

Approved Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, August 8, 2024 – 6:30 PM
Location: WCCCD – Eastern Campus, 5901 Conner St., Detroit, Michigan 48219

- I. **Chairperson Darryl Woods called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Minister Eric Blount provided the invocation.
- III. **Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.**

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

- IV. **Chairperson Woods** requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, August 8, 2024. The motion was accepted and adopted.
- V. **Chairperson Woods** requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2024. The minutes were adopted as presented.
- VI. **Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives and Community Leaders.**
- VII. **Chair's Report.**

Resolution / Certificate

- A. Commissioner Bell and Commissioner Dewaelsche read the resolution honoring Journalist Paula Tutman.

**RESOLUTION HONORING
PAULA TUTMAN**

WHEREAS, Paula Tutman is a multiple Emmy Award-winning broadcast journalist who joined WDIV TV 4 in October 1992, which turned out to be a significant time for her and Detroit. After several years covering the police beat and community news in Louisville, Kentucky and Baltimore, Maryland, she arrived in Detroit uniquely qualified and ready to find and report compelling news stories with elements of human interest and social justice; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tutman found many such stories in Detroit and the metro area during 32 years with Local 4 News. She brought her distinct and often warm voice to reporting breaking news or features about people and daily life. In her reports on crime, she would implore the public to call Crime Stoppers and to find, in her gripping tone, "the cold-blooded killers" of murder victims. In a media scoop, she landed the first one-on-one interview with newly released Davontae Sanford, who was wrongfully convicted at 14 years old of killing four people in 2007 and wrongfully imprisoned for nine years despite a confession from a known hitman; and

WHEREAS, Before wrapping up her tenure at WDIV, Ms. Tutman made a documentary that revisited one of her first big news assignments: the brutal beating death of Malice Green by Detroit plainclothes police officers on

November 5, 1992 in front of witnesses. In *Malice Green: Portrait of Injustice*, she documents how the fatal encounter pushed the videotaped Rodney King beating out of the spotlight and made Detroit a symbol for police brutality. The documentary, which aired on May 30, 2024 and is available to stream, also shows how the Malice Green case became known for police accountability when, for the first time in history, police officers were arrested, charged, convicted by a jury, and sent to prison for the death of an unarmed black man; and

WHEREAS, Malice Green and his history-making case are featured in the training module on civilian oversight of law enforcement for cadets at the Detroit Police Academy. However, Ms. Tutman clearly documents how his case has faded from public knowledge, leaving many unaware of his murder or the political payback, which included state action to take away Recorder's Court, a city court where only Detroit residents served on juries, like that one that found Officers Walter Budzyn and Larry Nevers guilty. Her documentary captures how important it is to know and remember history. Her reporting spotlights the new, unarmed victims of fatal police violence since 1992 and efforts for a database to ensure a public record. She concludes the documentary with interviews that express how much has changed, how much has not changed, and how much remains for us all to achieve when, as stated, "We see them die now... We see it and move on to the next one."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the residents of Detroit and the Police Department, honors Paula Tutman for her masterful work in developing, researching, and reporting *Malice Green: Portrait of Injustice*. A pinnacle in her distinguished career, her documentary is must-see TV for Detroiters and all those concerned with the long, hard work of police accountability, community-led oversight of law enforcement, and justice.

The Board thanks Ms. Tutman and extends best wishes for all her future endeavors.

Commissioner Hernandez moved, "that the Board of Police Commissioners adopt this resolution into our archives." The motion was adopted.

B. Certificate of Appreciation for Mr. James Jackson.

VIII. Chief of Police and 5th Precinct Report.

Deputy Chief Arnold Williams reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property and recent critical incidents impacting the DPD and the community.

Commander Jevon Johnson 5th Precinct provided an overview of the police community summit with procedural justice and restorative practices, crime strategies, community programs and initiatives to reduce crimes within the Precinct.

IX. Community Impact Report.

Chief Investigator Jerome Warfield discussed the investigative numbers for the month of July 2024, and the trend that this is the first month in over a year that we have closed over 100 cases in a single month. A direct result of this Board increasing OCI staffing levels. Highlighted from January to July the top allegations from citizens are Procedure, Demeanor, and Service. The vast majority of procedure issues are Body Worn Camera issues. The proposal for enhancements to the Timeliness Initiative Program (TIP) initiated in November 2023 targeting concise investigative report format, which resulted in closure of 282 backlog cases due to the effectiveness of this new tool. The Office of the Chief Investigator will ensure DPD Leadership will receive concrete data concerning emerging trends, which will enable them to offer necessary training opportunities to their officers. September 2024, OCI will go live with a new case management system that will enhance the number of cases we will be able to investigate in an expeditious manner.

Commissioner Hernandez motioned, "that the Board of Police Commissioners adopt the Chief Investigator's proposal for enhancements to the Timeliness Initiative Program (TIP)." The motion was adopted.

X. Oral Communication / Public Comments: Minister Eric Blount, Ms. Taura Brown, Victoria Camille, Election Integrity Roo, Ms. Brenda Butler, Ms. LeJuan Council, Mr. Jahdante Smith, Ms. Angela Cain, Ms. Salena Willis, Ms. Lanorann Jordan, Mr. James Ford, and Ms. Yvonne Jones provided public comments.

XI. Report from Acting Board Secretary Robert Brown / Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:

A. News Article DPD Gun has Resurfaced dated 8-6-23

- B. Directive 304.8 BolaWrap Device
- C. Directive 304.9 Pepperball Launcher
- D. OCI Weekly Inventory Report 07 27 2024_08 02 2024
- E. BOPC Proposed Committees for FY 2024-25

XII. Announcements.

Board Acting Secretary Brown announced the following:

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., at the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., hosted by the 4th Precinct to be held at Kemeny Recreation Center, 2260 S. Fort St., Detroit, MI 48217.

	Monthly Committee Meeting Scheduled for August 2024	
Policy Committee Meeting		Tuesday, August 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

All Committee Meetings are held at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters

XIII. New Business. None.

XIV. Adjournment.

Chairperson Woods adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.