which there
- 14 is substantial public outcry and there is video, the
- 15 board is allowed to see that video. I haven't received a
- 16 notice of the date and time that we can all go to see it,
- 17 to see what we think about it. And I, as you know, am a
- 18 big proponent for the release of the video, actually
- 19 within like two weeks of an incident at the latest.
- 20 Because it quells the concerns of the community. I mean,
- 21 the eye in the sky does not lie. And people really want
- 22 to see for themselves what happened. And I think that's
- 23 legitimate. So if you could convey that concern back to
- 24 the Chief about the community seeing the video, as
- 25 Reverend just said, and also when are we allowed to see

- 1 Commissioners, it should be available to the public. Put
- 2 it on the Board of Police Commissioner's website. And
- 3 yes, someone brought up Hakeem Littleton. Within three
- 4 hours of his shooting, that camera footage was available
- 5 for everybody, including the media. That's about... Well,
- 6 we still haven't heard from HR. I guess the report is
- 7 still unscheduled, but with HR there is a risk management 8 system that is supposed to give us an update on over 100
- 9 police officers that have been labeled high risk for
- 10 police misconduct. We still don't know where they stand,
- 11 what are they doing with it? This board doesn't know.
- 12 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you, that is your 13 time.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Through the Chair. If I can
- 15 inquire with the Assistant Chief Ewing, was the video
- 16 released? If I may, if I could be recognized.
- 17 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Commissioner Woods.
- COMMISSIONER WOODS: Okay. Thank you. Was the video 18
- 19 released as it relates to this incident?
- 20 ASST. CHIEF EWING: Alright, you're talking body-worn
- 21 camera footage?
- 22 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Yes.
- 23 ASST. CHIEF EWING: No. it has not been released.
- COMMISSIONER WOODS: Okay. So no video was released 24
- 25 in this regard?

- 1 it, which should be soon. Usually it's within seven or 10
- 2 days. I'll convey your concerns.
- COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you. You can communicate
- 4 back to the Chair or Vice Chair. Thank you.
- VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you. Go ahead, ma'am. 5
- 6 MS. GEORGE: Yes. Through the Chair, Ms. Smith, and
- 7 to the Board of Police Commissioners. Good afternoon.
- VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Good afternoon.
- MS. GEORGE: I know it's a lot going on in the
- 10 meeting. I would say to Commissioner Bernard, it's best
- 11 to get those videos released right away, as soon as
- 12 possible, for, you know, transparency. I am glad the
- 13 Chief is going to hold. He stated several times that he's
- 14 going to hold the officer accountable. I am disturbed by
- 15 the mother. So I don't know what happened in that
- 16 situation, but I would say that someone needs to be on
- 17 that case with that mom losing her son. So hopefully I
- 18 don't know her name and I can't get that... We can get that
- 19 done. But I wanted to comment the other day when I was at
- 20 the Citizens' Complaint Committee with Commissioner Banks
- 21 and Commissioner Bernard.
- 22 So I will be kind of getting on that committee. But
- 23 I want to say that, as a member of my civil rights group,
- 24 the National Action Network, policing right now is
- 25 stressful. Policing in communities of color, black,



- 1 white, and Latino. So one of the things I want to suggest
- 2 to the board and to Assistant Chief Ewing is that quicker
- 3 transparency is better. When we were in New York
- 4 protesting the billionaire that got rid of Dr. Gay from
- 5 Harvard University, NYPD, they protected us from down the
- 6 streets of New York, and we protested, and we did have a
- 7 peaceful protest. But working with the National Action
- 8 Network, I would say to the Detroit Police Department,
- 9 when videos are shown and there are issues with videos,
- 10 release them right away. They shouldn't wait two weeks
- 11 because that gives time for editing of the videos.
- 12 And our organization was very instrumental after
- 13 Eric Gardner got body-worn police cameras that we were
- dealing with. So I would say there's a lot going on with
- 15 the board. Commissioner Burton, Chief White did say they
- 16 would hold him accountable. We would make sure it's the
- 17 community that is done. But I also got disturbed to hear
- 18 that, mom, that someone should have taken that. It
- 19 doesn't matter how busy officers should have taken that
- 20 report, say, ma'am, we'll get right with you and get it
- 21 done.

1

- 22. VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: That's your time.
- 23 MS. GEORGE: So I will be following up with that
- 24 situation. Thank you.
- 25 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.

- 1 was up there trying to say, you know, I do agree with
- 2 Commissioner Burton, that some of the commissioners
- 3 should have come to her because she came to the oversight
- 4 body asking for your help and that she should not be put
- 5 off. And I do see bias, implicit bias, and it is evident
- 6 by the three events that you all are talking about, how
- 7 there were no incidents with the police at the Draft, but
- 8 both of the incidents that involved brown and black
- 9 people, we have incidents; we need to look at ourselves
- 10 and this commission, you are on the front lines to help
- 11 that. But we need transparency. We need transparency of
- 12 this body. Thank you,
- 13 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Madam, Chair, I'd like to make a
- 14 motion in regard to that fee waiver. I would like to
- 15 motion for the board and the city's law department to
- 16 support the fee waiver as requested for FOIA number 24-
- 17 02888.
- 18 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Support.
- 19 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Is there a second?
- 20 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Second.
- 21 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: So that motion has passed?
- 22 COMMISSIONER WOODS: No. Any discussion?
- 23 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Are we going to vote?
- 24 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Any discussion?
- 25 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Any discussion? I'm sorry.

- 2 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Ma'am?
- 3 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Yes, go ahead.
- 4 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Yes. Through the Chair. Can
- 5 you just give us a little bit more for the record?
- COMMISSIONER MOORE: You mean, in addition to what I
- 7 just asked? COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Clarify the fee waiver, more 8
- 9 than anything.
- 10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: This FOIA, or Freedom of
- 11 Information Act, should be forwarded or requested in
- 12 situations that come to the public's attention. This body
- 13 has requested for the fees to be waived. The Law
- 14 Department said no and they put on a \$800 and something
- 15 dollars fee attached to this. Well, the issue is of
- 16 public knowledge dealing with OCI, it's not anything
- 17 secret or anything that I would consider controversial,
- 18 when I ran into it. So therefore, I support a fee waiver
- 19 so that this group can get their information.
- 20 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Through the Chair. If I
- 21 could just, in the sense of clarity
- 22 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Go ahead. If I'm not
- 23 mistaken, it's the same people who have been calling me.
- 24 They came before the body. They've been waiting for
- 25 someone to return because I recognize her voice.

- Page 75 ASST. CHIEF EWING: If I could get, through the
 - 1 Any discussion?
- 3 your request, you'll be given the opportunity to see this
- 4 video enclosed session next week. That will be presented

2 Chair, just got an update. Commissioner Bernard, as to

- 5 to you in a closed session.
- 6 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Alright. Thank you.
- COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Before Thursday. Thank you. 7
- 8 Thank you.
- 9 MS. UNDERWOOD: So the next speaker will be Yvonne 10 Jones.
- 11 MS. JONES: Good evening. My name is Yvonne Jones,
- 12 and I'm a member of the Coalition for Police Transparency
- 13 and Accountability. The purpose of my call tonight was to 14 request a FOIA that we had sent requesting the release of
- 15 the citizens' complaints from the period of January to
- 16 February 29th, 2024. And we had received communications
- 17 back from the Law Department informing us that there
- would be a fee that we, as a community organization,
- 19 could not pay. We have sent communications to this body
- 20 requesting that that fee be waived and that those reports
- 21 be submitted to us. It is apparent from everything that's
- 22 going on tonight and some of the findings that the 23 citizens' complaints are not being dealt with in a way
- 24 that they should. They're not being investigated; they're
- 25 not being reported back to the people. As Michael's mom

- 1 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Okay.
- 2 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Go ahead.
- 3 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Through the Chair. So is it
- 4 intended that another body take on and incur that cost,
- 5 or is it just entirely waived?
- 6 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I would just say support for it.
- 7 That's a good question for it to be waived as it relates
- 8 to our resources. I guess we should include the Chief
- 9 Investigator, to see if it would be an additional tax on
- 10 his resources, as it relates to manpower and putting
- 11 information together.
- 12 COMMISSIONER WOODS: I mean, the secretary has his
- 13 hand up to.
- 14 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: And is it for a timeframe
- 15 or...?
- 16 COMMISSIONER MOORE: It did include a timeframe.
- 17 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Definitely. Okay. Yeah.
- 18 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Acting secretary.
- 19 MR. BROWN: Madam, Chair, I'm trying to get the
- 20 attorney to respond. I did speak to the attorney today in
- 21 regard to... Oh, she's on now. Attorney LaBelle.
- 22 ATTORNEY LABELLE: Hi, good afternoon.
- 23 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Good afternoon.
- 24 ATTORNEY LABELLE: This matter was provided to FOIA.
- 25 The requester was given a discount, and the

- 1 ATTORNEY LABELLE: If the BOPC does not wish to
- 2 charge for their staff's time, I will relay that
- 3 information to FOIA. If that's not acceptable to them
- 4 under FOIA regulations, then they will let me know.
- 5 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: We are a commission; we can
- 6 waive costs.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair.
- 8 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Commissioner Burton.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair. I already
- 10 seconded the motion by Commissioner Moore. I like to ask
- 11 you if we can go ahead and just call for the vote.
- 12 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Because then we have to vote on
- 13 it.

- 14 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Well, I move that we delay
- 15 this motion at this time so that we will understand more
- 16 of what's going on and have a legal standpoint. And we...
- 17 COMMISSIONER WOODS: I don't think you can do that.
- 18 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Through the Chair. Could we
- 19 ask that, until we get more information, we actually
- 20 table this? Would that be okay with Commissioner Moore?
- 21 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Well, the information... This is
- 22 the second time we've received communication about this.
- 23 So what will we be waiting for?
- 24 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: So it seems there are two
- 25 cases... Through the Chair, sorry.

- 1 correspondence that came into the board today was also
- 2 forwarded to FOIA and they're handling it.
- 3 COMMISSIONER MOORE: So through the Chair. Is it
- 4 still an opportunity, Attorney LaBelle, for this to be a
- 5 waived request?
- 6 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: You can waive it.
- 7 ATTORNEY LABELLE: That would be determined by FOIA,
- 8 if the board votes to do that, then I can let the FOIA
- 9 Department know.
- 10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Okay. Thank you.
- 11 ATTORNEY LABELLE: You're welcome.
- 12 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you. Commissioner.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Yes, I think that you're right
- 14 about the FOIA Department, and generally, people have to
- $15\,$ pay for those requests paid by the page. But I also think
- 16 that the board has the ability to waive the cost for
- 17 documents related to us. So I concur in your
- 18 recommendation that this woman and this community not
- 19 stagnate as a result of not being able to get the
- 20 information that they're requesting. It's our
- 21 information.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Through the Chair.
- 23 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Yeah, Commissioner Woods.
- 24 COMMISSIONER WOODS: Attorney LaBelle, will we be in
- 25 compliance with the law? That would be my only concern.

- 1 COMMISSIONER MOORE: What was the first case, because
- 2 I thought it was a continuation of the...?
- 3 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: I heard that there were, or
- 4 maybe it was two requests that were put in.
- 5 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Right. They put in a request...
- 6 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: And the second is underway.
- 7 So depending on the result of that is what I would want
- 8 to wait for. But again, that's just at your discretion,
- 9 obviously, since you motioned.
- 10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I would just call for the
- 11 request. Well, I'll just ask for us to vote either way.
- 12 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: That's fine.
- 13 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Call for the...
- 14 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Call for roll call vote.
- 15 Roll call vote. Any questions? Commissioner Moore.
- 16 COMMISSIONER MOORE: For the board and the city's law
- 17 department to support the fee waiver as requested for
- 18 FOIA number 24-02888.
- 19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Second.
- 20 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Is there any discussion?
- 21 COMMISSIONER WOODS: No.
- 22 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: No discussion. Roll call
- 23 vote.
- 24 MR. BROWN: Vice Chairperson Smith No.
- 25 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Bernard Yes.



- 1 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Bell -
- 2 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Burton Yes.
- 3 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Moore Yes.
- 4 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Hernandez Yes.
- 5 MR. BROWN: Commissioner Woods Yes.
- 6 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Okay. So that motion has
- 7 passed. There are 5 yes votes, 2 nos. Motion has passed.
- 8 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: And I apologize, Ma'am,
- 9 Chair for interrupting oral comment, but I just want to
- 10 get that on the record and go.
- 11 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 12 MS. UNDERWOOD: Our next speaker is the caller with
- 13 the last numbers 124. And then, after that speaker, we'll
- 14 go with Ms. Maddox. Caller 124.
- 15 CALLER 124: Yes. Good afternoon. May I be heard?
- 16 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Good afternoon. You can be 17 heard.
- 18 CALLER 124: Okay, great. Well, it's rather
- 19 disconcerting for me to hear all this concern about
- 20 police officers having their body cam videos on. Yet the
- 21 police officer whose body slammed me to the ground and
- 22 falsely arrested me didn't have his body-cam video. Yet
- 23 the police continued to press the bogus charges anyway.
- 24 But thank God the other officer kept his camera on
- 25 because you can see me for 40 minutes in cuff asking for
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- 1 proof that they could do what they did to me. And
- 2 constantly asking the police officer if he had his camera
- 3 on. He kept assuring me, he did, saying we want the
- 4 camera. So while you are prosecuting little misdemeanor
- 5 garbage when somebody doesn't have a police body cam
- $6\,$ video is beyond me. And I heard it in another meeting
- 7 that the biggest complaints you get are officers not
- 8 having their body cam video show up.
- 9 So my other problem is police officers not showing
- 10 up. Also, I expressed concern about the mistreatment of
- 11 me at the detention center repeatedly. It was Member
- 12 Carter who was the only one who said, gee, I'm sorry that
- 13 happened to you, when I was forcibly stripped after I was
- 14 not properly screened. I did call Mr. Warfield. I have
- 15 not heard back from him. I don't know if he attempted to
- 16 hear back from me. So I'm deeply concerned that any of
- 17 you even care what happens at the detention center. And I
- 18 spoke with a woman who has helped people escape sex
- 19 trafficking. And she heard my story. She believes me. And
- 20 she said she's heard that these kinds of things have
- 21 happened to other people. So I certainly hope you're
- 22 concerned. Now, if somebody told me to go back to the
- 23 burbs or so, the kind of stuff that I face, even though I
- 24 live in the city and that my father was born here, I
- 25 would much rather have somebody tell me to go back to the

- 1 burbs or wherever they think instead of being forcibly
- 2 stripped in a solitary cell with a camera in it. And then
- 3 I have reason to believe people are passing around the
- 4 strip video. because later...
- 5 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 6 MS. UNDERWOOD: Ms. Maddox.
- 7 MS. MADDOX: Yes. Good afternoon.
- 8 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Good afternoon.
- 9 MS. MADDOX: And number one, I'm surprised that this
- 10 commission does not have a lawyer. That should have been
- 11 number one, and [unclear01:48:45]. Number two, the body
- 12 camera issue. [Unclear01:48:57] insure does not happen
- 13 again. Because my fear and I'm so [unclear01:49:35] right
- 14 now, that idiot that is there, him going, it would've
- 15 been his word against the protesters word. So we needed
- 16 to make sure that all of the body cameras are working
- 17 property. I do understand that, that the police officers
- 18 need to take a break, but make sure there's your body
- 19 camera is on. Number three, the incident that happened
- 20 [unclear01:50:55] help you know about it. Some of you may
- 21 not know [unclear01:5I:13] the police car, which looks at
- 22 the sidewalk at the crash that on the sidewalk and I took
- 23 photos of them. So please, make sure that they do not
- 24 block the sidewalk. That has been an issue of mine for a
- 25 long time. I do understand the emergency, but that is not
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- 1 an emergency. Repeat, this was not an emergency. So
- 2 please make sure that they know that they cannot block
- 3 the sidewalk unless it is a police business. I'm done.
- 4 Thank you very much.
- 5 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 6 MS. UNDERWOOD: One of the coldest.
- 7 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Caller, are you there? One 8 of the coldest.
- 9 MS. UNDERWOOD: I'm trying one more time to ask you
- 10 to unmute. I can go to the next one and come back. I'm
- 11 going to go to Mr. Meeko Williams. Just a moment, if I
- 12 can see if I can find him. Thank you for your patience.
- 13 Mr. Williams.
- 14 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. Hi. May I be heard, please?
- 15 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: You can be heard. Go right 16 ahead.
- 17 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. Hi. I demand that Lieutenant
- 18 Brandon Cole be fired immediately, without pay. What he
- 19 did was unacceptable. It is not acceptable under any law
- 20 enforcement to taunt a protestor. And protestors are
- 21 concerned citizens. Those are concerned citizens that
- 22 were out there. And I don't really understand this logic
- 23 of defending or giving Mr. Cole due process. You saw the
- 24 video. He was right there. He said what he said. And he 25 also snitched on me. He falsely accused me and said bad

- 1 things to me at a protest back in 2020. That's how I knew
- 2 when I went to speak up and give my testimony that it was
- 3 100% true. That Mr. Cole needs to be fired. He needs to
- 4 be removed. Let him go work for another police
- 5 department. We don't need... He represents the 55% white
- 6 police force that is under Chief Craig, and is now under
- 7 Chief White.
- 8 And for Mark Young, the lieutenant, how dare you
- 9 defend Mr. Cole, you white supremacist enabler. How dare
- 10 you? You cannot defend what that man did or any of these
- 11 cops that harassed black people, brown people, and those
- 12 that are policed in our community. And also, I want to
- 13 say that in regard to Mr. Cole, there are others that
- 14 need to be investigated. So it shouldn't take you two
- 15 weeks or so to review the evidence and to remove Mr. Cole
- 16 from the Detroit Police Department, period. I also want
- 17 to say, leave my Commissioner Burton alone. We voted for
- 18 him to represent our community. We voted for him for
- 19 transparency and to keep it honest. Now, I don't know why
- 20 you commissioners continue with the bullying and
- 21 harassing him. We're going to start filing complaints,
- 22 and we're going to start coming after you. Remember, you
- 23 were voted in, you could be voted out. So you better
- 24 watch your steps. And Commissioner Woods, you too. Watch
- 25 yourself. Have a great day. Thank you.

- 1 come up with good policies that's going to be conducive
- 2 to our community as well as the police force, and not
- 3 just be one sided. Thirdly, I want to ask our community
- 4 and ourselves not to measure our police force by
- 5 individual incidents, but let's measure them by the
- 6 culture. And I think that's one of the things
- 7 Commissioner Moore was speaking of is about changing
- 8 culture when it came down to those body-worn cameras. We
- 9 can't address things individually. We have to be united,
- 10 and we have to address cultural things, things that
- 11 affect the masses a lot of times. And so those are just
- 12 the main things I want to say. But the police overall
- 13 have been doing some good work. I'm not ashamed to say
- 14 they've been doing some good work. We have a lot more
- 15 work to do though. Thank you.
- 16 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 17 MS. UNDERWOOD: One of the coldest.
- 18 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Caller, are you there?
- 19 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Can you hear?
- 20 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Yes. You can be heard.
- 21 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Hello.
- 22 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: You can be heard, caller.
- 23 Thank you.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: He's breaking up.
- 25 MR. BROWN: I think he...

- 1 COMMISSIONER WOOODS: See you in the streets.
- 2 MS. UNDERWOOD: iPhone.
- 3 iPhone: Good evening. I wanted to take your time,
- 4 really, just to say I appreciate Mr. Moore, Commissioner
- 5 Moore. He really does a good job articulating and
- 6 advocating on behalf of the community, regardless of any
- 7 type of positive or reinforcement. And so that's one
- 8 thing I do find commendable. The other thing I was going
- 9 to say is, just mention that union due process is
- 10 different from constitutional due process. And I don't
- 11 think our community could really be fully effective and
- 12 be informed, or be involved in a lot of discipline here
- 13 or our commissioners until the union reps sit down and be
- 14 candid and open up some of that power until that contract
- 15 is over. It's up to Lieutenant Young to sit down with the
- 16 commissioners and create new policies that are going to
- 17 be more effective to open up and creating relief for our
- 18 community.
- 19 And until he takes that step, while they are under
- 20 this contract, it is only the Chief of Police or the
- 21 Board of Police Commissioners are limited to what they
- 22 can do on behalf of this community. And so I'm putting
- 23 accountability on the union leaders now, if they want to
- 24 profess and take sides to do anything else, they should
- 25 be willing to sit down at the table with both sides and

- 1 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: You're breaking up. We can't
- 2 hear you.

- 3 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Through the Chair when they get
- 4 their two minutes.
- 5 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: No, you're not clear.
- 6 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Can you now?
- 7 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Wherever you are, your
- 8 reception is bad. We can't hear you.
- 9 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Can you hear me now?
- 10 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: No.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WOODS: You working with one or two
- 12 devices.
- 13 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Caller, you can't be heard.
- 14 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Okay. Hold one second. Is it
- 15 better?
- 16 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: No.
- 17 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Is that connection better?
- 18 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: No. No. Go outside, maybe.
- 19 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Okay. Can you hear me?
- 20 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Almost.
- 21 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Okay. Can you hear me now?
- 22 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: You're still breaking up.
- 23 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madam, Chair, please go on to the
- 24 next call.
- 25 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Okay. We we're going to have



- 1 to move on to the next caller because we can't hear you.
- 2 Thank you.
- 3 ONE OF THE COLDEST: Okay, disconnect and try phone.
- 4 MS. UNDERWOOD: Our next speaker will be former
- 5 Commissioner William Davis. Can you...
- ONE OF THE COLDEST: Okay. Can you hear the same? 6
- 7 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I can hear him.
- 8 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Go ahead, caller.
- 9 MR. DAVIS: Can you hear me? This is William Davis.
- 10 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Yes, you can be heard.
- 11 MR. DAVIS: Okay, great. I'd like to start off by
- 12 saying, as President of the Church Chapter National
- 13 Action Network, I received over 50 calls about the
- 14 incident on Sunday. And then I find it very troubling in
- 15 a number of ways. You know, not just what he said and how
- 16 he said it, but also I found it even more troubling after
- 17 I heard the explanation in that it would make people
- 18 think, in fact, I got some calls from out of State
- 19 asking, is the Detroit police tracking people's cell
- 20 phone? Is the Detroit Police using facial recognition on
- 21 people in crowds at protests? I hope that's not the case
- 22 because if it is, I can see the Detroit police going back
- 23 up under the Department of Justice oversight. You know,
- 24 we need to make sure that we do a better job and we need
- 25 to make sure as our department becomes more and more
- 1 outsiders, you know, because often you hear the Chief and 2 others talking about outsiders, but the vast majority of
- our police officers are outsiders.
- They do not live in our city. They did not grow up
- 5 in our city. You know, so we need to look at this
- 6 equation a whole lot better. And also, you know, this
- 7 board and the Detroit Police Department need to be
- 8 working jointly to try to see if they can reduce the vast
- 9 number of lawsuits because we have a lot of lawsuits that
- 10 is generated by the Detroit Police Department, especially
- 11 from poor interaction with citizens. You know, and you
- 12 have to make sure that demeanor matters. What you say to
- 13 people matters, and how you say it to people matters.
- 14 Especially if you are, you know, supposed to be a
- 15 supervisor of other officers. That sets a poor example.
- 16 So hopefully, you know, you all could ask some stronger
- 17 questions and get some stronger answers on what's going
- 18 on. Especially as it relates to possible monitoring
- 19 control, you know, and crowds on social media and facial
- 20 recognition. Thank you.
- 21 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you. Caller, you still
- 22 have a bad reception, we're just going to move forward.
- 23 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Through the Chair. Ma'am,
- 24 could we just take note of who the caller might be and
- 25 offer up an additional two minutes at a future meeting?

- ONE OF THE COLDEST: [Unclear].
- 2 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: We can't hear you. We can't
- 3 hear you. No, we can't. But we can offer you an
- 4 additional two minutes if you call back next week because
- 5 we can't hear you. You have a very poor reception. If you
- 6 can call next time because we can't hear you. Okay. Call
- 7 back. That's the last. That's it. We can't hear him.
- COMMISSIONER MOORE: Madam, Chair, I do have two 8
- 9 questions for Assistant Chief Ewing.
- 10 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Go right ahead.
- 11 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Chief, did you get any
- 12 statistics as it relates to the 2023 vehicular homicides,
- 13 suicides, and justifiable homicides?
- 14 ASST. CHIEF EWING: Yes, sir, we do have that. I'm
- 15 waiting for the Chief to approve, though, and we'll get
- 16 them right over to you.
- 17 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Okay. And is it required for
- 18 captains and above to wear body-worn cameras?
- 19 ASST. CHIEF EWING: It is not required for the
- 20 captains and above, but if they're on the line engaging,
- 21 we make it available for them.
- 22 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Alright. Thank you, sir.
- 23 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Thank you.
- 24 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Motion to adjourn?
- 25 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: Yes, motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER WOODS: Oh, what? He did his 1

- 2 communications already.
- 3 VICE CHAIRPERSON SMITH: We're finished.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WOODS: We're finished. Okay. All right.
- 5 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Madam, Chair, I'd like to move 6 for adjournment.
- COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Second. 7

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(Meeting Adjourned at 5:06pm)

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1
   STATE OF MICHIGAN
   COUNTY OF WAYNE
             RECORDER'S CERTIFICATE AND NOTARIZATION
 9
        I, Donald Handyside, Court Recorder, do hereby
10
11
         certify that on May 23, 2024 at 3:00 P.M., I did
12
         record the Detroit BOPC meeting, the same being
13
        later reduced to typewriting and that the foregoing
        is a true and accurate transcription of said
14
         electronic recording taken at such time and place.
15
16
                  I further certify that I am not related to
         or employed by any party of this cause or their
17
         respective counsel.
18
19
20
                        DONALD HANDYSIDE (CER 1464)
21
                        Notary Public
22
                        My Commission Expires: 5/6/2027
23
24
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