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CITY OF DETROIT

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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

11

November 14, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

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1 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Good evening, everyone. Today is
2 Thursday, November 14th, 2024. It is 6:30 PM. The Board
3 of Police Commissioners is called to order. We have
4 Deputy Chief Chaplain DeShante Irvin on Zoom. You may
5 open us up in prayer.

6 DC CHAPLAIN IRVIN: Thank you, sir. Heavenly Father,
7 we thank you for this day and this time. We ask that you
8 touch this Board of Police Commissioners; that you touch
9 the City of Detroit, and the officers that serve our
10 community. We ask that you allow this meeting to go forth
11 according to your plan and your agenda. Allow them to
12 accomplish what they have come forth to do, and we speak
13 blessings upon all the participants in this meeting and
14 just ask that you will have your way, in Jesus' name,
15 amen.

16 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Amen. At this time, we don't have
17 a quorum, but we expect a quorum very shortly. As soon as
18 we have that, we will get to the business. But until then
19 we're going to ask the secretary to give her report.

20 MS. GARNIER: Chairman Woods, the report this evening
21 is the, excuse me, Office of the Chief Investigator's
22 weekly inventory report for the period November 2nd
23 through November 8th. The announcements this evening are
24 as follows: Our next board meeting is Thursday, November
25 21st, 2024, 3:00 PM, at Detroit Public Safety

1 Headquarters. The next community meeting will be held
2 Thursday, December 12th, 6:30 PM, at Wayne County
3 Community College District, Curtis L. Ivery Campus, which
4 is located at 1001 West Fort Street. The next committee
5 meetings of the board are as follows: Citizen Complaints,
6 Tuesday, November 19th, 3:30 PM, and Budget Committee on
7 Tuesday, November 19th at 4:30 PM. The report and
8 announcement, sir.

9 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you very kindly. Until we
10 get a quorum, we are going to go to oral communications.

11 MS. UNDERWOOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We have seven
12 speakers. The first three speakers will be Mr. Ru, Ms.
13 Glenda McGadney, and Mr. Gregory Moss. Please state your
14 name for the record when you speak.

15 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Are they here? Yep. How are you
16 doing, ma'am? You may be heard. Make sure we keep time
17 properly. Who's keeping the time? Madam Secretary, are we
18 keeping the time?

19 MS. GARNIER: Yes, sir.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay. All right. You may be
21 heard.

22 MS. MCGADNEY: Glenda McGadney from Russell Woods
23 neighborhood, and this is a follow up information. A few
24 weeks ago, I gave information regarding someone in my
25 neighborhood who suffered from mental illness, and I'm

1 really pleased this past Friday, I want to let Officer
2 George, as well as Commissioner Woods know that I came
3 home around 2 o'clock and the individual was out of sorts
4 and I called 911, and within a couple of hours, thank
5 God, two officers came out, they talked to him and saw
6 that he was out of sorts, and then two other cars came.
7 So it was a total of three cars, and he was taken to the
8 hospital. I'm so thankful for that. And as far as I know,
9 he has been evaluated since this past Friday. So I thank
10 you for your prayers and I just wanted to let you know,
11 please continue to pray for our neighborhood. Also, the
12 last thing; some of you may know about Councilman James
13 Tate. He has to protect your Crown Survey. So I ask
14 everybody, they can go on the internet and Google,
15 "Correct your Crown," and they need to do that mental
16 survey. It's about 5,000 individuals who need to respond
17 to that. Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Absolutely. Thank you very
19 kindly. Excellent movement that Councilman Tate has in
20 terms of protecting your crown. Mental health is very,
21 very serious in our community. I did a survey myself and
22 I do encourage everyone to connect with Councilman Tate's
23 office to participate in that. And I'm so happy that you
24 got the response for your community. Thank you for
25 advocating for the gentlemen. Next speaker.

1 MR. MOSS: Good evening, everyone.

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Good evening.

3 MR. MOSS: I'm Gregory Moss, a proud resident in
4 Detroit. I just moved back last year. Did 13 years for
5 college in, well, not all 13 in college, but went to
6 Houston, studied political science with a minor in pre-
7 law. The whole purpose of me up here, because the other
8 day I was harassed by some police officers. They reached
9 in my vehicle, told us to get out, very rude; never asked
10 for ID, never asked for anything besides attitude.
11 Actually in front of my home as well, a brand new car;
12 everything's in order; threatened to tow us. I just want
13 to get an investigation. These police officers I have the
14 time for. What they look like, the partners, two
15 different ethnicities. The type of car they drive,
16 obviously, you know, each color, police car is something
17 different. The reason why I went to Texas to study
18 political science was because of what was going on in the
19 city when I graduated from Cass Tech. And I get back to
20 the city and it's the same thing going on with the
21 officers; very disrespectful, no communication, bullying,
22 harassing, and they chose the right one. I have family
23 members who were on the board. I have a lot of people
24 that, you know, are behind me with this. And I'm going to
25 continue to push this issue because their job is to serve

1 and protect and not bully and harass.

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Absolutely. In fact, if we can
3 have our staff member to stand up and you see our staff
4 member you can do a complaint with her right there.
5 She'll take your complaint.

6 MR. MOSS: Sweet. And it's not a complaint. I think
7 the word complaint is different from making... Like
8 complaining, I'm like trying to advocate something that's
9 annoying. This is not a complaint. This is actually
10 bringing light to an issue. This is an
11 Issue.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Well, we only take citizen
13 complaints, you know, for the Board of Police
14 Commissioners. We take citizen complaints and our
15 investigators investigate them. And you would get a
16 finding from our investigators for sure. If you want...

17 MR. MOSS: Mr. Warfield, right?

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah. But she works for Warfield.
19 She's one of our staff members and she would take your
20 complaint and anything else that we could do to be able
21 to help beyond that, we are here to help you as well.

22 MR. MOSS: I appreciate it.

23 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Alright brother. Yep. Next
24 speaker. If you could take him in the hall. Take care.

25 MR. RU: Good evening everyone. First off, James E.

1 Tate, Jnr. District 1, Detroit City councilman [unclear],
2 is a whole fraud. Now, I spoke to that man for 45 minutes
3 on the phone, and now I want to get to that in a minute.
4 I want to give a big shout out, big shout out to a former
5 chief of police, James E. Craig, because had he not
6 called in the Michigan State Police, I would've never
7 known who owned the bank account that Kaniesha's money
8 went to from the unemployment insurance fraud that was
9 committed against her. And then I also wanted to give
10 congratulations to Mr. Todd Bettison, the new chief of
11 the Detroit Police Department. Now back to James E. Tate
12 Jr. I talked to him for 45 minutes on the phone,
13 explained to him that a small frame individual woman
14 could not take a gun and shoot herself in the left side
15 in the abdomen, through a gunshot wound, no bullet
16 fragments recovered at the scene, no crime scene analysis
17 done. And I don't know how seasoned Homicide
18 investigators and detectives, no gun still on the entry
19 wound, as a matter of fact. And she didn't die from the
20 gunshot wound. She died from blood loss, massive blood
21 loss. She lost 10 liters of blood; they left her to bleed
22 out.

23 Now her 5-year-old daughter, [unclear]; you all have
24 been sitting up here; Darryl Woods, you are in the way,
25 man. You have to go, turn in your resignation now and

1 resign from this board because you went in after the
2 board subpoenaed to request the report, Michigan State
3 Review of the investigation. You went in and said, don't
4 do the subpoena process, instead, sent a letter over to
5 the Michigan State Police and they returned a redacted
6 report.

7 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay, that's time. Thank you.
8 Next speaker.

9 MS. UNDERWOOD: Our next three speakers will be...

10 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Go ahead, yeah.

11 VICE CHAIR SMITH: Okay. Through the Chair. Mr. Ruben
12 Crowley, I've spoken with you several times and I don't
13 know where you're getting your information from, but I
14 did explain to you that I am handling Kaniesha Coleman's
15 case right now. So, if you would just be patient and just
16 let... I understand. But just be patient and I am handling
17 it now. It is in my court. Thank you, sir.

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Next speaker.

19 MS. UNDERWOOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Our next three
20 speakers will be Mr. Jadante Smith, Ms. Williams, and Ms.
21 Fredia Butler.

22 MR. SMITH: Good afternoon. I just want to give a
23 major shout out to the new chief Todd Bettison. I hate to
24 say it like this, but I think this is the best decision
25 the mayor's ever made in his tenure. Happy to see him go.

1 So I appreciate the meeting we just had with Tuskegee,
2 keeping boots on the ground. That was very informative
3 and that was very productive. But I do want to direct my
4 attention to Sherman Lee Butler and the fact that we need
5 some accountability and transparency around that matter.
6 The city of... can't think what city, but there's a John
7 Zook, Jnr... The City of Wayne. Kym Worthy, and the City of
8 Wayne, just decided not to release the body cam footage
9 in that shooting, which was another mentally ill
10 individual, called the police and was killed by the
11 police. You know, this is technically not a police
12 shooting, but police were present.

13 We'd like to see that video. I feel like this is a
14 stand that the city can make. This is a stand that we can
15 make for a positive accord. Under the last
16 administration, I'm not going to talk bad about him, but
17 under the last administration, we were not able to get
18 this video. It would be nice to get this video. I also
19 want to turn my attention to Sergeant Dowdy in Homicide.
20 I'm going to talk about Sergeant Dowdy every single time
21 I come here. There's a complaint against Sergeant Dowdy.
22 I want to talk about Sergeant Dowdy. He's a Homicide
23 sergeant, and he is very rude to victims of homicide
24 family members. And I feel like in a tragedy, when
25 somebody loses their life, that's the time that you want

1 to be as careful with the person and as steadfast a
2 person as you can be. And we have people who are not
3 taking care of victims of homicide families. I think
4 that's a very important thing we should talk about. And
5 also, I just want to give another shout out to Chief
6 Bettison.

7 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you very kindly. We'll take
8 this last one and then we will have a quorum. Go ahead.

9 MS. WILLIAMS: Hello everyone. My name is Charnita
10 Williams and I'm here to speak about the homeless people.
11 I've been speaking about this quite some time. There are
12 26 shelters in the City of Detroit, and they receive over
13 75 million every year. The homeless shelter is for the
14 homeless people, not for the people who have the means to
15 pay rent. Officers are taking advantage of this and it
16 cannot go on. It's unfortunate that they do not comply
17 with the laws and they carry badges. It's like they are
18 so arrogant; like, they are above the law and they do not
19 have to comply because they have a badge. It's not
20 acceptable, period. And this is going on; there are 26
21 shelters, like I stated before, and there are 26
22 directors. Everybody is involved. This could not be going
23 on. Like when I went to the second precinct today, there
24 were 6, no, 11 scooters. This is how they get
25 transferred. I mean, get back and forth. They have to use

1 their credit cards. They get on a list. They order from
2 Amazon. That's why they have the garbage sanitation
3 department come and dump that trash every day at these
4 facilities. It's not acceptable, period. And they are not
5 just living there. Chauncey is an officer. His
6 grandfather was an officer. He's working at the facility
7 where I'm, and apparently he doesn't know that stalking
8 is illegal. He used his personal device to record me
9 live. That's illegal. Stalking and endangering my life
10 constantly. It's an issue. It's an issue with police
11 officers paying the citizens to stalk me through the city
12 and continue to endanger my life. And how are they doing
13 that? Swiping and paying from the dollar stores. All this
14 is illegal, federal stuff. Something needs to be done.
15 It's not acceptable.

16 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Alright, thank you. We now have a
17 quorum. Please call the roll.

18 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Woods - Present.

19 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Smith - Present.

20 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Bernard - Attorney Linda
21 Bernard, District 2. Welcome everyone, present.

22 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Banks - Present, District
23 3.

24 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Bell, excused.

25 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Burton -

1 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Carter, excused.

2 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Moore - Present, District
3 7.

4 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Hernandez is excused.

5 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Pressley - Here.

6 MS. GARNIER: Commissioner Dewaelsche - Present.

7 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Alright. We have a quorum. I want
8 to entertain a motion for the approval of the agenda, but
9 with the amendment to add, I believe it's four
10 certificates and four resolutions.

11 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Five. Mr. Chair.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Five resolutions or five
13 certificates?

14 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Yes, sir. And can I read them
15 all?

16 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah, absolutely.

17 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Through the Chair. Those
18 resolutions are for the school at Marygrove, Principal
19 Lisa Williams, Mumford High School, Mr. Damon Pitt,
20 Renaissance High School, and Miranda Straw. So I'd like
21 to make a motion to amend the agenda with those
22 additions. Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Motion made by Commissioner
24 Moore.

25 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Second.

1 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Second by Commissioner Bernard.

2 Any discussion? All in favor say aye.

3 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is
5 carried. I entertain a motion for the approval of the
6 minutes for November 7th, 2024.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So moved.

8 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Support.

9 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Moved by Commissioner Bernard and
10 supported by Commissioner Dewaelsche. All in favor say
11 aye.

12 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

13 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Mr. Chair, I would like to amend
14 the motion.

15 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: For the minutes?

16 COMMISSIONER BANKS: For the approval of today's
17 agenda.

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: That's been voted out already.
19 It's for the minutes.

20 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Oh.

21 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: This is for the minutes.

22 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Oh, okay.

23 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yep.

24 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I'm sorry.

25 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah. And all in favor say, well,

1 hold on. Any discussion? All in favor say aye.

2 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

3 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is
4 carried. I entertained a motion for the approval of the
5 minutes of the public session, oh, that was a public
6 session. I entertain a motion for the closed session for
7 November 7th, 2024.

8 COMMISSIONER SMITH: So moved.

9 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Second.

10 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Moved by Commissioner Smith, and
11 second by Commissioner Bernard.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Any discussion? All in favor say
13 aye.

14 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

15 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is
16 carried. Let's go to the introduction of the BOPC staff,
17 Chief of Police and all Elected Officials.

18 MS. GARNIER: Mr. Chair, currently we have Chief
19 Investigator Jerome Warfield, Attorney Dante Goss, Mr.
20 Robert Brown, Ms. Teresa Blossom, Ms. Jonya Underwood,
21 Ms. Candace Hayes, Ms. Artemisia Joshua, Ms. Mary Barber,
22 Ms. Jasmine Taylor, Ms. Felicia Tyson, and Mr. Drew
23 Fries. Supervising Investigator LiSonya Sloan of OCI, our
24 ASL interpreter on Zoom this evening is Dr. Stephanie
25 Beatty, court reporter on Handyside, Charles Henry from

1 Media Services and Chief of Police, Todd Bettison.
2 Elected Officials, Marie Overall from State
3 Representative Tyrone Carter's Office, Ms. Fredia Butler,
4 with Second Precinct Community Relations and former
5 Commissioner William Davis are on Zoom. I'm sorry.

6 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yep. All right. Thank you very
7 kindly. So this evening, we are in the Second Precinct,
8 and the Rec leader here at Adam Butzel is Mr. Andre
9 Harris. Is Mr. Harris in the room? He's not in the room,
10 but we want to thank him and appreciate him for opening
11 up the doors and for his great hospitality, and for the
12 Adam Butzel staff. The president of the second Precinct
13 Community Relations Council is Ms. Fredia Butler. Ms.
14 Butler, can you please provide a brief welcome at this
15 time? And she's an angel. Isn't she looking good in that
16 green? Come on.

17 MS. BUTLER: Good afternoon.

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Good afternoon.

19 MS. BUTLER: And welcome commissioners to the 7th
20 District. It's not on.

21 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: They're turning it up. You
22 can go right ahead; they're turning it up.

23 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yep. Alright, go ahead.

24 MS. BUTLER: I am welcoming you commissioners to the
25 7th District, and I am to introduce our commander at the

1 Second Precinct. Within any successful business group or
2 organization that carries out its duties and
3 responsibilities, there must be an effective leader.
4 There are certain qualities and skills that a great
5 leader possesses; vision, commitment, compassion,
6 dedication, and is a great listener. A great leader is
7 one who will not only give an assignment, but when
8 necessary becomes a part of the team to get the job done.
9 Commissioners, our Commander O'Rourke came to the Second
10 Precinct as Captain Anthony O'Rourke in September, 2023,
11 and was promoted to commander in November, 2023. So, you
12 see, he's new. Commissioners, in life things happen and
13 setbacks as President Biden said that they are
14 unavoidable, but giving up is unforgettable. And I
15 believe our Commander, Anthony O'Rourke, is going to work
16 and become one of the best commanders to ever serve at
17 the Second Precinct. Commissioners and members let's
18 welcome Commander Anthony O'Rourke to this meeting for
19 District 7.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: I don't know if he speaks. On the
21 agenda, does he speak now or, I don't, yeah, have a seat.

22 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Okay. I agree with you,
23 commissioner. She is an angel.

24 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: She is an angel, yes. Within the
25 Second Precinct, there's overlap of Districts 1, 2, 6,

1 and 7. Wow. This is a big District. He's got all of them.
2 Like I know you will. She's actually an angel. So
3 Commissioner Smith representing District 1, Commissioner
4 Bernard, representing District 2, Commissioner Carter,
5 representing District 6, and Commissioner Moore,
6 representing District 7. And so we're going to let them
7 give a welcome as well. Commissioner Smith.

8 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Do you want me to do the
9 certificates now?

10 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: You can wait and give your
11 greetings when you do that. That's good. We'll save some
12 time by switching to Geico.

13 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Okay.

14 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: So, Commissioner Bernard.

15 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I just want to say to
16 everyone, welcome. I'm glad it's not a cold evening, like
17 what we usually have in November, and it's a pleasant
18 evening. And so we all got here safe and sound. I'd
19 particularly like to acknowledge all of the sworn
20 officers in the room, and especially our new Chief, Todd
21 Bettison.

22 He is not just a friend to the community, he is an
23 advocate for the community. And as you all know, as
24 Deputy Mayor, he dispensed millions of dollars into the
25 community that have buttressed the City of Detroit. The

1 commission is actively trying to address all of the
2 issues that the community may have with respect to law
3 enforcement. And Chief Bettison has been our partner in
4 that regard. So I urge you to contact me or any of us if
5 you have any issues and so forth. I try to address them
6 both theoretically, if you will, through the commission,
7 as well as an attorney. So thank you for having us this
8 evening. I mean this place keeps improving. You've
9 invested even more resources in this building since the
10 last time I was here. And it's really great to see all
11 the young people outside and going back and forth between
12 the gymnasiums and so forth. And most importantly, it's
13 important that it's safe. And I want to thank all of you
14 gentlemen, standing to the right and sitting in front of
15 me for that. Thank you very much. God bless you all, and
16 that's all I have to say. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Thank you, Commissioner Bernard.
18 Thank you. And Commissioner Moore, do we have any words
19 from you today?

20 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Yes, Madam Vice Chair. On behalf
21 of the residents of District 7, as a whole, which
22 includes the Second, Sixth and Tenth Precincts, we
23 appreciate you. As always, we have the best turnouts
24 here. You know, I'm not making that up. The Second
25 Precinct always represents. So I just want to say thank

1 you for coming out and your input is always encouraged.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: You all did run out of candy for
4 the trunk or treat. You all had a phenomenal trunk or
5 treat and great community service. But you served
6 thousands of people and it was amazing. Thank you guys
7 for being a blessing to the community like that as well.
8 I want to give our condolences to one of our staff
9 members. Her mother passed away, Angela Cox, and to say
10 that we send our sincere condolences to her and we, as a
11 commission, are praying for her. And we ask the community
12 to pray for our staff member Angela Cox. And we are
13 sending a lot of love and prayers in her direction. Let's
14 go to the c Certificate of Appreciation first, and then
15 we'll go to the resolutions. The certificate should be...
16 They are going to be done in one swoop, right?

17 COMMISSIONER SMITH: The swoop is Zack, a swoop it.

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Swoop it.

19 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Thank you, sir.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yep.

21 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Thank you. I'm Commissioner
22 Tamara Liberty Smith and I joined the Second Precinct for
23 the trunk or treat, and we had a phenomenal time, almost
24 like a whole block party inside of here. We had a great
25 time, but I want to give you some certificates today to

1 show you my appreciation for all that you do for the
2 community. So is Jennifer Tyler, Neighborhood Police
3 Officer present today? Okay. Moving along. And I have,
4 who is my police mom, Colette Burkes-Weathers. Is she
5 present today?

6 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Oh yeah.

7 COMMISSIONER SMITH: That's my mama, and she knows I
8 love her and I appreciate everything. I also have
9 Neighborhood Police Officer Todd Eves. Sergeant Edward
10 Jackson. Now we really had a good time.

11 SERGEANT JACKSON: Thank you, ma'am.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah, absolutely.

13 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: You're very welcome.

14 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Neighborhood Police Officer
15 Lorenzo Hampton. Where's my dance off battler?
16 Neighborhood Police Officer Errol Franklin.

17 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Now that's my favorite NPO in all
18 of the departments.

19 Franklin is not present, but I'm sure his colleagues
20 will get it back to him. Commander Anthony O'Rourke. The
21 Demolition Department for the City of Detroit, and I'm
22 sure Adam Butzel and First Weathers will get that to
23 them. And for the Adam Butzel complex. Also, you will get
24 that to them. Andre Harris, the supervisor, I think he
25 isn't present today, but they also will get that to him.

1 And Captain Robert Mitchell, who is also enjoying his
2 32nd wedding anniversary. And anyone who could stay
3 married for 32 years, I'm especially proud of him.

4 But this right here is a dedicated community member
5 who has a relationship with the Second Precinct; who was
6 fatally wounded on his motorcycle while traveling on 75 a
7 few days ago. He's known in the community. He's loved by
8 many, his dedication, hard work, and loving spirit. I
9 would like to recognize him today and his family, his
10 wife who is present. This is to Mr. Anthony, who is
11 affectionately known as Hard Life Dorsey to the Soul
12 Devils Motorcycle Club. Are you present? Can you please
13 stand?

14 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Absolutely. Alright. Thank you
15 very much. Commissioner Bernard, are they taking a
16 picture? Okay. Yes, ma'am.

17 COMMISSIONER SMITH: I'm sorry. I was just aware that
18 Ms. Pernell and Ms. [Unclear]. I'm sorry, Ms. [Unclear].
19 And Ms. Camille, thank you for your service for passing
20 candy out during the trunk or treat. We had a great time.
21 Thank you so much. I'm sorry I wasn't aware that you were
22 here, but my apologies. Thank you so much, ma'am.

23 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Commissioner Bernard, if you need
24 any help reading the resolution, let us know. You got it?

25 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: My glasses aren't cooperating.

1 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay. Yeah, right.

2 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: My resolutions... First of all,
3 let me see if any of the persons... We will approve the
4 resolutions through a vote of the board. I want to see if
5 the individuals are here. Is there anyone here from
6 Renaissance High School? Come on up and you're going to
7 be first. I, ladies and gentlemen, chose to honor those
8 people who made all of us who we are here today. And that
9 is teachers and educational institutions that are in
10 District 2. So, I actually have a resolution for several
11 schools, but I mention them if they're not here, we're
12 only going to pay attention to those that matter, that
13 they can't. So therefore this is a resolution. First of
14 all, I'm going to, and the real resolution you're going
15 to get is going to come in a big frame and everything
16 like that. And it's a board resolution. And this is the
17 resolution honoring Renaissance High School, from which I
18 hope we get lots of recruits. Renaissance High School is
19 one of Detroit's premier high schools. It's actually
20 number one in the city. Renaissance High is accredited by
21 the north,

22 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: On a point of order. Could I ask
23 everyone to be silent as she speaks. Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Can you read that first part

1 again? Thank you so very much.

2 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Oh, okay. We've got an
3 alumnus. Why don't you come up here with me? Renaissance
4 High School is one of Detroit's premier high schools, and
5 I said, it's actually number one. It used to be Cass, now
6 it's Renaissance. Thank you. Renaissance High School is
7 accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges
8 and Schools, and offers a rigorous college preparatory
9 curriculum within a collegiate like setting; with a
10 population of slightly over 1200 students, a cross
11 section of socioeconomic backgrounds is represented, and
12 it is comprised of 66% of females, yes, and 34% males. We
13 have to do better guys. Renaissance High Schools is one
14 of the five examination high schools in the Detroit
15 Public Schools Community District. Eighth grade students
16 from within and outside of the District, private,
17 charter, and parochial schools are eligible to apply.
18 Selection is based on a completed application, which
19 includes recommendations, a student written essay, and
20 passing the high school placement test. Students are
21 expected to maintain at least a 2.5 GPA to remain at
22 Renaissance High School; and,

23 WHEREAS Academically, Renaissance High School
24 students perform above the State and national averages.
25 Their average SAT composite score is 1012, which exceeds

1 the State and national averages. The advanced placement
2 report to the nation cited Renaissance High as having the
3 most African American students in the world to
4 successfully pass the advanced placement English
5 Literature and Composition exam. Yay. Team

6 Renaissance was recognized as a State and National
7 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. And in the last several
8 years, US News and World Report has awarded Renaissance
9 their silver medal in the annual list of America's best
10 high schools; and, WHEREAS Renaissance High School excels
11 not only academically, but also athletically boasting an
12 award-winning program. The school's athletic achievements
13 are numerous and impressive to mention. A few, the Girls
14 Track team and field team have secured, I'm sorry, 10
15 state championships for the Boys Basketball Team,
16 clenched State Championships in 2003 and 2006, along with
17 a division title in 2014; and,

18 WHEREAS Renaissance High School has a renowned and
19 world travel vocal and instrumental music department,
20 students have performed in London, Spain, Africa,
21 Toronto, and Carnegie Hall in New York. We also offer a
22 nationally recognized dance program that emphasizes
23 training in various modern and ballet techniques.

24 The visual arts department has received numerous
25 recognitions on the local and State level, including

1 being featured at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

2 Additionally, the Studio Arts program provides students
3 with the opportunity to expand their talents in drawing,
4 painting, photography, and graphics.

5 Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Detroit
6 Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the
7 citizens of the great City of Detroit, recognizes and
8 honors the lifelong contributions and commitment to
9 excellence in public service by Renaissance High School.
10 Their display of excellence and unwavering community
11 spirit has improved the quality of life for the citizens
12 of Detroit. We wish you, Madam Principle, who we're going
13 to address in one minute, the best in your future
14 endeavors.

15 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: What is the pleasure of the
16 board?

17 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: I move that we adopt this
18 resolution into our archives.

19 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Second.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: A motion made by Commissioner
21 Pressley, second by Commissioner Moore to approve the
22 resolution to go into our archives. Any discussion? All
23 in favor say aye.

24 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

25 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is

1 carried. Come on. Let's give them a round of applause.

2 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Now, everyone in this room
3 knows, in order to have great results, you have to have a
4 great leader. So the young lady standing to my left is
5 Verynda Stroughter. Did I say it correctly? Yes.
6 Stroughter. Okay. Stroughter. And her resolution reads as
7 follows:

8 WHEREAS The Principal of Renaissance High School,
9 Verynda Stroughter, has been an educator since 1997. She
10 holds a bachelor's and master's degree from the
11 University of Michigan and actuarial science and
12 secondary Mathematics education respectively. She also
13 has a specialist degree from Eastern Michigan University
14 in Education Administration; and,

15 WHEREAS Her professional career began as a
16 mathematics teacher, my worst subject. She taught
17 mathematics for 15 years at Macomb County Community
18 College and into the Detroit Public Schools. Mrs. Stroud
19 took her first, first administrative job at Cass Tech as
20 an assistant principal, followed by her being an
21 assistant principal at Seaborne High School in
22 Birmingham.

23 Finally, she landed her dream job as principal of
24 Renaissance High School in 2018; and WHEREAS Ms.
25 Stroughter's husband Lawrence is also a high school

1 principal at Hamtramck High School. Together, they have
2 three young adult sons, Miles, Dylan, pardon me, Dylan
3 and Lincoln. Miles is a graduate of Renaissance High and
4 currently a junior at Morehouse College in Atlanta. Dylan
5 and Lincoln are students at Renaissance High. All right,
6 we'll give Morehouse, so like, okay. Dylan and Lincoln
7 are students at Renaissance High School, currently. In
8 her spare time, Mrs. Stroughter enjoys spending time with
9 her family and friends, entertaining, traveling and
10 watching sports, especially college football. So do I.

11 WHEREAS Verynda is involved in her community as a
12 member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., where she has
13 dedicated more than 30 years of active membership serving
14 on various committees and leadership roles.

15 She is also a member of the Jack and Jill Club of
16 America, Detroit chapter, where she has been involved
17 since 2012 with the local chapter most recently as a two
18 term president, and has served on several regional
19 committees; and,

20 WHEREAS Mrs. Stroughter has dedicated her life to
21 serving children in the metro Detroit area, she serves as
22 a mentor to many as she is dedicated to the success
23 matriculation and aptitude of all with whom she
24 encounters. Verynda is committed to all students and
25 their academic and social and emotional success. She is

1 100% committed to the growth and maturity of students
2 becoming the best young adults they can be. Now
3 therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Police
4 Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the
5 great City of Detroit, recognizes and honors the lifelong
6 contributions and commitment to excellence in public
7 service of Verynda Stroughter. Her display of courage and
8 unwavering community spirit has improved the quality of
9 life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you the best in
10 your future endeavors.

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: What is the pleasure of the
12 board?

13 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Mr. Chair, I move that we
14 adopt this resolution into our archives.

15 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Support.

16 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Motion made by Commissioner
17 Pressley to adopt this resolution into our archives.
18 Second by Commissioner Dewaelsche. All in favor say aye.

19 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Any discussion, or should I say
21 any discussion? I should have said that first. Anyone
22 opposed? The motion is carried. Congratulations. I think
23 we should stand up for the...

24 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: With your permission, Mr.
25 Chairman, may our former Chair Reverend Pressley come up

1 Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you. And
2 congratulations on all of your success.

3 MS. STROUGHTER: Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: You're going to get these in
5 big frames with a lot of decoration, but these are just
6 the printed ones. This is your alumni.

7 MRS. STROUGHTER: Okay. Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you for your dedicated
9 service.

10 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: The next...

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Go ahead, Commissioner Banks.

12 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair. Thank you. I
13 just want to say Dr. Pressley, that's you, Morehouse. I
14 heard Morehouse. I heard that magic name. That's you, Dr.
15 Pressley.

16 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah. Yep.

17 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Is anyone here representing
18 Mumford High School? Good old Mumford. Come on. I guess
19 they didn't make it. We'll make it at the next meeting,
20 Mr. Chairman. I'll read the resolution. And then finally,
21 we have for today... We have resolutions as well, ladies
22 and gentlemen, if you want to come to next Thursday's
23 meeting, we're given one to the University of Detroit
24 High School for Boys, which is one of the most phenomenal
25 academies in the country. So I urge you to come and

1 listen, and brother, I've forgotten his last name now.
2 He's appearing personally with the principal and everyone
3 else. So the final resolution; we can't do Mumford today,
4 is Marygrove. Anybody from Marygrove?

5 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: There they go. Beautiful school
6 too.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Okay. Marygrove School. You
8 guys know where Marygrove is? It's right over there on
9 Six Mile. It's actually the most beautiful campus in the
10 city because it's so stately and everything is real
11 marble and real, you know mahogany in it, it's just
12 great. But anyway, this is a resolution honoring, it's
13 called the School at Marygrove.

14 WHEREAS The school at Marygrove develops critical
15 thinkers and community minded citizens who have the
16 skills and knowledge to be makers, I'm sorry to be, yeah,
17 makers and leaders in the 21st century. The social
18 justice and engineering focus enables students to
19 identify and solve complex problems, actively
20 participating in the creation of a more just and
21 equitable future. Every graduate will be prepared to
22 pursue their passions and succeed in any personal and
23 professional endeavors; and,

24 WHEREAS This school at Marygrove will eventually
25 serve grades K through 12, and has been adding grades

1 each year since it opened in 2019. The school at
2 Marygrove is one school housed in two buildings on the
3 beautiful Marygrove campus; and,

4 WHEREAS The school at Marygrove is part of the
5 Marygrove Learning Community, a Detroit P20 partnership.
6 That includes DPSCD DPSD, Starfish Family Services,
7 Kresge Foundation, Marygrove Conservancy, and the
8 University of Michigan School of Education; and,

9 WHEREAS What makes Marygrove unique is the K 12
10 focus on engineering principles and practice social
11 justice oriented curriculum. Extensive and extended
12 support from college admissions through college
13 graduation elementary and high school, and first
14 robotics.

15 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

16 That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners,
17 speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great City of
18 Detroit, recognizes and honors the lifelong contributions
19 and commitment to excellence in public service of the
20 School of Marygrove. Their display of courage and
21 unwavering community support has improved the quality of
22 life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you the best in
23 your future endeavors. We thank and congratulate you. The
24 School of Marygrove

25 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: What is the pleasure of the

1 board?

2 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Through the Chair, I move
3 that we adopt this resolution in our archives.

4 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Motion made by Commissioner
5 Pressley.

6 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Second.

7 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Second by Commissioner Moore. Any
8 discussion? All in favor say aye.

9 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

10 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is
11 carried. Marygrove.

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: This again, leadership is the
13 key to success. This is a resolution for the principal,
14 Lisa Williams, the young woman standing to my right.

15 WHEREAS Lisa Williams, the principal of the School of
16 Marygrove, a P20 Partners partnership program helps. It's
17 in a unique public education institution in Detroit, and
18 it has a distinguished and multifaceted career. Oh, she
19 has a distinct multifaceted career in education spanning
20 over 26 years. Her journey began with a deep passion for
21 teaching, motivating and leading, and has continued to
22 evolve as she gains invaluable experience in various
23 educational activities and titles. Her career began as an
24 English Language arts teacher at Martin Luther King
25 Junior High School in Detroit Public Schools, where she

1 honed her teaching skills before moving to the Oak Park
2 School District. There she had several key roles,
3 including ELA teacher, the department chair, pardon me,
4 and Dean of Students.

5 These positions allowed her to develop a strong
6 foundation in leadership, which she later carried into
7 her roles as assistant principal and principal in both
8 the Ferndale Public Schools and Van Dyke Public Schools
9 Districts.

10 WHEREAS In addition to her work in schools,
11 principal Williams also served as a school improvement
12 consultant with Wayne RESA for one year further expanding
13 her impact on the educational landscape. Throughout her
14 career, she has worked with a wide range of diverse
15 students and families. And her focus on building strong
16 relationships with students, staff, parents, and
17 community stakeholders has been a key driver to her
18 success. She's deeply committed to fostering high
19 achievement, maintaining a safe school environment, and
20 ensuring equitable learning opportunities for all
21 students; and,

22 WHEREAS Principal Williams is a proud, two-time
23 alumnus of Western Michigan University, where she earned
24 both her bachelor's degree in secondary education,
25 English and a Master's in Education leadership. Her

1 commitment to excellence was recognized in 2013 when she
2 received the College of Education and Human Development
3 Golden Apple Award. In 2023, she was appointed to the
4 board of trustees for Western Michigan University by
5 Governor Gretchen Whitmer. That's important. She can get
6 your kids into school. I'm a former region of Eastern
7 Michigan University. I just want you to understand the
8 essence of this, and as a region emeritus, I can contact
9 the president and I can get people admitted that's just
10 part of what she does.

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Amen.

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So I want everybody to be
13 aware of that, okay.

14 Outside of her professional achievements, Principal
15 Williams is a dedicated mother to two sons, Deonte
16 Roberts and Jordan Williams. She enjoys spending quality
17 time with them, cherishing the balance between her career
18 and family life. Her vision as an educator remains clear
19 to create a learning environment that fosters continuous
20 improvement and provides equitable educational
21 opportunities for every student. You are a bad sister.

22 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: What is the pleasure of the
23 board?

24 COMMISSIONER DEWAELSCHÉ: Move for adoption.

25 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Support.

1 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Motion made by Commissioner
2 Dewaelsche to adopt this resolution for the archives and
3 support it by Commissioner Moore. Any discussion? All in
4 favor say aye.

5 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is
7 carried. Come on. Let's stand up and give her a round of
8 applause.

9 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
10 thank you for allowing us to honor those who all of us,
11 all of our success to. And that is teachers. Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Absolutely. And principals, thank
13 you; both of you principals, we thank you very much.
14 We'll make sure that Dr. Viti will get a copy of this and
15 the president of the school board, and share it with the
16 board of education. We deeply thank you. We understand
17 that the more you can educate our children and empower
18 our children, give them the tools, they don't have to go
19 see this guy, you know? Well, they see them anyway in a
20 positive way too, though. Commissioner Moore, you had
21 something? Okay. All right. Thank you very kindly. Again
22 one more round of applause. I want to recognize former
23 city council member Rory McAllister is here as well.
24 Thank you for being here. You are always present. Thank
25 you so much. God bless. Let's go to the Chief Police

1 Report.

2 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Good evening, to the board.
3 Through the Chair, it's definitely my pleasure to be
4 here. And so as I start with my remarks, I just really
5 want to thank the board, you know, for all the support
6 that I've received from you, not just in this role, but
7 even as deputy mayor and over the years. I'm going to
8 thank you on behalf of the men and women of the Detroit
9 Police Department, and especially our supervisory staff,
10 and just even the officers as well, because with the
11 power of the board and the oversight of the board and
12 your mission you know, I really understand that and
13 respect that. And so I just want to let you know, for me,
14 I get that. The board approves all promotions; the board
15 approves the budget. Thank you. The board approves, has a
16 say in the discipline, you know? And so, I just thank you
17 for your role. And then to the community, you know, I'm
18 giving the board the flowers because the board meets
19 every week. Now, I know a lot about boards, right? And I
20 don't know of a board, I haven't found another board that
21 meets every week. And that is consistent and always here
22 and is really accountable to the public. And so I'm just
23 giving you all flowers because, in my role as deputy
24 mayor, I have seen a lot of boards, and a lot of stuff
25 like that. And one of the things that a lot of folks

1 don't know is this board does not get paid either. And
2 then you have a staff that you manage, and you have a lot
3 of reports that you read from the Detroit Police
4 Department, and you take in the citizen complaints, et
5 cetera. So, I just say thank you to the board. And under
6 my administration as chief, you know, I believe in
7 transparency. Of course, it is well known how much I
8 believe in the community. And whether you call yourself
9 an activist or an influencer, or just a community member
10 who's involved and cares about your block club, your
11 streets, and who's sitting in the audience, and, you
12 know, there are a lot of folks who sit here and who
13 repeatedly come. Like Ms. Parnell. I met Ms. Parnell at a
14 board meeting at 1300 Beaubien. And I was a police
15 officer when I met Ms. Parnell. And Ms. Parnell was not
16 happy with the Detroit Police Department that day. And
17 they asked me to go out there and talk to Ms. Parnell.
18 And I did; and we established that relationship, and she
19 has become a strong advocate and been supporting us ever
20 since. I want to give it up to that angel in the green
21 over there. Ms. Fredia Butler, who is a freedom fighter.
22 And you know, how we talk about, as deputy mayor bragged
23 about how clean the city was and from blight to beauty,
24 Ms. Fredia Butler had her foot in our butt. She made sure
25 that in this area right here with the auto repair shops;

1 she was all Mayor Duggan's in head like, let's get this
2 done.

3 But she supports the Detroit Police Department, she
4 supports us, and she's always here. So I just wanted to
5 give those remarks, just to give you an insight that
6 under my administration, I'm going to work hand in hand
7 with this board. And so, of course, there will be things
8 that, you know, we have a difference of opinion on, but
9 know that my heart, and that it's not going to be a whole
10 bunch; it's not going to be a lot of daylight in between.
11 You know, I respect your role. I respect the oversight
12 and for the community. You know, one time I even went on
13 a trip with them when I was, I think I was a deputy
14 chief. I went to one of the NACOLE trips, and I presented
15 with Linda Carter, you know, I presented. So this board
16 right here, which was established by the late great Mayor
17 Coleman Young.

18 I think it's the oldest board in the country; it's
19 the oldest oversight board in the country. And so we have
20 something special here where folks look at the City of
21 Detroit. And what we have; and I lift up the board when
22 you talk about the relationship between our law
23 enforcement, our Detroit Police department, and the
24 community. And then that trust is just so strong. And so,
25 I know I probably went a little bit along with my

1 remarks, but I just want folks to really know where I'm
2 coming from. I am so happy to be back in this uniform. I
3 enjoyed being deputy mayor. I had a good time. You all
4 saw me on TV smiling all the time.

5 But when the mayor said, you have an opportunity to
6 be chief of police, and would you like to go back? That
7 was an irresistible deal to be able to come back with my
8 brothers and sisters over here and work with you all.
9 Yes, a resounding yes. And so Mr. Chair, I would like to
10 turn it over to Captain O'Rourke, who has the full
11 endorsement of Ms. Fredia Butler. So, I guess you're
12 doing a good job. I don't know, but I think if she says
13 you're doing a good job, you're doing a good job.

14 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Absolutely. Thank you very
15 kindly. First, any questions or comments to the chief?
16 Any commissioners?

17 COMMISSIONER BANK: To Chief Bettison, you mean?

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah.

19 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay. Once again, through the
20 Chair, Chief Bettison, congratulations on your promotion;
21 and just know that promotion comes from God. It says that
22 in the Bible promotion comes from God. You're a believer.
23 So yes, you probably know that. But anyway, update on the
24 Jameson Williams case. Any updates.

25 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: So, I met with the

1 prosecutor yesterday, Prosecutor Worthy. And so with the
2 criminal aspect of it, she's still reviewing that. And it
3 will be, you know, I can't speak for her, but I don't
4 think it'll take too long to wrap that piece of it up.
5 And then from an internal standpoint, we have IA
6 conducting their investigations. And what I can say is,
7 you know I'll get a full briefing tomorrow. I'm going to
8 be looking at videos myself. I'm going to be looking
9 through all of that. But one of the things I will say is,
10 you know, there were some things done wrong, on behalf of
11 some department members from a preliminary view of just
12 what I'm... But I haven't had the full briefing. But
13 understand when I got this job as Chief of Police, sir,
14 you know what folks said?

15 They said, you have a big job. They said, you have a
16 big job, young man. They said, you know, we are going to
17 be praying for you. I said, you know, I do. But this
18 morning when I woke up, God said, you got a tough job.
19 But I'm made out of tough stuff. And one thing that makes
20 it not so tough is when you do the right thing, and you
21 treat everybody the same; you call balls and strikes
22 like, with a football game, the referee has to call it
23 like it is. And so just because the referee might be from
24 Detroit, and they are playing in Detroit, and the referee
25 is a Lions fan, the referee still has to call those texts

1 and throw the flags on the field. And that keeps the
2 integrity of everything how it's supposed to be. And so
3 what I'm telling you is you know, after I get my full
4 review and get the complete investigation, the board will
5 be briefed.

6 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay? Go ahead.

7 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Coming in today, I was
8 listening to WJR. Jameson Williams was on WJR today;
9 we're talking about the game that came up on Sunday last
10 week. He made 60 yards of forward progress in the game.
11 So it's something that the community is very interested
12 in, and they're all for him. That's all I can say, and as
13 a footballer.

14 CHIEF BETTISON Hey, look, go Lions.

15 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Go lions, old Jameson.

16 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Through the Chair.

17 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yes.

18 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: So this is to Chief Bettison.
19 I was always instructed growing up that nobody is liked
20 by everybody. But I don't know if that applies to you,
21 honestly, because in several conversations that I've had
22 over numbers of communities and social economic levels, I
23 mean, you are well received in this community. And I
24 believe that that speaks to your character, your
25 integrity and your reputation. But I know that sometimes

1 titles can overshadow personas, if you will. And I mean,
2 you are the chief of police. And I recognize that that's
3 going to come with its arrows, its criticisms and the
4 like. But I do find faith and confidence in the fact that
5 even in your remarks today that transparency will
6 continue to be a mainstay of the department. The respect
7 and valuing of community input and involvement into
8 ensuring that we have effective policing and to know the
9 value of oversight and the work that we do. And so while
10 I know that at the beginning of anything, it's a lot of
11 love and salutation that is given, I trust, you know,
12 that it gets rough and tight, you know, here as we move
13 forward that we do have a willing partner to work with.

14 And so I did want to share that again, from, like I
15 said, almost every level and stage of community
16 representation in the city that we are behind you and
17 that we're hoping your leadership will continue to excel
18 the type of police department we have in the city.

19 Detroit. Thank you, Chair.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you very kindly. Captain.

21 MALE SPEAKER: Commander.

22 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah. He calls you captain. I
23 don't know all that stripe stuff, man. Commander?

24 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Yes. Thank you. We just
25 celebrated Veterans Day on

1 Monday. As a veteran myself of 28 years.

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you for your service.

3 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: I'd like to extend thank you to
4 the [unclear].

5 Now, I'm saying I'm very humbled by Ms. Butler's
6 previous comments. I'm glad that we have such a great
7 relationship and we think that's out of love and respect
8 for each other. Ms. Butler is a model of passion and hard
9 work that should be emulated by everybody. Right? And I
10 would like to publicly thank her for everything she has
11 done at the Second Precinct. Thank you very much Ms.
12 Butler.

13 Quick overview of the Second Precinct. It's roughly
14 10 square miles and has well over 50,000 residents. We
15 are committed to a high level of service for the citizens
16 of the Second Precinct. I'd like to give you a quick
17 example, and I'm not hating anybody. I think friendly
18 competition is very healthy in this atmosphere. For
19 priority one, calls for service, the Second Precinct is
20 ranked 4th out of 11 for volume, right? Very high
21 towards the top. As far as our rank for response time, we
22 are also number 4, which means we are the 4th quickest
23 out of the 11, which is definitely where we are going
24 above and beyond making sure that we are servicing the
25 citizens in the Second Precinct in a timely fashion. Just

1 for the record, we've serviced over 9,000 priority-one
2 calls for service so far year to date. The City of
3 Detroit is experiencing historic crime reduction numbers.
4 Since being at number two, I have been focused on the
5 violence reduction that plagued the Second Precinct in
6 2023. So far for 2024, the City of Detroit has recorded
7 40 less murders than last year. The Second Precinct has
8 contributed to a reduction of 7 to that 40. The city of
9 Detroit so far, year to date, has had 164 less non-fatal
10 shootings before 2024 compared to 2023. The Second
11 Precinct has contributed a reduction of 42 to that
12 number. So we are over a quarter of that reduction.

13 Our detectives and officers and our investigative
14 unit have worked to achieve a total closure rate for non-
15 fatal shootings. That's the highest level of
16 investigation we are responsible for. We are over 61% for
17 the year. We do lead the city in non-fatal shooting
18 closure rate. We value our partnership with our
19 community, specifically through our Neighborhood Police
20 Officer program, which is led by Sergeant Edward Jackson.
21 Our team has been integrated into the neighborhoods on a
22 daily basis, from abandoned cars, blight, meeting, any
23 neighbor issues, supporting all the community and block
24 clubs within the Second Precinct. In addition to these
25 everyday tasks, we've done numerous community events. A

1 couple I'd like to just focus on. They've taken middle
2 schoolers to the Detroit Institute of Arts to show them
3 art that they normally would not probably see. So that's
4 a great exposure for the kids. In July, we had our Jazz
5 in the Park Community concert, which was well attended
6 and a great event. I think that's like the fourth annual
7 one we've had, spectacular. And then lastly we've already
8 talked about the trunk or treat. Thousands upon thousands
9 of individuals from the community were able to come into
10 a safe environment and get Halloween candy. And I think
11 it was a great event attended by all. And then lastly, I
12 just want to touch on Adam Butzel Community Center has
13 become our second home based on the extensive renovations
14 that are taking place at the Second Precinct. So we'd
15 like to thank them for letting us be here. And please
16 bear with us during our renovations. We will not close;
17 we are still open 24/7, 365 days for the public for
18 anything they need. That's all I have. Any questions from
19 the board

20 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair.

21 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yes, sir.

22 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Through the Chair. This is for
23 Interim Chief Bettison.

24 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I want to make sure I said it

1 correctly. Yeah. Interim Chief you know, everyone's
2 talking that you have a tough task ahead of you, but just
3 know anytime God has given you a vision for that. So
4 anytime God give you a vision, he is also going to give
5 you provision to get the job done. And one more thing.
6 There's a case where I'm advocating for the family of
7 Mario Willis. He has been incarcerated now, 14 years up
8 in Saginaw Prison. And I'm advocating for the family; the
9 family's hurting? They are in pain. Can we get someone to
10 reach out to the Willis family? They're in a lot of pain.
11 They're suffering, because I literally saw the video that
12 they sent me, Interim Chief, that Mario Willis, and his
13 mother, Maxine Willis, sent me. I saw that Detective Shea
14 literally committed police misconduct. I saw that with my
15 own eyes on the video. And we really believe that
16 contributed to him being put away for 14 years in the
17 Saginaw Prison. So I don't know. Like I said, I'm
18 advocating for the family. Can we possibly revisit this
19 case or someone reach out to the family?

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Prosecutor Worthy said that she
21 is very familiar with that case. And that the best avenue
22 is through the Conviction Integrity Unit or the Michigan
23 Innocent Clinic, or the Innocent Project. They have a
24 number of innocent programs in there. So I don't know
25 that she had addressed that when she was here. Is there

1 something you want to add to that?

2 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Yes. I'm trying to reach out to
3 anybody I can. I'm fighting for the family, Chair. They
4 are suffering, they are in pain, man. I'm doing
5 everything I can. Anybody I see with some power, I'm
6 asking questions.

7 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: He doesn't have the power to
8 return the case.

9 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: So, through the Chair.

10 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Well, he has the power to go to
11 somebody though.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: That you went to already.

13 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Well, yeah.

14 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Maybe he can go back to them and
16 get a new result. May maybe, you know.

17 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Through the Chair. I would
18 just echo what the Chair said, that the family did reach
19 out to me in my role as deputy mayor. And I actually
20 talked to a reporter that had reached out as well. So you
21 know, I'm not really familiar with that case, but what I
22 did advise, because it went to a jury trial, right, and
23 Mr. Mario Willis, is that correct?

24 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Right.

25 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Mr. Mario Willis was

1 convicted via a jury trial, which takes it completely out
2 of our jurisdiction. However, Prosecutor Worthy, who I
3 have the utmost respect for, and you know, just in her
4 intellect, in the way she conducts and handles business,
5 and creating the Integrity Unit, the Conviction Integrity
6 Unit. And so that's the best avenue, and I know they're
7 working very diligently with that. And then the State of
8 Michigan, also under the Attorney General, has a unit
9 that they look at as well. But I would definitely
10 advocate, I know that the family is working with
11 Prosecutor Worthy.

12 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay. They are still working
13 with her?

14 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Yeah, I mean, they're
15 reviewing it.

16 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Okay. Good. Oh, they're
17 reviewing it. Wonderful.

18 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Let me not speak for
19 Prosecutor Worthy.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: I'll speak for her.

21 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: I'm not going to speak for
22 Prosecutor Worthy, but...

23 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: She's familiar with the case.

24 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: She's familiar with it.

25 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: First of all, we're not

1 investigators in the sense of we don't do criminal
2 investigations. Criminal investigations happen on the
3 police level, the prosecutor level, the attorney general
4 level. And I'm not Inspector Gadget. Now, you see an
5 injustice there, and you're passionate about that. You're
6 doing the right thing and advocating for it.

7 COMMISSIONER BANKS: That's what I'm saying. But I
8 have...

9 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: I can connect you with the
10 organization of exonerees, which is a strong organization
11 that does a lot of advocacy in that space. And that may
12 be of some assistance, but again, the University of
13 Michigan, they have the Michigan Innocence Clinic, in
14 which I've personally seen people walk out of prison
15 through that. The Conviction Integrity Unit, they just
16 released their 40th person last week. So there's a lot of
17 apparatus who could do real investigations and get cases
18 overturned in the court.

19 MALE SPEAKER: Yes, ma'am.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay. Oh, excuse me. Excuse me.
21 You know but that's, you know, that's to make that clear.

22 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Well, you know, through the
23 Chair, give me some connections, man, where I can, you
24 know, take something back to the family and hope to put a
25 smile on their face. You know what I'm saying? So even if

1 I have to stay after, and talk to you.

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: I give you all those numbers.

3 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Let's talk. Huh?

4 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: I'll give you all those numbers.

5 COMMISSIONER BANKS: I appreciate it.

6 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Commander,
7 I just want to say thank you for your leadership at the
8 Second Precinct and the relationship you have with the
9 community, it's phenomenal. Thank the NPOs led by
10 Sergeant Jackson. And I want to give a special thanks to
11 NPOs, Eves and Franklin. I hosted my Wednesday at Wendy's
12 last month, and they showed up. It's a Tenth Precinct
13 event, but they showed up from the Second Precinct. That
14 goes to show you the relationship between the Second,
15 Sixth and Tenth Precincts. District 7 is one family. It
16 doesn't matter if we divide into three different
17 precincts. So thank you for leading that. And I'm a
18 veteran too, so I salute you.

19 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Through the Chair. I just want
21 to personally thank the department. You are my personal
22 precinct in my area that I reside in. I see you all
23 patrolling through my neighborhoods. I feel safe. I see
24 familiar officers. I just want to thank you for your
25 service.

1 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Thank you, commissioner.

2 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anything? Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: And in keeping with what I
5 said earlier, I want to thank you really for being a
6 partner with the community, particularly with respect to
7 the schools, high schools, grade schools, kindergartens,
8 et cetera. I mean, all the children in the entire
9 community look up to you as we were all raised the same
10 way. So I want to thank you for doing that within our
11 community, graciously and at your own personal risk
12 sometimes, and certainly without any extra anything. But
13 your antenna is up immediately when you see kids. I've
14 watched you. It's amazing.

15 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Thank you, commissioner.

16 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: To make sure that nobody's
17 bothering them, nobody's soliciting them, et cetera.

18 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Mr. Chair.

19 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yep.

20 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Through the Chair. My
21 question; I normally used to have the citizen complaint,
22 a weekly report. So I don't have the numbers in front of
23 me. But anecdotally speaking, I know that oftentimes when
24 it comes to misconduct, the two categories that have been
25 problematic have been around procedure, officers not

1 wearing their body-worn cameras, or not having them on
2 during the duration when they should, and demeanor which
3 often comes with the use of profanity, or using casual
4 engagements with citizens, you know, calling them guy or
5 boy or whatever the case may be. So, from your vantage
6 point, do you see their misconduct as an issue in the
7 precinct, and particularly around body-worn cameras and
8 demeanor, is there anything that has been done to ensure
9 that we see less complaints from citizens regarding those
10 two areas?

11 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Well, I'm glad you brought that
12 up, commissioner. Every CompStat, we review the
13 percentage of compliance within each precinct. I'm happy
14 to say that the Second Precinct does lead the city at a
15 99% clip on body-worn camera footage. I mean, body-worn
16 camera incidents that are supposed to be captured. So,
17 almost perfect. We are attempting to try to get to 100%.

18 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Well, excellent. And then
19 demeanor, because again, in some of the cases that I've
20 read, demeanor hasn't had the intention of being rude or
21 impolite, but again, being casual and unprofessional, and
22 then we get these cases where citizens obviously are not
23 satisfied with that. And so, is there any kind of
24 constant communication or training that's going on with
25 officers to ensure that they're engaging with the

1 citizens and remain professional?

2 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Yeah, and professional is the
3 key word that I throw in. Every roll call I attend, every
4 conversation I attend, every email I send out there; and
5 if they remain professional, I will back them, you know,
6 as long as they're following everything else. But if
7 you're not professional, then that's the starter for the
8 downfall of the incident or the encounter that we're
9 having. So I have not seen, personally, a lot of issues
10 with demeanor. There have been some things that have been
11 identified and corrected at my level in a couple of those
12 situations.

13 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Okay. Thank you. Thank you,
14 Chair.

15 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Alright. Thank you. Thank you for
16 your service and keep up the great work and tell Earl
17 Franklin, hello.

18 COMMANDER O'ROURKE: Yes, sir. Thank you,
19 commissioner.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Alright. We are going back to
21 oral communications.

22 MS. UNDERWOOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We have four
23 speakers. Our next three speakers will be Mr. Ronald
24 Foster, former Commissioner William Davis, and an
25 individual with the last name Edwards. Please state your

1 name for the record when you come to the mic.

2 MR. FOSTER: Good evening. My name is Ronald Foster.
3 First, I'd like to welcome Interim Chief Bettison, and
4 let you know, I think the board has been doing a pretty
5 good job in the direction they've been going. We are
6 about to keep that up. Secondly, I believe leaders are
7 not appointed or elected; they're identified in the time
8 of crisis. Your opportunity to be a leader is now.
9 There's a crisis of violence against children and by
10 children. After answering these three questions, I would
11 ask everyone to change their perspective. What choice do
12 our children make and whom they're born to? What crime do
13 our children commit to be born into, and tormented by
14 poverty? And what crime do our children commit in their
15 immature minds to escape these conditions that mainstream
16 society turn a blind eye too? We have a crisis on mental
17 illness. How do we plan to address mental illness
18 encounters? If you're not familiar with the DSM-5...

19 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Excuse me. If we can get a point
20 of order, as he's talking? You go ahead. Give him an
21 extra second.

22 MR. FOSTER: Crisis on Mental Illness, DSM-5. That
23 book and document is larger than the charter. It is
24 larger than your law book. So we first have to be able to
25 identify them so that we do not criminalize mental

1 illness. We put the burden on mental health. Then we take
2 accountability from addressing the social conditions. We
3 need more social workers to work on social conditions and
4 less police to criminalize those that are surviving the
5 conditions that exist. And so I simply ask that we change
6 our perspectives moving forward. We put our children
7 first at the forefront and keep that there. And that we
8 use our CVI in a more productive way and keep our
9 children first. So I appreciate that you are all
10 listening and everything that you guys are doing. And
11 keep up the good work.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you. How are you doing?
13 Good evening.

14 MR. DAVIS: Hello everyone.

15 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Hello.

16 MR. DAVIS: I originally planned to come here to
17 welcome Todd Bettison back, but I had an extra reason now
18 because my nephew just recently was stopped and harassed
19 in the Sixth Precinct. One that I used to give high
20 praise to, even though I don't know if they were officers
21 from the Sixth Precinct. Anyway, just this week, my
22 nephew was stopped, harassed, was asked, you know, not
23 asked; his car door was open. He was told to get out of
24 the car, his car was tossed. All sorts of things that,
25 like prior to this administration, I was appointed as

1 part of the Justice Department that looked into Dearborn,
2 upon the Obama administration and the Trump
3 administration. And I said, it appears as if there's a
4 problem. You know, anytime young black people are being
5 stopped and harassed and officers don't give their name,
6 don't give their reason, you know, just think that they
7 are empowered, that makes some young black people feel
8 like they are living up under an occupation.

9 We cannot and I will not have that. You know, so I
10 expect something to be done. You know, my nephew was so
11 traumatized, he couldn't even go to work the next day
12 because, you know, if you are a young black person in
13 America, you have to be careful because officers
14 sometimes shoot unarmed black men. You know, officers
15 abuse their authority sometimes. And don't get me wrong,
16 most officers are good, but, you know, sometimes you have
17 a few bad officers to make the whole department look bad.
18 So hopefully, something could be done. Because, like I
19 say, previously, when groups were powering complaints
20 with the Justice Department, I decided to stay away from
21 that because I was already involved with the Justice
22 Department. But stuff like this keeps happening. I can
23 guarantee you I will get some results. Thank you.

24 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Through the Chair, I have a

1 question.

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Commissioner, did he file a
4 complaint?

5 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Yes. that was...

6 MR. DAVIS: He was just...

7 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Oh, that was the gentleman right
8 there.

9 MR. DAVIS: Yeah, that was my nephew.

10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Okay. Because it is very
11 important for people to file complaints.

12 MR. DAVIS: I told you...

13 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Because if you don't file a
14 complaint, it's just gossip at that point.

15 MR. DAVIS: I know.

16 COMMISSIONER MOORE: And it's a dark figure as it
17 relates to the composure of an officer, so to speak. A
18 lot of times we talk about the dark figure of crime and
19 crimes not reported, but it's the same thing with citizen
20 complaints as well. An officer might develop a pattern,
21 but if nobody complains about it, then there it is. So
22 thank you very much. MR. DAVIS: Yes. And in fact, I was
23 with the task force, the Justice Department Task Force.
24 You know, we did a whole bunch of policies and procedures
25 in the police department for Dearborn. You know, perhaps

1 we need to look a bit closer at some our policies and
2 procedures here.

3 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Oh, we have a deep dive. We have
4 a new policy manager and she is a taskmaster, and she's
5 doing her job.

6 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I
7 just want to say that, according to policy, when an
8 officer approaches a vehicle, he has to state why he has
9 pulled you over. That's number one. Number two, there is
10 no right to just summarily search a vehicle. There has to
11 be a probable cause. So you have a right to ask, I'm
12 Officer Bernard, I stopped you because you ran that stop
13 sign. May I see your license, registration, its
14 insurance, et cetera. Although they already know your
15 insurance because it's in the database. Why is that a
16 requirement? I don't know. But I'm just saying that
17 courtesy in that respect should have been shown to your
18 nephew and they had no right, unless there was some other
19 reason to toss the car.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah, and any other citizen that
21 the complaint is going to be taken seriously, just like
22 every last one of our other complaints.

23 MR. DAVIS: But I've heard a lot about this and, you
24 know, sometimes officers don't even ask for license and
25 registration or anything. They just feel like they can

1 flex, especially, on young black people. And that should
2 not be tolerated.

3 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: It is not.

4 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: We got what, over 2000
5 complaints, Chief Warfield? These are complaints here;
6 there are complaints in a number of other folders, and we
7 are doing our due diligence. The staff is working very
8 hard. So absolutely when that complaint comes in it's
9 going to be addressed accordingly.

10 MR. DAVIS: Okay.

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Absolutely.

12 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Not to mention the fact that
13 you have legal remedies as well.

14 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Oh, a complaint that's within our
15 sphere will be handled accordingly with our job. Let me
16 see. Yeah, Chief.

17 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Through the Chair to
18 Commissioner Davis. You know, I'm glad that you...

19 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Excuse me. Let me get a point of
20 order, please, ma'am.

21 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: I just wanted to say to
22 Commissioner Davis, you know, I'm so glad that you did
23 ensure that your nephew came here to lodge his complaint.
24 But also in your remarks, I'm glad that you recognize
25 that the majority of the men and women of the Detroit

1 Police Department are doing a great job. However, with
2 complaints, we'll look into it. And like I said, for
3 individuals where it needs to be retraining, you know if
4 a complaint is sustained, we'll definitely take the
5 appropriate action.

6 MR. DAVIS: I mean, I used to have a desk at the
7 Second Precinct, so I could talk to that.

8 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Thank you, sir.

9 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you. Next speaker.

10 MS. UNDERWOOD: Last name Edwards. And please
11 identify yourself after Ms. Edwards. I'm sorry, just one
12 second. After Ms. Edwards, it'll be Ms. Fredia Butler,
13 and then Mr. Michael Thompson. Then we'll go into Zoom.

14 MS. EDWARDS: Hi, my name is Latisha Edwards. I'm
15 from District 7. I'm a community activist. Is James Tate
16 here? Okay. I'll talk to him on a later day. I'm
17 currently being gang stalked, blackballed and individuals
18 are trying to kill me in my community for my mom's
19 inheritance. The probate court has blackballed me out of
20 the Coleman A. Young building to prevent me from getting
21 information on my mom. They have taken my daughter from
22 me to try to kill me, to prevent me from collecting my
23 mom's inheritance that they tried to kill me, so I
24 wouldn't get my mail for the court date that is coming up
25 December 9th. The Coleman A. Young building, I know they

1 have officers and staff that work in there. I'm in and
2 out of there daily trying to get things taken care of
3 with no help.

4 The Tenth Precinct is also involved. I belong to
5 Detroit Historical Rock church on Woodward. My baby has
6 been gone for two years. The police department
7 aggressively; I'm from the Sixth Precinct. I brought some
8 information I would like to give you all. I filed police
9 reports; I was chased out in the middle of Plymouth in my
10 2023 Tahoe by someone. It has never been investigated.
11 Investigator Counts just got the case a couple weeks ago
12 after I filed some complaints with the Inspector General.
13 But still, things are being covered up until they can
14 possibly get rid of me.

15 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: All right. Thank you.

16 MS. EDWARDS: And can I pass these out, please?

17 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: You give it to our staff member
18 back there. Thank you. Next speaker.

19 MS. EDWARDS: Thank you.

20 MS. BUTLER: Chief Bettison, I'll be speaking next
21 week about you, but today we only have two minutes. I
22 have to give my information and because this is the
23 limitation, I try to obey the rules, okay. And I hope
24 next week they will allow me a little more time to
25 address too, okay?

1 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Amen.

2 MS. BUTLER: Commissioners, since we are going to
3 have a new administration, the first thing I thought
4 about was our police officers. Mr. Trump has made many
5 statements promoting violence and how our police officers
6 should treat people when they are arresting them.
7 Remember January 6th. I am also concerned about an
8 article I read, written in the New York Times, that some
9 officers are members of the Klan, and we know how they
10 operate. I hope our officers are reminded to treat others
11 as they want to be treated. Members in our communities,
12 we know right from wrong. Let all of us be great citizens
13 and choose what is right to say and do. Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you. Next caller. Oh, next
15 speaker.

16 MR. THOMPSON: How are you guys doing?

17 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: How are you doing?

18 MR. THOMPSON: I'm having a problem with... How are you
19 doing, Chief Bettison? I talked to him about it already,
20 but I'm having a problem with...

21 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Microphone.

22 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Talk a little bit in the mic.
23 Yeah. Thank you.

24 MR. THOMPSON: I'm having a problem with the police,
25 the Detroit police downtown, which are harassing me

1 constantly. And they're also confiscating my product that
2 I talked to them about before, because I have a license
3 to sell down in the City of Detroit. They tell me that I
4 can't sell down in the City of Detroit. So, on 9-22- 24,
5 I had an incident with me and my wife. The police came
6 up, they put me in handcuffs, put me on a dashboard,
7 telling me that, first they started saying, you know,
8 where's your money? Where's your money? She starts
9 saying, give me your money; give me your money. I'm
10 telling them, I'm not giving you my money. So they put my
11 wife, she's standing right here, right now. They took my
12 wife, put her over on her side, and she told her that if
13 she didn't give her her money, she was going to put her
14 in jail. My wife is crying. She's telling her like, look,
15 this is my rent money. She's like, give me your money;
16 give me your money. My wife's crying. So my wife gave her
17 the money. She ran through the money, took \$60 out, and
18 gave my wife back the money. So she put the money in her
19 pocket, and she proceeded to give me and my wife a ticket
20 and tell us if we come back down there, they're going to
21 take us to jail and tow our car, okay. Now, the problem
22 that I'm having right now, and I've talked to a lot of
23 people, everybody. I have a license to sell in the City
24 of Detroit, but what the Detroit police are trying to
25 tell me is that I can't sell downtown.

1 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: What did you sell then?

2 MR. THOMPSON: I sell novelty items.

3 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Like what?

5 MR. THOMPSON: I do festivals, so I sell light up.

6 But I just sell...

7 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Sir, what are you selling? I'm
8 talking to you.

9 MR. THOMPSON: I sell novelty items.

10 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Excuse me, sir.

11 MR. THOMPSON: I sell novel items.

12 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Excuse me. You are out of order.

13 MR. THOMPSON: But either way, the problem that I'm
14 having is that I have a license to sell in the City of
15 Detroit. And if I'm not mistaken, downtown is Detroit. If
16 I'm not mistaken, if anybody can tell me anything
17 different, then tell me. But downtown Detroit is Detroit.

18 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: All right. Thank you. You can get
19 our investigation back there. And you want to make a
20 comment?

21 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: I can provide some clarity.
22 You know, I've definitely been talking to Mr. Michael
23 Thompson, and one of the things that I looked into, is
24 that with our city ordinances, he does have a street
25 vendor's license and based off when ordinances was passed

1 or however it is, but with the street vendor license, it
2 allows you to sell everywhere in the City of Detroit
3 except for downtown. And so, I told him, one of his
4 avenues to be able to do is definitely work through City
5 Council, et cetera, to be able to work towards changing
6 the ordinance, possibly having it amended. He did bring
7 up some valid points, but as it stands right now on the
8 license that was issued to him by the City of Detroit, it
9 even says there, you're able to sell except for downtown.

10 And so, the officers, when it comes to the
11 enforcement piece of it, they're legally right when it
12 comes to that piece. Some other allegations that he made
13 as well, as far as money being taken you know, it's over
14 at Internal Affairs. They're doing their investigation. I
15 did reach out to Commander McGinnis for \$40...

16 MR. THOMPSON: \$60...

17 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: Well, \$60, I'm sorry. But
18 the \$60 has been placed on evidence. And one of the
19 things that they said that they found is with the items
20 they're looking at to determine whether or not it is
21 counterfeit. So, with the novelty items that you were
22 selling? So that creates another whole issue, Mr.
23 Thompson, for you.

24 MR. THOMPSON: But I have the receipts for everything
25 that I paid for; so I have a receipt.

1 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: I'll make sure that during
2 the investigations, and you can have an investigation
3 conducted here as well into that, sir.

4 MR. THOMPSON: Yeah, we'll go into that.

5 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Commissioner Moore and then
6 Commissioner Dewaelsche.

7 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Just very briefly, through the
8 Chair. I guess my concern was the \$60. I heard a lot of
9 emphasis on selling, but I'm more concerned about the
10 stealing,

11 MR. THOMPSON: Because I've been down there plenty of
12 times. They confiscated my stuff plenty of times. Never
13 once have they ever asked me to give them my money. And
14 why would I give you my money anyway?

15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I'm glad Chief Bettison said it
16 was placed on evidence. So it is acknowledgement of the
17 \$60 and they never gave me a receipt. They never told me
18 to come down to get it. And then I didn't know what I
19 saw. The whole story is not being told because I don't
20 have that much time. But it's been constantly nagging me
21 with this situation. And even though, like he said, it's
22 not clear cut like he's saying, like on the license it
23 says that I'm the [unclear]. If I showed you the license,
24 they put that on there. It's not on the license, or in
25 the city ordinance that says that you can't sell

1 downtown, they put it in there. They put it there for a
2 reason. And on my license, it doesn't say... Okay, you
3 know, when you get a license, it says, doing business as,
4 right?

5 So they put your business name No, on my license, it
6 says doing business downtown is prohibited. I'm not doing
7 business as downtown is prohibited. That's what he's
8 talking about when he says that downtown prohibited on my
9 license. No, it doesn't say downtown. They put that on
10 there. And that's what I'm trying to say is that they're
11 basically discriminating pretty much because the police
12 officers that are coming to tell me that I can't sell
13 down there, they're literally coming out of Little
14 Caesars and coming out of Ford Field. They're not like
15 officers that's on the street. These are officers that
16 are coming out of the stadium, coming to tell me that I
17 can't be there.

18 COMMISSIONER MOORE: So, Mr. Chair, can we just get a
19 follow up from the Chief on this issue, or you, sir, come
20 to the board and just keep us informed of what's going
21 on.

22 MR. THOMPSON: Okay.

23 COMMISSIONER MOORE: After today.

24 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah. Commissioner Dewaelsche.

25 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I

1 just have a question for the Chief. What is the downtown
2 area considered? What are the boundaries?

3 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

4 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: The Central Business
5 District. And so I could Google it. I don't have it
6 committed to my memory as far as what the Central
7 District Business streets are. But it's considered that,
8 and I know you could fact check it. You have a lawyer;
9 the law department, the ordinance, and it's been this way
10 ever since. When I was a rookie police officer studying
11 to get promoted for the sergeant's exam, it was there
12 that with the street vendor's license, you are prohibited
13 from selling downtown. And so that's just a fact. And Mr.
14 Thompson brought up an excellent point to me because I
15 explained that fact to him. He said, well, I can sell it
16 everywhere else. And I brought up the fact, well, you
17 know, with businesses selling in front of them, you know,
18 it could create an issue. He said, well, I could be
19 selling in front of businesses in the neighborhood. So I
20 said, well, you know what? That's why you have policy
21 amendments, ordinances, amendments. You're going to have
22 to take this up with the City Council, get somebody to
23 sponsor you and see what they would do with it. But as it
24 stands, the law is the law, and so the officers are
25 obligated to follow that.

1 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: So, we kind of exhausted it here,
2 but let me say this to you. You do have the right to and
3 talk to our investigator back there, and do a citizen's
4 complaint. And I'm interested in terms of what happened
5 with the \$60. If it was taken the wrong way, it wasn't
6 done properly, and then that needed to be investigated by
7 us as

8 MR. THOMPSON: Right. Because I'm not here to really
9 tell you; I'm not here to really try to be all, you know,
10 political or whatever. I'm trying to make money and...

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: I understand.

12 MR. THOMPSON: The city body gave me a license to
13 sell in the City of Detroit, doesn't stop me from being
14 in a certain part of Detroit. Don't tell me I can't be in
15 this part of Detroit, but I can...

16 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah, that's a City Council
17 issue. That's beyond us.

18 MR. THOMPSON: That's the Attorney General.

19 And that's what I'm here for.

20 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: I feel that.

21 MR. THOMPSON: That's it. I'm just trying to get to
22 it. And the police that's bothering me are a city police.
23 It isn't just regular police. It's the ones that are
24 coming out of the stadiums who are telling me the
25 stadium...

1 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Private security is what
2 you're saying?

3 MR. THOMPSON: No, no, police.

4 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Police assigned.

5 MR. THOMPSON: Oh, I don't know if they have a police
6 uniform...

7 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: But let me say this again, get
8 what you want investigated. If you want to make a citizen
9 complaint, that citizen complaint will get investigated
10 accordingly. All right. Thank you very kindly.

11 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Mr. Chairman. I just have one
12 quick question. Sir.

13 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Excuse me. Sir.

14 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Sir, why was your wife crying?
15 What happened to her?

16 MR. THOMPSON: Because she threatened to put her in
17 jail like that. Listen, that's what I said I had a
18 problem with, because I got a license in Detroit and they
19 see us down there all the time. And they mess with us all
20 the time. And so she was just tired. She was just tired.
21 And then when the lady told her, give her her money, like
22 my wife's like, why? And she started threatening to, you
23 know, she didn't want to

24 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Did they give her a receipt?
25 That's what I...

1 MR. THOMPSON: My wife, she...

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay. Get with her. Go ahead.

3 COMMISSIONER SMITH: What I wanted to say, I know a
4 lot of people sell different items and novelty items, but
5 you aren't allowed to sell things in the city. And the
6 reason, that's why you may see, like, if you're in the
7 area of Greenfield market, or you might see people at gas
8 stations or something, because they have some type of
9 arrangement with that business to allow them to be on
10 their property, or selling things to protect you and your
11 belongings.

12 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. But when you get your license,
13 they always ask you, what are you selling? Because they
14 already give you rule books of what you can't. So
15 anything that I was selling, I was legally able to sell
16 because...

17 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: It is all above my pay grade, you
18 know...

19 MR. THOMPSON: Whatever it was I was selling, I put
20 it on the list and I was able to sell it downtown.

21 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: We have trained..

22 MR. THOMPSON: With what the Chief just said, they
23 want to take my stuff because they believe that my things
24 are counterfeit, which I have a receipt for every place
25 that I bought it from, from every building, everything.

1 COMMISSIONER SMITH: That's why I asked, what are you
2 selling?

3 MR. THOMPSON: Everything. So I wouldn't go down
4 there. Why would I go down there and sell something
5 counterfeit and then come up here and complain? I mean,
6 that's stupid. If I knew my stuff was counterfeit, I
7 wouldn't even do it.

8 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Really quickly, Chief...

9 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Connect with our investigator.

10 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: I agree with that, but Chief,
11 do we have a detail that works out of Ford Field and so
12 forth? And for them to come outside and, and do this, I
13 mean, I'm just trying to figure it out.

14 INTERIM CHIEF BETTISON: We have police officers
15 that, whether it's a game or I would have to look at and
16 see the details of whether it's the body-worn cameras,
17 but we have police officers assigned throughout downtown.
18 And so there are some that work inside to secure a venue,
19 like if it's a Pistons game or a Red Wings game, we
20 assign officers there. They're assigned throughout
21 downtown. They're assigned throughout the neighborhoods.
22 But the issue is that I can provide the board and, you
23 know, a copy of the ordinance. And so it's an ordinance
24 issue really, where if you are a street vendor and it's
25 issued by the City of Detroit, you're prohibited from

1 engaging in that type of activity downtown in the central
2 business district.

3 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: And the bottom line is that an
4 investigation would take place, and still, our
5 investigators would take a look at it. If there was a
6 violation, then they'd give us a finding. You know we are
7 not equipped to do all of that. You know that's what they
8 get paid for. And we have a staff attorney to look into
9 all of those types of things. So he's, yeah, absolutely.
10 And so, next caller.

11 MS. UNDERWOOD: Our last speaker is on Zoom. Mr.
12 Scotty Bowman.

13 MR. BOWMAN: Hello.

14 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yes. You may be heard.

15 MR. BOWMAN: Yes. First of all, I'd like to
16 congratulate Todd Bettison. I wanted to say it formally,
17 I guess. Interim Chief Todd Benison. He's had many
18 different hats since I first met him with community
19 relations. And he definitely excelled great at that, and
20 I'm hoping he does, as well as chief. I hope many of the
21 things that maybe he said aspirationally, regarding, for
22 instance, final word on promotions. While the charter
23 does say that, however unfortunately, there've been
24 situations where the Board of Police Commissioners got
25 overridden on promotion denials. But I hope that gets

1 fixed. And I wish them much success. I also wanted to
2 speak on some issues. And City Council, I actually
3 listened to. They had their public meeting also on
4 Tuesday, you know, their evening community meeting.

5 And I heard from both Commissioner Bernard, who
6 actually came to the mic at one point in the meeting and
7 from a number of activists seeking transparency in law
8 enforcement. Well, actually I should specifically say
9 Minister Eric Blount, representing a coalition of
10 activists. And they're seeking to see more transparency
11 and more ready disclosure of body cam recordings, green
12 light recordings; recordings of events that the police
13 have in their possession and often, in many cases really
14 should be made available for public scrutiny. And while I
15 understand there is a need to protect certain information
16 during ongoing investigations, I'm hoping to see some
17 progress in that area. I think there could be some common
18 ground between the community activists and, for instance,
19 the committee that member Bernard has participated with.
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you. Unfinished business at
22 this time. The Chair would like to entertain a motion for
23 the postponement of the request for the board to receive
24 legal advice concerning employee evaluation.

25 COMMISSIONER MOORE: So moved.

1 VICE CHAIRPERSON: Second.

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Moved by Commissioner Moore,
3 second by Commissioner Smith. Any discussion? All in
4 favor say aye.

5 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is
7 carried. Let's go to new business to the Special
8 Personnel and Training Search Committee memorandum.
9 Commissioner Dewaelsche.

10 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: On behalf of Commissioner
12 Hernandez, and we continue to send love, and prayers to
13 Commissioner Hernandez.

14 COMMISSIONER DEWAEELSCHÉ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd
15 like to read the memo, the Special Personnel and Training
16 Committee meeting memo on Commissioner Hernandez's
17 behalf. Dear colleagues, on behalf of the Board of Police
18 Commissioner Special Personnel and Training Committee,
19 please see the key updates from the committee meeting
20 held on November 8th, 2024. Board attendees include
21 Committee Chairperson Jesus Hernandez, Chairperson
22 Darrell Woods, ex-Officio Commissioner Linda Bernard, and
23 Commissioner Eva Garza Dewaelsche, staff attendees, board
24 secretary Lydia Garnier, Robert Brown, administrative
25 specialist, Latonya Limit, deputy chief procurement

1 officer, section 7-805, chief of police Search. The Board
2 of Police Commissioners shall conduct a professional
3 search with a reputable and qualified executive search
4 firm or other equally qualified entity to identify
5 candidates for the Chief of Police. The mayor shall
6 appoint, subject to approval by City Council, a chief of
7 police from a list of qualified candidates provided by
8 the Board of Police Commissioners.

9 On November 1st, 2024, the Office of Procurement
10 sent out the advertisement for the search firms to reply.
11 As of November 6th, the Office of Procurement received
12 four responses. 1). Korn Ferry, a Law Los Angeles
13 Company, a 35% retainer fee; 2). TJ Staffing and
14 Southfield, a Southfield Company, 30% retainer fee; and
15 3). JM JG Connect a Detroit company with a 30% retainer
16 fee. 4). Capstone Employment Services, a Detroit company
17 with the 15% retainer fee. After thorough review of each
18 search firm, previous experiences, retainer fees, their
19 ability to shortlist candidates, and their ability to
20 have a process between 60 to 90 days, the Special
21 Personnel and Training Committee made a recommendation
22 for TJ Staffing to the full board for consideration. The
23 next Special Personnel and Training Committee meeting,
24 date and time is to be determined. Sincerely, Jesus
25 Hernandez, Chairman of the Special Personnel and Training

1 Committee.

2 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: What's the pleasure of the
3 board?

4 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: So moved.

5 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Mr. Chair, I have a new
6 business.

7 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay, once we finish this.
8 Alright. Okay. We are in the middle of a motion, right?

9 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

10 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah. Moved by Commissioner
11 Bernard.

12 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: Point of order. So, because
13 this is a committee report, I believe that the
14 parliamentarian would advise that it's just provided to
15 us by recommendation of the Special Personnel and
16 Training Committee, and then there's no second necessary.

17 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Alright? Alright. By
18 recommendation of the Personnel and Training Committee,
19 all in favor...

20 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: There is discussion though.

21 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: First of all, is there any
22 discussion? There being no...

23 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: I have a discussion. I just
24 want to state for the record that I'll be abstaining on
25 this vote. Not because of my lack of confidence in what

1 the committee has suggested, but because one of the
2 proprietors of the company was selected as a member of my
3 church. And so I just want to avoid any appearance of
4 wrongdoing.

5 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Okay. Alright. What's the
6 pleasure of the board? Well, by recommendation of the
7 Personnel and Training Committee, Commissioner Bernard,
8 moved that this will be approved and anyone seconded it?
9 It doesn't require a second? All in favor say aye.

10 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is
12 carried.

13 COMMISSIONER PRESSLEY: And one abstention.

14 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: With one abstention.

15 COMMISSIONER DEWAELESCHE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yeah. Thank you so much. Thank
17 you, Commissioner Pressley. And we're going to go finally
18 to the Policy Committee.

19 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Just quickly. There is no
20 action item, ladies and gentlemen, so I'm not going to
21 read the whole report. There were a number of persons
22 present, both from DPD, as well as board members and
23 other persons who are participating with the Policy
24 Committee. The item that we discussed was the BolaWrap.
25 The department has decided, well, now they have two and

1 they want to get more. And we were just developing a
2 policy regarding the BolaWrap. The BolaWrap is something
3 that wraps around you like a lasso, except it has little
4 prongs and it immobilizes you. So Deputy Chief Bliss
5 participates with the committee. He explained it to us.
6 He's going to bring one next week when we have the
7 meeting. We have a draft policy, and we will vote a
8 policy out of committee at our next meeting. So there's
9 nothing for the board to decide at this meeting. That
10 completes my report.

11 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Thank you very kindly.

12 Commissioner Banks,

13 COMMISSIONER BANKS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Through
14 the Chair. I just wanted to say again to the chief
15 investigator, good job with what you're doing, you and
16 your staff. You brought the backlog down from 1200 and
17 something to 500 and something. I really appreciate the
18 progress. Good job. I just want to commend you again.
19 Now, I know you took a little heat early on in the game,
20 but you recovered, you turned the fight around, and it's
21 going in your favor now. Bless you brother.

22 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Yep. And again, I want to thank
23 all the staff back there, all our technical assistance
24 back there, and all the staff that's here. And again,
25 Interim Chief Bettison, we deeply appreciate you rolling

1 up your sleeve and hitting the ground running. I was
2 deeply impressed to see that you went to all of the
3 precincts, most of all of the precincts on your first
4 day, on Veteran's Day to go and greet the staff and talk
5 with them and hear from them. And we look forward to
6 doing everything we can to be able to do our best to
7 bring more civility in the police department, which you
8 guys are doing a great job, an amazing job. But we always
9 need some tweaks. And so thank you so much. And having
10 said that, I want to invite you all on the 20th, Teresa,
11 Ms. Blossom. Well, on the 20th, at what time? 1:00 PM we
12 are in the Skylar Herbert room. We will be having a press
13 conference and we'll be unveiling something very good for
14 the community. A press release is going out. But we have
15 created a dashboard and you're going to love it. And
16 we're going to go live at the press conference. And so
17 please come, ask some questions, and get engaged. But
18 you're going to be very impressed that Commissioner Moore
19 wasn't at the police commission meeting, he's going to
20 sleep, but he's doing some work, and doing some
21 meaningful work for the City of Detroit. Having said
22 that.

23 COMMISSIONER SMITH: Entertain a motion to adjourn.

24 COMMISSIONER BERNARD: Second.

25 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Motion made by Commissioner

1 Smith. Second by Commissioner Bernard. Any discussion?

2 All in favor say aye.

3 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON WOODS: Anyone opposed? The motion is

5 carried. We are adjourned.

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8 (Meeting Adjourned at 8:22 p.m.)

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STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)
COUNTY OF WAYNE)

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\$40... 65:15

\$60 63:17 65:17,18 66:8,17 69:5

\$60... 65:16

1

1 7:1 16:25 17:3 76:12

10 7:21 24:14 43:14

100% 28:1 52:17

1001 3:4

1012 23:25

11 10:24 43:20,23

12 30:25 31:9

1200 23:10 79:16

12th 3:2

13 5:4,5

1300 37:14

14 46:7,16

14th 2:2

15 26:17

15% 76:17

164 44:9

1997 26:9

19th 3:6,7

1:00 80:11

1st 76:9

2

2 4:3 11:21 16:25 17:4 22:10 76:13

2.5 23:21

20 80:10

2000 59:4

2003 24:16

2006 24:16

2012 27:17

2013 34:1

2014 24:17

2018 26:24

2019 31:1

2023 16:10,11 34:3 44:6,10 61:10

2024 2:2,25 13:6 14:7 44:6,10 75:20 76:9

20th 80:11

21st 2:25 30:17

24 63:4

24/7 45:17

26 10:12,20,21 32:20

28 43:1

2nd 2:22

3

3 11:23 76:15

30 27:13

30% 76:14,15

32 21:3

32nd 21:2

34% 23:12

35% 76:13

365 45:17

3:00 2:25

3:30 3:6

4

4 43:22 76:16

40 44:7,8

40th 49:16

42 44:11

45 7:2,12

4:30 3:7

4th 43:20,22

5

5,000 4:16

5-year-old 7:23

50,000 43:14

500 79:17

6

6 10:24 16:25 17:5

60 41:10 76:20

61% 44:16

66% 23:12

6:30 2:2 3:2

6th 62:7 76:11

7

7 12:3 16:19 17:1,6 18:21 44:8 50:15 60:15

7-805 76:1

75 10:13 21:6

7th 13:6 14:7 15:19,25

8

8:22 81:8

8th 2:23 75:20

9

9,000 44:1

9-22- 63:4

90 76:20

911 4:4**99%** 52:15**9th** 60:25

A

abandoned 44:22**abdomen** 7:15**ability** 76:19**absolutely** 4:18 6:2 12:16
20:12 21:14 35:12 39:14 59:8,
11 73:9**abstaining** 77:24**abstention** 78:13,14**abuse** 56:15**academic** 27:25**academically** 23:23 24:11**academies** 29:25**acceptable** 10:20 11:4,15**accomplish** 2:12**accord** 9:15**account** 7:7**accountability** 9:5 55:2**accountable** 36:22**accredited** 22:20 23:7**achieve** 44:14**achievement** 33:19**achievements** 24:12 34:14**acknowledge** 17:19**acknowledgement** 66:16**action** 60:5 78:20**active** 27:13**actively** 18:1 30:19**activist** 37:9 60:15**activists** 74:7,10,18**activities** 32:23**activity** 73:1**actuarial** 26:11**Adam** 15:8,12 20:22,23 45:12**add** 12:9 47:1**adding** 30:25**addition** 33:10 44:24**Additionally** 25:2**additions** 12:22**address** 18:1,5 25:13 54:17
61:25**addressed** 46:25 59:9**addressing** 55:2**adjourn** 80:23**adjourned** 81:5,8**administration** 9:16,17 26:14
37:6 38:6 55:25 56:2,3 62:3**administrative** 26:19 75:24**admissions** 31:12**admitted** 34:9**adopt** 25:17 28:14,17 32:3
35:2**adoption** 34:24**adult** 27:2**adults** 28:2**advanced** 24:1,4**advantage** 10:15**advertisement** 76:10**advice** 74:24**advise** 47:22 77:14**advocacy** 49:11**advocate** 6:8 17:23 37:19
48:10**advocating** 4:25 46:6,8,18
49:6**Affairs** 65:14**affectionately** 21:11**Africa** 24:20**African** 24:3**afternoon** 8:22 15:17,18**agenda** 2:11 12:8,21 13:17
16:21**aggressively** 61:7**agree** 16:22 72:10**ahead** 8:10 10:8 15:22,23
29:11 41:6 46:2 54:20 71:2
77:9**allegations** 65:12**allowed** 33:5 71:5**allowing** 35:10**Alright** 6:23 11:16 12:7 15:23
21:14 53:15,20 77:8,17 78:5**alumni** 29:6**alumnus** 23:3 33:23**amazing** 19:6 51:14 80:8**Amazon** 11:2**amen** 2:15,16 34:11 62:1**amend** 12:21 13:13**amended** 65:6**amendment** 12:9**amendments** 68:21**America** 27:16 56:13**America's** 24:9**American** 24:3**analysis** 7:16**Andre** 15:8 20:24**and...** 69:10**anecdotally** 51:23**angel** 15:15 16:23,24 17:2
37:20**Angela** 19:9,12**Angeles** 76:12**anniversary** 21:2

announcement 3:8
announcements 2:23
annoying 6:9
annual 24:9 45:6
answering 54:10
antenna 51:13
Anthony 16:10,15,18 20:20
 21:10
anytime 46:3,4 56:4
apologies 21:22
apparatus 49:17
apparently 11:7
appearance 78:3
appearing 30:2
appears 56:3
applause 26:1 35:8,22
Apple 34:3
application 23:18
applies 41:20
apply 23:17
appoint 76:6
appointed 34:3 54:7 55:25
appreciation 19:14 20:1
approaches 58:8
approval 12:8 13:5,16 14:4
 76:6
approve 22:3 25:21
approved 78:8
approves 36:14,15
aptitude 27:23
archives 25:18,22 28:14,17
 32:3 35:2
area 27:21 37:25 50:22 68:2
 71:7 74:17
areas 52:10

aren't 21:25
arrangement 71:9
arresting 62:6
arrogant 10:18
arrows 42:3
art 45:3
Artemisia 14:21
article 62:8
arts 24:24 25:1,2 32:24 45:2
ASL 14:24
aspect 40:2
aspirationally 73:21
assign 72:20
assigned 70:4 72:17,20,21
assignment 16:7
assistance 49:12 79:23
assistant 26:20,21 33:7
Association 23:7
athletic 24:12
athletically 24:11
Atlanta 27:4
atmosphere 43:18
attempting 52:17
attend 53:3,4
attended 45:5,11
attendees 75:20,23
attention 9:4,19 22:12
attitude 5:10
attorney 11:20 14:19 18:7
 48:8 49:3 69:18 73:8
audience 37:11
authority 56:15
auto 37:25
avenue 46:21 48:6

avenues 65:4
average 23:25
averages 23:24 24:1
avoid 78:3
Award 34:3
award-winning 24:12
awarded 24:8
aware 21:17,21 34:13
aye 13:2,3,11,12 14:1,2,13,14
 25:23,24 28:18,19 32:8,9
 35:4,5 75:4,5 78:9,10 81:2,3

B

baby 61:5
bachelor's 26:10 33:24
back 5:4,19 7:11 10:25 18:11
 20:20 39:2,6,7 47:15 49:24
 53:5,20 55:17 61:18 63:18,20
 64:19 69:3 79:23,24
backgrounds 23:11
backlog 79:16
bad 9:16 34:21 56:17
badge 10:19
badges 10:17
balance 34:17
ballet 24:23
balls 40:21
bank 7:7 39:17
Banks 11:22 13:13,16,20,22,
 24 29:11,12 39:19 41:6 45:20,
 22,25 47:2,10,13,15,24 48:12,
 16 49:7,22 50:3,5 77:5,9
 79:12,13
Barber 14:21
based 23:18 45:13 64:25
basically 67:11
basis 44:22

Basketball 24:15	bit 38:25 58:1 62:22	boundaries 68:2
battler 20:15	black 56:4,7,12,14 59:1	Bowman 73:12,13,15
bear 45:16	blackballed 60:17,19	boy 52:5
Beatty 14:25	bleed 7:21	Boys 24:15 29:24
Beaubien 37:14	bless 18:15 35:25 79:21	bragged 37:22
beautiful 30:5,9 31:3	blessing 19:7	brand 5:11
beauty 37:23	blessings 2:13	briefed 41:5
because... 71:16	blight 37:23 44:22	briefing 40:7,12
began 26:15 32:20,23	blind 54:16	briefly 66:7
beginning 42:10	Bliss 79:4	bring 65:6 79:6 80:7
behalf 18:20 25:6 28:4 31:17 36:8 40:10 75:11,17	block 19:24 37:10 44:23	bringing 6:10
believer 39:22	blood 7:20,21	brother 6:23 30:1 79:21
Bell 11:24	Blossom 14:20 80:11	brothers 39:8
belong 61:4	Blount 74:9	brought 52:11 61:7 68:14,16 79:16
belongings 71:11	Blue 24:7	Brown 14:20 75:24
Benison 73:17	board 2:2,8,24 3:5 5:23 6:13 8:1,2 22:4,16 25:6,16 28:3,12 31:16 32:1 34:4,23 35:15,16 36:2,5,11,14,15,18,20 37:1,5, 14 38:7,15,18,19,21 41:4 45:19 54:4 67:20 72:22 73:24 74:23 75:17,20,23 76:1,8,22 77:3 78:6,22 79:9	budget 3:6 36:15
Bernard 11:20,21 12:25 13:1, 7,9 14:9,11 17:4,14,15 18:17 20:13 21:15,23,25 22:2,24 23:2 26:2 28:24 29:4,10,17 30:7 32:12 34:12 35:9 41:7,15 51:4,16 57:5 58:6,12 59:3,12 62:21 70:1,4,11,14 72:8,10 74:5,19 75:22 77:4,11 78:7,19 80:24 81:1	boards 36:19,24	building 18:9 33:15 60:20,25 71:25
Bettison 7:10 8:23 10:6 15:1 17:21 18:3 36:2 39:17,20,25 41:14,18 45:23 47:9,14,17,25 48:14,18,21,24 54:3 55:17 59:17,21 60:8 61:20 62:19 64:21 65:17 66:1,15 68:4 72:14 73:16 79:25	boasting 24:11	buildings 31:2
be... 8:9 19:15	body 9:8 69:12 74:11	bullet 7:15
Bible 39:22	body-worn 52:1,7,15 72:16	bully 6:1
Biden 16:13	Bolawrap 78:24 79:2	bullying 5:21
big 7:4 17:1 22:15 29:5 40:15, 16	book 54:23,24	bunch 38:10 57:24
Birmingham 26:22	books 71:14	burden 55:1
	boots 9:2	Burkes-weathers 20:4
	BOPC 14:16	Burton 11:25
	born 54:12,13	business 2:18 16:1 48:4 67:3, 5,6,7 68:4,7 71:9 73:2 74:21 75:7 77:6
	bothering 51:17 69:22	businesses 68:17,19
	bottom 73:3	Butler 8:21 9:4 15:3,13,14,17, 19,24 37:21,24 39:11 43:8,12 60:12 61:20 62:2
	bought 71:25	Butler's 43:5
		butt 37:24

buttressed 17:25
Butzel 15:8,12 20:22,23 45:12
but... 48:22

C

Caesars 67:14
call 11:17 37:8 40:21,22,25
 53:3
called 2:3 4:4 7:6 9:10 30:13
caller 62:14 73:10
calling 52:4
calls 42:22 43:19 44:2
cam 9:8 74:11
camera 52:15,16
cameras 52:1,7 72:16
Camille 21:19
campus 3:3 30:9 31:3
Candace 14:21
candidates 76:5,7,19
candy 19:3 21:20 45:10
can... 69:15
Capstone 76:16
captain 16:10 21:1 39:10
 42:20,22
captured 52:16
car 5:11,15,16 55:23,24 58:19
 63:21
cards 11:1
care 6:24 10:3 61:2
career 26:15 32:18,19,23
 33:14 34:17
careful 10:1 56:13
cares 37:10
Carnegie 24:21
carried 13:5 14:4,16 26:1
 28:22 32:11 33:6 35:7 75:7

78:12 81:5
carries 16:2
carry 10:17
cars 4:6,7 44:22
Carter 12:1 17:4 38:15
Carter's 15:3
case 8:15 39:24 46:6,19,21
 47:8,21 48:23 52:5 61:11
cases 49:17 52:19,22 74:13
Cass 5:19 23:5 26:19
casual 52:3,21
categories 51:24
celebrated 42:25
Center 45:12
central 23:7 68:4,6 73:1
century 30:17
certificate 19:14,15
certificates 12:10,13 17:9
 19:25
cetera 37:5 51:8,17 58:14 65:5
chair 3:11 8:11,19 12:11,17
 13:13 14:18 18:20 28:13,25
 29:12 32:2 33:3 36:3 39:9,20
 41:16 42:19 45:20,22 47:3,9,
 17,18 49:23 50:6,20 51:18,20
 53:14,22 56:25 59:17 66:8
 67:18,25 74:22 75:10,14 77:5
 78:15 79:13,14
Chairman 2:20 12:22 22:24
 28:25 29:1,20 35:9 58:6 70:11
 76:25
Chairperson 2:1,16 3:9,15,20
 4:18 5:2 6:2,12,18,23 8:7,10,
 18 10:7 11:16 12:7,12,16,23
 13:1,4,9,15,18,21,23,25 14:3,
 10,12,15 15:6,18,23 16:20,24
 17:10,14 19:3,18,20 20:6,12,
 17 21:14,23 22:1,22 25:15,20,
 25 28:11,16,20 29:8,11,16
 30:5 31:25 32:4,7,10 34:11,22
 35:1,6,12 39:14,18 41:17

42:20,22 43:2 45:21,24 46:20
 47:7,12 48:20,23,25 49:9,20
 50:2,4 51:3,19 53:15,20 54:19
 55:12,15 56:24 57:2 58:3,20
 59:4,11,14,19 60:9 61:15,17
 62:1,14,17,22 64:1,3,10,12,18
 66:5 67:24 69:1,11,16,20
 70:7,13,24 71:2,17,21 72:9
 73:3,14 74:21 75:1,2,6,11,21
 77:2,7,10,17,21 78:5,11,14,16
 79:11,22 80:25 81:4
championships 24:15,16
change 54:11 55:5
changing 65:5
Chaplain 2:4,6
chapter 27:16,17
character 41:24
Charles 14:25
Charnita 10:9
charter 23:17 54:23 73:22
chased 61:9
Chauncey 11:5
check 68:8
cherishing 34:17
chief 2:4,21 7:5,10 8:23 10:5
 14:17,18 15:1 17:20 18:3
 35:25 36:2 37:6 38:14 39:6,
 15,17,20,25 40:13 41:14,18
 42:2 45:23 46:1,12 47:9,14,
 17,25 48:14,18,21,24 54:3
 59:5,16,17,21 60:8 61:20
 62:19 64:21 65:17 66:1,15
 67:19 68:1,4 71:22 72:10,14
 73:17,20 75:25 76:1,5,6 79:4,
 14,25
Chief... 72:8
children 27:21 35:17,18 51:8
 54:9,10,12,13,14 55:6,9
choice 54:11
choose 62:13
chose 5:22 22:7

church 61:5 78:3
cited 24:2
citizen 3:5 6:12,14 37:4 51:21
 57:19 58:20 70:8,9
citizens 11:11 25:7,11 28:4,9
 30:15 31:17,22 43:15,25 52:4,
 9,22 53:1 62:12
citizen's 69:3
city 2:9 5:19,20 7:1 9:6,7,14
 10:12 11:11 17:25 20:21
 22:20 25:7 28:5 30:10 31:17
 35:23 37:23 38:20 42:16,18
 44:2,6,8,17 52:14 63:3,4,23
 64:14,24 65:2,4,8 66:25 68:22
 69:12,13,16,22 71:5 72:25
 74:2 76:6 80:21
civility 80:7
clarity 64:21
clean 37:23
clear 34:18 49:21 66:22
clenched 24:16
Clinic 46:23 49:13
clip 52:15
close 45:16
closed 14:6
closer 58:1
closure 44:14,18
club 21:12 27:15 37:10
clubs 44:24
coalition 74:9
cold 17:16
Coleman 38:17 60:20,25
Coleman's 8:14
Colette 20:4
colleagues 20:19 75:17
collecting 60:22
college 3:3 5:5 23:8 26:18
 27:4,10 31:12 34:2

Colleges 23:7
collegiate 23:9
color 5:16
commander 15:25 16:9,11,15,
 18,22 20:20 42:21,23,24 43:3
 50:6,19 51:1,15 52:11 53:2,18
 65:15
commanders 16:16
commend 79:18
comment 64:20
comments 39:15 43:6
commission 18:1,6 19:11
 80:19
commissioner 4:2 11:18,19,
 20,22,24,25 12:1,2,4,5,6,11,
 14,17,23,25 13:1,7,8,9,10,13,
 16,20,22,24 14:8,9,10,11
 15:5,21 16:23 17:3,4,5,7,8,13,
 14,15 18:17,18,20 19:17,19,
 21 20:7,13,14 21:15,17,23,25
 22:2,24,25 23:2 25:17,19,20,
 21 26:2 28:13,15,16,18,24
 29:4,10,11,12,17 30:7 32:2,4,
 6,7,12 34:12,24,25 35:1,3,9,
 20 39:17,19 41:6,7,15,16,18
 45:20,22,25 47:2,10,13,15,24
 48:12,16 49:7,22 50:3,5,6,20
 51:1,2,4,15,16,18,20 52:12,18
 53:13,19,24 56:25 57:3,5,7,
 10,13,16 58:6 59:3,12,18,22
 62:21 64:4,7 66:5,6,7,15
 67:18,23,24,25 70:1,4,11,14
 71:3 72:1,8,10 74:5,25 75:2,3,
 9,10,11,13,14,16,18,22,23
 77:4,5,9,10,12,20,23 78:7,13,
 15,17,19 79:12,13 80:18,23,
 24,25 81:1
commissioners 2:3,8 6:14
 13:3,12 14:2,14 15:19,24
 16:9,12,17 25:6,24 28:4,19
 31:16 32:9 35:5 39:16 62:2
 73:24 75:5 76:2,8 78:10 81:3
commit 54:13,14
commitment 16:5 25:8 28:6
 31:19 34:1

committed 7:9 27:24 28:1
 33:18 43:15 46:14 68:6
committee 3:4,6 74:19 75:8,
 16,18,19,21 76:21,23 77:1,13,
 16,18 78:1,7,18,24 79:5,8
committees 27:14,19
common 74:17
communication 5:21 52:24
communications 3:10 53:21
communities 41:22 62:11
community 2:10 3:1,3 4:21,24
 15:4,13 17:22,23,25 18:2
 19:5,7,11 20:2 21:4,7 23:15
 25:10 26:17 27:11 28:8 30:15
 31:5,21 33:17 36:17 37:8,9
 38:12,24 41:11,23 42:7,15
 44:19,23,25 45:5,9,12 50:9
 51:6,9,11 60:15,18 73:18
 74:4,18 80:14
company 76:13,14,15,16 78:2
compared 44:10
compassion 16:5
competition 43:18
complain 72:5
complaining 6:8
complains 57:21
complaint 6:4,5,6,7,9,20 9:21
 51:21 57:4,14 58:21 59:8,14,
 23 60:4 69:4 70:9
complaints 3:5 6:13,14 37:4
 52:9 56:19 57:11,20 58:22
 59:5,6 60:2 61:12
complete 41:4
completed 23:18
completely 48:1
completes 79:10
complex 20:23 30:19
compliance 52:13
comply 10:16,19

composite 23:25
Composition 24:5
composure 57:17
comprised 23:12
Compstat 52:12
concern 66:8
concerned 62:7 66:9
concert 45:5
conditions 54:15 55:2,3,5
condolences 19:8,10
conduct 76:2
conducted 66:3
conducting 40:6
conducts 48:4
conference 80:13,16
confidence 42:4 77:25
confiscated 66:12
confiscating 63:1
congratulate 31:23 73:16
congratulations 7:10 28:22
 29:2 39:20
connect 4:22 49:9 72:9 76:15
connections 49:23
Conservancy 31:7
consideration 76:22
considered 68:2,7
consistent 36:21
constant 52:24
constantly 11:10 63:1 66:20
consultant 33:12
contact 18:4 34:8
continue 4:11 5:25 11:12
 42:6,17 75:12
continued 32:21
continuous 34:19

contributed 44:8,11 46:16
contributions 25:8 28:6 31:18
conversation 53:4
conversations 41:21
convicted 48:1
Conviction 46:22 48:5 49:15
cooperating 21:25
copy 35:14 72:23
correct 4:15 47:23
corrected 53:11
correctly 26:5 46:1
council 15:13 35:23 65:5
 68:22 69:16 74:2 76:6
councilman 4:12,19,22 7:1
counterfeit 65:21 71:24 72:5,6
country 29:25 38:18,19
Counts 61:11
County 3:2 26:17
couple 4:4 45:1 53:11 61:11
courage 28:7 31:20
court 8:17 14:25 49:18 60:19,
 24
courtesy 58:17
covered 61:13
Cox 19:9,12
Craig 7:5
create 34:19 68:18
created 80:15
creates 65:22
creating 48:5
creation 30:20
credit 11:1
crime 7:16 44:3 54:12,14
 57:18
crimes 57:19

criminal 40:2 49:1,2
criminalize 54:25 55:4
crisis 54:8,9,16,22
critical 30:14
criticisms 42:3
cross 23:10
Crowley 8:12
crown 4:13,15,20
crying 63:14,16 70:14
curriculum 23:9 31:11
Curtis 3:3
cut 66:22
CVI 55:8

D

daily 44:22 61:2
Damon 12:19
dance 20:15 24:22
Dante 14:19
dark 57:16,18
Darrell 75:22
Darryl 7:24
dashboard 63:6 80:15
database 58:15
date 44:2,9 60:24 76:24
daughter 7:23 60:21
Davis 15:5 53:24 55:14,16
 57:6,9,12,15,22 58:23 59:10,
 18,22 60:6
day 2:7 5:8 11:3 37:16 42:25
 56:11 60:16 80:4
daylight 38:10
days 21:7 45:17 76:20
DC 2:6
deal 39:7

Dean 33:4	Detroit 2:9,25 5:4 7:1,11 10:12 17:25 20:21 23:14 25:1,5,7,12 26:18 27:16,21 28:5,9 29:23 31:5,16,18,22 32:17,25 36:8 37:3,16 38:3,21,23 40:24 42:19 44:3,6,9 45:2 59:25 61:5 62:25 63:3,4,24 64:15,17 65:2,8 69:13,14,15 70:18 72:25 76:15,16 80:21	distinct 32:19
Dear 75:17	Detroit's 22:19 23:4	distinguished 32:18
Dearborn 56:1 57:25	develop 33:5 57:20	district 3:3 7:1 11:21,22 12:2 15:20,25 16:19 17:1,3,4,5,6 18:21 22:10 23:15,16 33:2 50:15 60:15 68:5,7 73:2
December 3:2 60:25	developing 79:1	Districts 16:25 33:9
decide 79:9	Development 34:2	dive 58:3
decided 9:8 56:20 78:25	develops 30:14	diverse 33:14
decision 8:24	device 11:8	divide 50:16
decoration 29:5	Devils 21:12	division 24:17
dedicated 21:4 27:13,20,22 29:8 34:15	Dewaelsche 12:6 13:8,10 28:15,18 34:24 35:2 66:6 67:24,25 75:9,10,14,23 78:15	document 54:23
dedication 16:6 21:8	didn't 70:23	doesn't 69:13
deep 32:20 58:3	die 7:19	dollar 11:13
deeply 33:18 35:16 79:25 80:2	died 7:20	dollars 17:24
degree 26:10,13 33:24	difference 38:8	door 55:23
Delta 27:12	diligence 59:7	doors 15:11
demeanor 52:2,8,19,20 53:10	diligently 48:7	Dorsey 21:11
Demolition 20:21	direct 9:3	Dowdy 9:19,20,21,22
denials 73:25	direction 19:13 54:5	downfall 53:8
Deonte 34:15	directors 10:22	downtown 62:25 63:25 64:15, 17 65:3,9 67:1,6,7,8,9 68:1,13 71:20 72:17,21 73:1
department 7:11 11:3 20:21 24:19,24 33:3 36:9 37:4,16 38:3,23 40:11 42:6,18 50:21 56:1,17,20,22 57:23,25 60:1 61:6 68:9 78:25 80:7	discipline 36:16	DPD 78:22
departments 20:18	disclosure 74:11	DPSCD 31:6
deputy 2:4 17:24 36:7,23 37:22 38:13 39:3 47:19 75:25 79:4	discriminating 67:11	DPSD 31:6
Deshante 2:4	discussed 78:24	draft 79:7
desk 60:6	discussion 13:2 14:1,12 25:22 28:20,21 32:8 35:3 75:3 77:20,22,23 81:1	drawing 25:3
detail 72:11	dispensed 17:24	dream 26:23
details 72:16	display 25:10 28:7 31:20	Drew 14:22
Detective 46:13	disrespectful 5:21	drive 5:15
detectives 7:18 44:13		driver 33:17
determine 65:20		DSM-5 54:22
determined 76:24		DSM-5... 54:18
		due 59:7
		Duggan's 38:1

dump 11:3
 duration 52:2
 duties 16:2
 Dyke 33:8
 Dylan 27:2,4,6

E

Earl 53:16
 earlier 51:5
 early 79:19
 earned 33:23
 Eastern 26:13 34:6
 echo 47:18
 economic 41:22
 educate 35:17
 education 26:12,14 31:8
 32:17,19 33:24,25 34:2 35:16
 educational 22:9 32:23 33:13
 34:20
 educator 26:9 34:18
 Edward 20:9 44:20
 Edwards 53:25 60:10,11,12,
 14 61:16,19
 effective 16:3 42:8
 Eighth 23:15
 ELA 33:3
 elected 14:17 15:2 54:7
 elementary 31:13
 eligible 23:17
 email 53:4
 emeritus 34:8
 emotional 27:25
 emphasis 66:9
 emphasizes 24:22
 employee 74:24

Employment 76:16
 empower 35:17
 empowered 56:7
 emulated 43:9
 enables 30:18
 encounter 53:8
 encounters 27:24 54:18
 encourage 4:22
 encouraged 19:1
 endanger 11:12
 endangering 11:9
 endeavors 25:14 28:10 30:23
 31:23
 endorsement 39:11
 enforcement 18:3 38:23 65:11
 74:8
 engaged 80:17
 engagements 52:4
 engaging 52:25 73:1
 engineering 30:18 31:10
 English 24:4 32:24 33:25
 enjoyed 39:3
 enjoying 21:1
 enjoys 27:8 34:16
 ensure 52:8,25 59:23
 ensuring 33:20 42:8
 entertain 12:8 13:5 14:6 74:22
 80:23
 entertained 14:4
 entertaining 27:9
 entire 51:8
 entity 76:4
 entry 7:18
 environment 33:19 34:19
 45:10

equally 76:4
 equipped 73:7
 equitable 30:21 33:20 34:20
 Eric 74:9
 Errol 20:16
 escape 54:15
 essay 23:19
 essence 34:8
 established 37:18 38:16
 ethnicities 5:15
 Eva 75:23
 evaluated 4:9
 evaluation 74:24
 evening 2:1,20,23 5:1,2 6:25
 14:24 15:7 17:16,18 18:8 36:2
 54:2 55:13 74:4
 event 45:6,11 50:13
 events 44:25 74:12
 eventually 30:24
 everyday 44:25
 everyone's 46:1
 everything's 5:12
 Eves 20:9 50:11
 evidence 65:18 66:16
 evolve 32:22
 ex-officio 75:22
 exam 24:5 68:11
 examination 23:14
 exceeds 23:25
 excel 42:17
 excelled 73:19
 excellence 24:7 25:9,10 28:6
 31:19 34:1
 excellent 4:19 52:18 68:14
 excels 24:10

excuse 2:21 49:20 54:19
59:19 64:10,12 70:13

excused 11:24 12:1,4

executive 76:3

exhausted 69:1

exist 55:5

exonerates 49:10

expand 25:3

expanding 33:12

expect 2:17 56:10

expected 23:21

experience 32:22

experiences 76:18

experiencing 44:3

explain 8:14

explained 7:13 68:15 79:5

exposure 45:4

extend 43:3

extended 31:11

extensive 31:11 45:13

extra 51:12 54:21 55:17

eye 54:16

eyes 46:15

F

face 49:25

facilities 11:4

facility 11:6

fact 6:2 7:19 9:4 42:4 57:22
59:12 68:8,13,15,16

faith 42:4

familiar 46:21 47:21 48:23,24
50:24 54:18

families 10:3 33:15

family 5:22 9:24 21:9 27:9

31:6 34:18 46:6,8,10,18,19
47:3,18 48:10 49:24 50:15

family's 46:9

fan 40:25

fashion 43:25

fatal 44:15

fatally 21:6

Father 2:6

favor 13:2,10,25 14:1,12 25:23
28:18 32:8 35:4 75:4 78:9
79:21 81:2

favorite 20:17

favor... 77:19

featured 25:1

federal 11:14

fee 76:13,14,16,17

feel 9:13,24 50:23 56:7 58:25
69:20

fees 76:18

Felicia 14:22

females 23:12

Ferndale 33:8

Ferry 76:12

festivals 64:5

field 24:14 41:1 67:14 72:11

fight 79:20

fighter 37:21

fighting 47:3

figure 57:16,18 72:13

file 57:3,11,13

filed 61:8,12

final 30:3 73:22

finally 26:23 29:20 78:17

find 42:4

finding 6:16 73:6

finish 77:7

firm 76:4,18

firms 76:10

fixed 74:1

flags 41:1

flex 59:1

flowers 36:18,23

focus 30:18 31:10 33:15 45:1

focused 44:4

folders 59:6

folks 36:25 37:12 38:20 39:1
40:14

follow 3:23 67:19 68:25

foot 37:24

footage 9:8 52:15

football 27:10 40:22

footballer 41:13

force 57:23

Ford 67:14 72:11

forefront 55:7

forgotten 30:1

formally 73:16

Fort 3:4

forward 41:10 42:13 55:6 80:5

Foster 53:24 54:2,22

fostering 33:18

fosters 34:19

found 36:20 65:19

foundation 31:7 33:6

fourth 45:6

fragments 7:16

frame 7:13 22:15

frames 29:5

Franklin 20:16,19 50:11 53:17

fraud 7:2,8
Fredia 8:21 15:3,13 37:21,24
 39:11 60:12
freedom 37:21
Friday 4:1,9
friend 17:22
friendly 43:17
friends 27:9
Fries 14:23
front 5:11 18:14 51:22 68:17,
 19
full 39:10 40:7,12 41:3 76:22
future 25:13 28:10 30:21
 31:23

G

Gadget 49:4
gains 32:22
game 40:22 41:9,10 72:15,19
 79:19
gang 60:17
garbage 11:2
Garnier 2:20 3:19 11:18,19,20,
 22,24,25 12:1,2,4,5,6 14:18
 75:24
Garza 75:23
gas 71:7
gave 3:24 63:16,18 66:17
 69:12
Geico 17:12
general 48:8 49:3 61:12 69:18
gentleman 57:7
gentlemen 4:25 18:14 22:7
 29:22 78:20
George 4:2
Girls 24:13

give 2:19 7:4,9 8:22 10:5 16:7
 17:7,10 19:8,25 26:1 27:6
 35:7,18 37:20 38:5 43:16 46:4
 49:23 50:2,4,10 54:20 55:19
 56:5,6 61:8,17,22 63:9,13,15,
 16,19 66:13,14 70:21,24
 71:14 73:6
giving 16:14 36:18,23 63:10
glad 17:16 43:6 52:11 59:18,
 22,24 66:15
glasses 21:25
Glenda 3:13,22
God 4:5 18:15 35:25 39:21,22
 40:18 46:3,4
Golden 34:3
good 2:1 5:1,2 6:25 8:22
 15:15,17,18 17:11 20:10
 29:18 36:2 39:3,12,13 48:16
 54:2,5 55:11,13 56:16 79:15,
 18 80:13
Google 4:14 68:5
Goss 14:19
gossip 57:14
Governor 34:5
GPA 23:21
graciously 51:11
grade 23:15 51:7 71:17
grades 30:25
graduate 27:3 30:21
graduated 5:19
graduation 31:13
grandfather 11:6
graphics 25:4
great 15:11 16:4,6 18:10 19:5,
 24 21:20 25:7 26:3,4 28:5
 30:12 31:17 38:16 43:6 45:4,
 6,11 53:16 60:1 62:12 73:19
 80:8
green 15:16 37:20 74:11

Greenfield 71:7
greet 80:4
Gregory 3:13 5:3
Gretchen 34:5
ground 9:2 74:18 80:1
group 16:1
groups 56:19
growing 41:19
growth 28:1
guarantee 56:23
guess 29:18 39:11 66:8 73:17
gun 7:14,18
gunshot 7:15,20
guy 35:19 52:4
guys 19:6 23:13 30:8 55:10
 62:16 80:8
gymnasiums 18:12

H

hall 6:24 24:21
Halloween 45:10
Hampton 20:15
Hamtramck 27:1
hand 38:6
handcuffs 63:6
handled 59:15
handles 48:4
handling 8:14,16
Handyside 14:25
happen 16:12 49:2
happened 69:4 70:15
happening 56:22
happy 4:23 8:25 37:16 39:2
 52:13
harass 6:1

harassed 5:8 55:18,22 56:5
harassing 5:22 62:25
hard 21:8,11 43:8 59:8
Harris 15:9 20:24
hate 8:23
hating 43:17
hats 73:18
have... 49:8
Hayes 14:21
head 38:1
Headquarters 3:1
health 4:20 55:1
healthy 43:18
hear 80:5
heard 3:16,21 29:14 58:23
 66:8 73:14 74:5
heart 38:9
heat 79:19
Heavenly 2:6
held 3:1 75:20
helps 32:16
Henry 14:25
Herbert 80:12
Hernandez 12:4 75:12,13,21
 76:25
Hernandez's 75:16
Hey 41:14
he's 54:20 80:19,20
high 12:19,20 22:6,17,18,19,
 20 23:4,6,13,14,20,22,23
 24:2,10,18 25:9 26:8,21,24,25
 27:1,3,5,7 29:18,24 31:13
 32:25 33:18 43:15,20 51:7
 55:19
highest 44:15
historic 44:3

Historical 61:5
hitting 80:1
hold 14:1
holds 26:10
home 4:3 5:11 45:13
homeless 10:10,13,14
homicide 7:17 9:19,22,23 10:3
honed 33:1
honestly 41:21
honor 22:7 35:10
honoring 22:17 30:12
honors 25:8 28:5 31:18
hope 22:18 49:24 61:23 62:10
 73:20,25
hoping 42:17 73:20 74:16
hospital 4:8
hospitality 15:11
hosted 50:11
hours 4:4
housed 31:2
Houston 5:6
Human 34:2
humbled 43:5
hurting 46:9
husband 26:25

I

I'M... 40:12
IA 40:5
ID 5:10
identified 53:11 54:7
identify 30:19 54:25 60:11
 76:4
ill 9:9
illegal 11:8,9,14

illness 3:25 54:17,22 55:1
immature 54:15
immediately 51:13
immobilizes 79:4
impact 33:13
impolite 52:21
important 10:4 18:13 34:5
 57:11
importantly 18:12
impressed 80:2,18
impressive 24:13
improved 25:11 28:8 31:21
improvement 33:11 34:20
improving 18:8
incarcerated 46:7
incident 53:8 63:5
incidents 52:16
include 75:20
includes 18:22 23:19 31:6
including 24:25 33:3
individual 4:3 7:13 9:10 53:25
individuals 4:16 22:5 45:9
 60:3,17
influencer 37:9
information 3:23,24 8:13
 60:21 61:8,22 74:15
informative 9:2
informed 67:20
inheritance 60:19,23
injustice 49:5
Innocence 49:13
innocent 46:23,24
input 19:1 42:7
inside 19:24 72:18
insight 38:5

Inspector 49:4 61:12
instance 73:22 74:18
Institute 25:1 45:2
institution 32:17
institutions 22:9
instructed 41:19
instrumental 24:19
insurance 7:8 58:14,15
integrated 44:21
integrity 41:2,25 46:22 48:5 49:15
intellect 48:4
intention 52:20
interested 41:11 69:4
Interim 36:2 39:25 45:23 46:1, 12 47:9,14,17,25 48:14,18,21, 24 54:3 59:17,21 60:8 64:21 65:17 66:1 68:4 72:14 73:17 79:25
internal 40:5 65:14
internet 4:14
interpreter 14:24
introduce 15:25
introduction 14:16
invaluable 32:22
inventory 2:22
invested 18:9
investigate 6:15
investigated 61:10 69:6 70:8, 9
investigation 5:13 8:3 41:4 44:16 64:19 65:14 66:2 73:4
investigations 40:6 49:2,17 66:2 74:16
investigative 44:13
investigator 14:19,23 61:11 69:3 72:9 79:15

investigators 6:15,16 7:18 49:1 73:5
Investigator's 2:21
invite 80:10
involved 10:22 27:11,16 37:10 56:21 61:4
involvement 42:7
irresistible 39:7
Irvin 2:4,6
isn't 15:15 69:23
issue 5:25 6:10,11 11:10 52:6 65:22 67:19 68:18 69:17 72:22,24
issued 65:8 72:25
issues 18:2,5 44:23 53:9 74:2
item 78:20,24
items 64:2,9,11 65:19,21 71:4
it's 59:8 66:24
Ivery 3:3
I... 70:25
I'll 48:20
I'm 40:19 64:7

J

Jack 27:15
Jackson 20:10,11 44:20 50:10
Jadante 8:20
jail 63:14,21 70:17
James 4:12 6:25 7:5,11 60:15
Jameson 39:24 41:8,15
January 62:7
Jasmine 14:22
Jazz 45:4
Jennifer 20:2
Jerome 14:19

Jesus 75:21 76:24
Jesus' 2:14
JG 76:15
Jill 27:15
JM 76:15
Jnr 7:1
Jnr... 9:7
job 5:25 16:8 26:19,23 39:12, 13 40:13,15,16,18 46:5 54:5 58:5 59:15 60:1 79:15,18 80:8
John 9:6
joined 19:22
Jonya 14:20
Jordan 34:16
Joshua 14:21
journey 32:20
Jr 7:12
July 45:4
junior 27:4 32:25
jurisdiction 48:2
jury 47:22 48:1
justice 30:18 31:11 56:1,20,21 57:23
just... 57:6

K

Kaniesha 8:14
Kaniesha's 7:7
keeping 3:17,18 9:2 51:4
key 32:13 33:2,17 53:3 75:19
kids 34:6 45:4 51:13
kill 60:18,22,23
killed 9:10
kind 52:23 69:1
kindergartens 51:7

kindly 3:9 4:19 10:7 15:7
35:21 39:15 42:20 70:10
79:11

King 32:24

Klan 62:9

knew 72:6

knowledge 30:16

know... 71:18

Korn 76:12

Kresge 31:7

Kym 9:7

L

lack 77:25

ladies 22:7 29:21 78:20

lady 26:4 70:21

landed 26:23

landscape 33:13

Language 32:24

larger 54:23,24

lasso 79:3

lastly 45:7,11

late 38:16

Latisha 60:14

Latonya 75:25

law 5:7 10:18 18:2 38:22 54:24
68:9,24 74:7 76:12

Lawrence 26:25

laws 10:17

lawyer 68:8

lead 44:17 52:14

leader 15:8 16:3,5,6 26:4 54:8

leaders 30:17 54:6

leadership 27:14 32:12 33:6,
25 42:17 50:7

leading 32:21 50:17

learning 31:5 33:20 34:19

led 44:20 50:9

Lee 9:4

left 7:14,21 26:4

legal 59:13 74:24

legally 65:11 71:15

Let all 62:12

letter 8:4

letting 45:15

let... 8:16

let's 16:17

level 24:25 42:15 43:15 44:15
49:3,4 53:11

levels 41:22

Liberty 19:22

license 58:13,24 63:2,23
64:14,25 65:1,8 66:22,23,24
67:2,3,5,9 68:12 69:12 70:18
71:12

life 9:25 11:9,12 16:12 21:11
25:11 27:20 28:9 31:22 34:18

lifelong 25:8 28:5 31:18

lift 38:21

light 6:10 64:5 74:12

Limit 75:25

limitation 61:23

Lincoln 27:3,5,6

Linda 11:20 38:15 75:22

lions 40:25 41:14,15

Lisa 12:19 32:14,15

Lisonya 14:23

list 11:1 24:9 71:20 76:7

listen 30:1 70:17

listened 74:3

listener 16:6

listening 41:8 55:10

literally 46:11,14 67:13

Literature 24:5

liters 7:21

live 11:9 80:16

living 11:5 56:8

local 24:25 27:17

located 3:4

lodge 59:23

London 24:20

long 40:4 53:6

looked 56:1 64:23

Lorenzo 20:15

Los 76:12

loses 9:25

loss 7:20,21

lost 7:21

lot 5:23 19:13 29:5 36:19,24,
25 37:2,12 38:10 42:10 46:10
49:11,16 53:9 57:18 58:23
63:22 66:8 71:4

lots 22:18

love 19:13 20:8 42:11 43:7
75:12 80:15

loved 21:7

loving 21:8

Luther 32:24

Lydia 75:24

M

Macomb 26:17

Madam 3:17 18:20 25:12

made 8:25 12:23 22:8 25:20
28:16 32:4 35:1 37:24 40:19
41:10 62:4 65:12 74:14 76:21
80:25

magic 29:14
mahogany 30:11
mail 60:24
mainstay 42:6
mainstream 54:15
maintain 23:21
maintaining 33:19
major 8:23
majority 59:25
make 3:16 9:14,15 12:21
 29:19 35:14 45:25 49:21
 51:16 54:12 56:17 64:19 66:1
 69:10 70:8
makers 30:16,17
makes 31:9 40:19 56:7
making 18:24 43:24
making... 6:7
MALE 42:21 49:19
males 23:12
mama 20:7
man 7:2,25 40:16 42:23 47:4
 49:23
manage 37:2
manager 58:4
marble 30:11
Marie 15:2
Mario 46:7,12 47:23,25
market 71:7
married 21:3
Martin 32:24
Mary 14:21
Marygrove 12:18 30:4,7,8,13,
 14,24 31:2,3,4,5,7,9,20,24
 32:11,16
massive 7:20
master's 26:10 33:25

mathematics 26:12,16,17
matriculation 27:23
matter 7:19 9:5 22:12 50:16
maturity 28:1
Maxine 46:13
mayor 17:24 36:7,24 37:22
 38:1,16 39:3,5 47:19 76:5
mayor's 8:25
ma'am 20:11 49:19
Mcallister 35:23
Mcgadney 3:13,22
Mcginnis 65:15
meaningful 80:21
means 10:14 43:22
medal 24:9
Media 15:1
meeting 2:10,13,24 3:1 9:1
 16:18 29:19,23 37:14 44:22
 74:3,4,6 75:16,19 76:23 79:7,
 8,9 80:19 81:8
meetings 3:5
meets 36:18,21
member 6:3,4 19:12 21:4
 27:12,15 35:23 37:9 61:17
 74:19 78:2
members 5:23 6:19 9:24
 16:17 19:9 40:11 62:9,11
 78:22
membership 27:13
memo 75:15,16
memorandum 75:8
memory 68:6
men 36:8 56:14 59:25
mental 3:25 4:15,20 54:16,17,
 22,25 55:1
mentally 9:9
mention 22:11 24:13 59:12

mentor 27:22
mess 70:19
met 37:13,15 39:25 73:18
metro 27:21
mic 54:1 62:22 74:6
Michael 60:13 64:22
Michigan 7:6 8:2,5 26:11,13
 31:8 33:23 34:4,7 46:22 48:8
 49:13
Microphone 62:21
middle 45:1 61:9 77:8
Mile 30:9
miles 27:2,3 43:14
million 10:13
millions 17:24
minded 30:15
minds 54:15
Minister 74:9
minor 5:6
minute 7:3 25:13
minutes 7:2,12 13:6,15,19,21
 14:5 61:21
Miranda 12:20
misconduct 46:14 51:24 52:6
mission 36:12
mistaken 64:15,16
Mitchell 21:1
model 43:8
modern 24:23
mom 20:4 60:21
mom's 60:18
mom's 60:23
Monday 43:1
money 7:7 63:8,9,10,13,15,16,
 17,18 65:13 66:13,14 69:10
 70:21

month 50:12
Moore 12:2,11,14,17,24 17:5
 18:18,20 25:19,21 32:6,7
 34:25 35:3,20 50:6 56:25
 57:3,7,10,13,16 66:5,7,15
 67:18,23 74:25 75:2 80:18
Morehouse 27:4,6 29:13,14
morning 40:18
Moss 3:13 5:1,3 6:6,17,22
mother 19:9 34:15 46:13
motion 12:8,21,23 13:4,5,14
 14:3,4,6,15 25:20,25 28:16,22
 32:4,10 35:1,6 74:22 75:6
 77:8 78:11 80:23,25 81:4
motivating 32:21
motorcycle 21:6,12
move 25:17 28:13 32:2 34:24
 42:12
moved 5:4 13:7,9 14:8,10
 74:25 75:2 77:4,10 78:8
movement 4:19
moving 20:3 33:1 55:6
multifaceted 32:18,19
Mumford 12:19 29:18 30:3
murders 44:7
music 24:19

N

NACOLE 38:14
nagging 66:20
nation 24:2
national 23:24 24:1,6
nationally 24:22
needed 69:6
neighbor 44:23
neighborhood 3:23,25 4:11
 20:2,9,14,16 44:19 68:19

neighborhoods 44:21 50:23
 72:21
nephew 55:18,22 56:10 57:9
 58:18 59:23
News 24:8
next... 29:10
nice 9:18
nobody's 51:16,17
non- 44:14
non-fatal 44:9,17
north 22:21 23:7
novelty 64:2,9 65:21 71:4
November 2:2,22,23,24 3:6,7
 13:6 14:7 16:11 17:17 75:20
 76:9,11
no... 77:22
NPO 20:17
NPOS 50:9,11
number 22:20 23:5 43:22
 44:4,12 46:24 58:9 59:6 74:7
 78:21
numbers 41:22 44:3 50:2,4
 51:22
numerous 24:13,24 44:25

O

O'ROURKE 16:9,10,15,18
 39:10
Oak 33:1
Obama 56:2
obey 61:23
obligated 68:25
occupation 56:8
OCI 14:23
offer 24:21
offers 23:8

office 2:21 4:23 15:3 76:9,11
officer 4:1 11:5,6 20:3,9,14,16
 37:15 44:20 57:17,20 58:8,12
 68:10 76:1
officers 2:9 4:5 5:8,13,21
 10:15 11:11 17:20 36:10
 44:13 50:24 51:25 52:25
 55:20 56:5,13,14,16,17 58:24
 61:1 62:4,5,9,10 65:10 67:12,
 15 68:24 72:14,17,20
Officials 14:17 15:2
oftentimes 51:23
of... 9:6
oldest 38:18,19
ongoing 74:16
open 2:5 45:17 55:23
opened 31:1
opening 15:10
operate 62:10
opinion 38:8
opportunities 33:20 34:21
opportunity 25:3 39:5 54:8
opposed 13:4 14:3,15 25:25
 28:22 32:10 35:6 75:6 78:11
 81:4
oral 3:10 53:21
order 2:3 5:12 11:1 22:22 26:3
 54:20 59:20 64:12 77:12
ordinance 65:6 66:25 68:9
 72:23
ordinances 64:24,25 68:21
organization 16:2 49:10
oriented 31:11
originally 55:16
overlap 16:25
overridden 73:25
overshadow 42:1

oversight 36:11 38:11,19 42:9
 overturned 49:18
 overview 43:13
 owned 7:7
 O'rouke 16:22 20:20 42:24
 43:3 50:19 51:1,15 52:11
 53:2,18

P

p.m. 81:8
 P20 31:5 32:16
 paid 37:1 65:25 73:8
 pain 46:9,10 47:4
 painting 25:4
 pardon 27:2 33:3
 parents 33:16
 Park 33:1 45:5
 parliamentary 77:14
 Parnell 37:13,15,17
 parochial 23:17
 part 16:8 22:25 31:4 34:10
 56:1 69:14,15
 participants 2:13
 participate 4:23
 participated 74:19
 participates 79:5
 participating 30:20 78:23
 partner 18:3 42:13 51:6
 partners 5:14 32:16
 partnership 31:5 32:16 44:18
 party 19:24
 pass 24:4 61:16
 passed 19:9 64:25
 passing 21:19 23:20
 passion 32:20 43:8

passionate 49:5
 passions 30:22
 past 4:1,9
 patient 8:15,16
 patrolling 50:23
 pattern 57:20
 pay 10:15 22:12 71:17
 paying 11:11,13
 people 5:23 10:2,10,14 18:11
 19:6 22:8 34:9 49:14 56:4,7
 57:11 59:1 62:6 63:23 71:4,7
 percentage 52:13
 perfect 52:17
 perform 23:24
 performed 24:20
 period 2:22 10:20 11:4
 permission 28:24
 Pernell 21:18
 person 10:1,2 49:16 56:12
 personal 11:8 30:22 50:21
 51:11
 personally 30:2 49:14 50:21
 53:9
 personas 42:1
 Personnel 75:8,15,18 76:21,
 23,25 77:15,18 78:7
 persons 78:21,23
 persons... 22:3
 perspective 54:11
 perspectives 55:6
 phenomenal 19:4,23 29:24
 50:9
 phone 7:3,12
 photography 25:4
 picture 21:16
 piece 40:4 65:11,12

Pistons 72:19
 Pitt 12:19
 place 18:8 45:14 71:24 73:4
 placement 23:20 24:1,4
 plagued 44:5
 plan 2:11 54:17
 planned 55:16
 playing 40:24
 pleasant 17:17
 pleased 4:1
 pleasure 25:15 28:11 31:25
 34:22 36:3 77:2 78:6
 plenty 66:11,12
 Plymouth 61:9
 PM 2:2,25 3:2,6,7 80:11
 pocket 63:19
 point 22:22 52:6 54:19 57:14
 59:19 68:14 74:6 77:12
 points 65:7
 police 2:3,8 5:8,13,16 6:13
 7:5,6,11 8:5 9:10,11,12 11:10
 14:17 15:1 20:2,4,9,14,16
 25:6 28:3 31:16 35:25 36:9
 37:3,14,16 38:3,23 39:6 40:13
 42:2,18 44:19 46:14 49:3 55:4
 57:25 60:1 61:6,8 62:4,5,24,
 25 63:5,24 67:11 68:10 69:22,
 23 70:3,4,5 72:14,17 73:24
 74:12 75:17 76:1,2,5,7,8 80:7,
 19
 policies 57:24 58:1
 policing 42:8
 policy 58:4,7 68:20 78:18,23
 79:2,7,8
 political 5:6,18 69:10
 population 23:10
 positions 33:5
 positive 9:15 35:20

possession 74:13
possibly 46:18 61:14 65:6
postponement 74:23
poverty 54:14
power 36:11 47:5,7,10
powering 56:19
practice 31:10
praise 55:20
pray 4:11 19:12
prayer 2:5
prayers 4:10 19:13 75:12
praying 19:11 40:17
pre- 5:6
precinct 10:23 15:4,7,12 16:1, 10,17,25 18:25 19:22 21:5 43:11,13,16,19,25 44:5,7,11, 24 45:14 50:8,12,13,22 52:7, 13,14 55:19,21 60:7 61:4,7
precincts 18:22 50:15,17 80:3
preliminary 40:11
premier 22:19 23:4
preparatory 23:8
prepared 30:21
present 9:12 11:18,19,21,22 12:2,6 20:3,5,19,25 21:10,12 35:24 78:22
presented 38:14,15
president 15:12 16:13 27:18 34:9 35:15
press 80:12,14,16
Pressley 12:5 15:21 22:25 25:17,21 28:13,17,25 29:13, 15 32:2,5 41:16,18 51:18,20 52:18 53:13 77:12,20,23 78:13,17
pretty 54:4 67:11
prevent 60:20,22

previous 43:6 76:18
previously 56:19
principal 12:18 26:8,20,21,23 27:1 30:2 32:13,15 33:7,11,22 34:14
principals 35:12,13
Principle 25:12
principles 31:10
printed 29:6
prior 55:25
priority 43:19
priority-one 44:1
prison 46:8,17 49:14
private 23:16 70:1
probable 58:11
probate 60:19
problem 56:4 62:18,20,24 63:21 64:13 70:18
problematic 51:25
problems 30:19
procedure 51:25
procedures 57:24 58:2
proceeded 63:19
process 8:4 76:20
processes 16:5
procurement 75:25 76:9,11
product 63:1
productive 9:3 55:8
profanity 52:3
professional 26:15 30:23 34:14 53:1,2,5,7 76:2
program 24:12,22 25:2 32:16 44:20
programs 46:24
progress 41:10 74:17 79:18
prohibited 67:6,7,8 68:12

72:25
Project 46:23
promoted 16:11 68:11
promoting 62:5
promotion 39:20,21,22 73:25
promotions 36:14 73:22
prongs 79:4
properly 3:17 69:6
property 71:10
proprietors 78:2
prosecutor 40:1 46:20 48:2, 11,19,22 49:3
protect 4:13 6:1 71:10 74:15
protecting 4:20
proud 5:3 21:3 33:22
provide 15:14 64:21 72:22
provided 76:7 77:14
provision 46:5
public 2:25 14:5 23:15 25:9 26:18 28:6 31:19 32:17,25 33:8 36:22 45:17 74:3,14
publicly 43:10
pulled 58:9
purpose 5:7
pursue 30:22
push 5:25
put 46:16 49:24 55:1,6 63:6, 10,12,13,18 66:24 67:1,5,9 70:16 71:19

Q

qualified 76:3,4,7
qualities 16:4
quality 25:11 28:8 31:21 34:16
quarter 44:12
question 51:21 57:1 68:1

70:12
questions 39:15 45:18 47:6
 54:10 80:17
quick 43:13,16 70:12
quickest 43:22
quickly 72:8 78:19
quorum 2:17 3:10 10:8 11:17
 12:7

R

raised 51:9
ran 58:12 63:17
range 33:14
rank 43:21
ranked 43:20
rate 44:14,18
reach 46:10,19 47:2,18 65:15
reached 5:8 47:20
read 12:14 22:25 29:20 37:3
 52:20 62:8 75:15 78:21
reading 21:24
reads 26:6
ready 74:11
real 22:14 30:10,11 49:17
reason 5:17 55:17 56:6 58:19
 67:2 71:6
Rec 15:8
receipt 65:25 66:17 70:24
 71:24
receipts 65:24
receive 10:12 74:23
received 24:24 34:2 36:6
 41:23 76:11
recently 27:17 55:18
recognitions 24:25
recognize 21:9 35:22 42:2

59:24
recognized 24:6,22 34:1
recognizes 25:7 28:5 31:18
recommendation 76:21
 77:15,18 78:6
recommendations 23:19
record 3:14 11:8 44:1 54:1
 77:24
recorded 44:6
recordings 74:11,12
recovered 7:16 79:20
recruits 22:18
Red 72:19
redacted 8:5
reduction 44:3,5,8,11,12
referee 40:22,23,24,25
regard 18:4
region 34:6,8
regional 27:18
registration 58:13,25
regular 69:23
relates 57:17
relations 15:4,13 73:19
relationship 21:5 37:18 38:22
 43:7 50:8,14
relationships 33:16
release 9:8 80:14
released 49:16
remain 23:21 53:1,5
remains 34:18
remarks 36:4 38:5 39:1 42:5
 59:24
remedies 59:13
Remember 62:7
reminded 62:10

Renaissance 12:20 22:6,17,
 18,20 23:3,6,13,22,23 24:2,6,
 8,10,18 25:9 26:8,24 27:3,5,7
renovations 45:13,16
renowned 24:18
rent 10:15 63:15
repair 37:25
repeatedly 37:13
reply 76:10
report 2:19,20,22 3:7 8:2,6
 24:2,8 36:1 51:22 77:13 78:21
 79:10
reported 57:19
reporter 14:25 47:20
reports 37:3 61:9
representation 42:16
Representative 15:3
represented 23:11
representing 17:3,4,5,6 29:17
 74:9
represents 18:25
reputable 76:3
reputation 41:25
request 8:2 74:23
require 78:9
requirement 58:16
RESA 33:12
reside 50:22
resident 5:3
residents 18:21 43:14
resign 8:1
resignation 7:25
resolution 21:24 22:10,13,14,
 16,17 25:18,22 26:6 28:14,17
 29:20 30:3,12 32:3,13 35:2
resolutions 12:10,12,18 19:15
 22:4 29:21

resolutions... 22:2
resolved 25:5 28:3 31:15
resounding 39:9
resources 18:9
respect 18:2 36:13 38:11 42:6
 43:7 48:3 51:6 58:17
respond 4:16
response 4:24 43:21
responses 76:12
responsibilities 16:3
responsible 44:16
result 47:16
results 26:3 56:23
retainer 76:13,14,15,17,18
retraining 60:3
return 47:8
returned 8:5
Reverend 28:25
review 8:3 41:4 52:12 76:17
reviewing 40:2 48:15,17
revisit 46:18
Ribbon 24:7
rid 61:14
rigorous 23:8
risk 51:11
Robert 14:20 21:1 75:24
Roberts 34:16
robotics 31:14
Rock 61:5
role 36:6,17,23 38:11 47:19
roles 27:14 33:2,7
roll 11:17 53:3
rolling 79:25
Ronald 53:23 54:2

rookie 68:10
room 15:9 17:20 26:2 80:12
Rory 35:23
rough 42:12
roughly 43:13
round 26:1 35:7,22
Ru 3:12 6:25
Ruben 8:11
rude 5:9 9:23 52:20
rule 71:14
rules 61:23
run 19:3
running 80:1
Russell 3:22

S

safe 17:18 18:13 33:19 45:10
 50:23
Safety 2:25
Saginaw 46:8,17
salutation 42:11
salute 50:18
sanitation 11:2
SAT 23:25
satisfied 52:23
save 17:11
say... 67:2
scene 7:16
school 12:18,19,20 22:6,17,18
 23:4,6,20,22,23 24:7,10,18
 25:9 26:8,21,24,25 27:1,7
 29:18,24 30:5,7,13,14,24
 31:1,2,4,8,13,20,24 32:15,25
 33:2,11,19 34:6 35:15
school's 24:12
schoolers 45:2

schools 22:11,19 23:4,8,13,
 14,15,17 24:10 26:18 32:25
 33:8,10 51:7
science 5:6,18 26:11
scooters 10:24
score 23:25
Scotty 73:12
scrutiny 74:14
Seaborne 26:21
search 58:10 75:8 76:1,3,10,
 18
seasoned 7:17
seat 16:21
secondary 26:12 33:24
seconded 78:8
secretary 2:19 3:17 75:24
section 23:11 76:1
secure 72:18
secured 24:14
security 70:1
seeking 74:7,10
selected 78:2
Selection 23:18
sell 63:3,4,23,25 64:1,2,5,9,
 11,14 65:2,9 66:25 67:12
 68:15 69:13 71:4,5,15,20 72:4
selling 64:7 65:22 66:9 68:13,
 17,19 71:10,13,15,19 72:2
sell... 64:6
send 19:10 53:4 75:12
sending 19:13
sense 49:1
September 16:10
sergeant 9:19,20,21,22,23
 20:9,11 44:20 50:10
sergeant's 68:11

serve 2:9 5:25 16:16 30:25
served 19:5 27:18 33:11
serves 27:21
service 19:5 21:19 25:9 28:7
 29:9 31:19 43:2,15,19 44:2
 50:25 53:16
serviced 44:1
Services 15:1 31:6 76:16
servicing 43:24
serving 27:13,21
session 14:5,6
setbacks 16:13
setting 23:9
share 35:15 42:14
She'll 6:5
Shea 46:13
shelter 10:13
shelters 10:12,21
Sherman 9:4
she... 71:1
she's 48:23 63:11
shoot 7:14 56:14
shooting 9:9,12 44:17
shootings 44:10,15
shops 37:25
shortlist 76:19
shortly 2:17
shout 7:4 8:23 10:5
show 20:1 45:2 50:14
showed 50:12,13 66:23
shown 58:17
side 7:14 63:12
Sigma 27:12
sign 58:13
silent 22:23

silver 24:9
simply 55:5
sincere 19:10
Sincerely 76:24
single 9:20
sir 2:6 3:8,19 8:17 12:14 19:19
 40:13 45:21 53:18 60:8 64:7,
 10 66:3 67:19 70:12,13,14
sister 34:21
sisters 39:8
sit 37:12
sitting 7:24 18:14 37:11
situation 66:21
situations 53:12 73:24
Sixth 18:22 50:15 55:19,21
 61:7
skills 16:4 30:16 33:1
Skylar 80:12
sleep 80:20
sleeve 80:1
slightly 23:10
Sloan 14:23
small 7:13
smile 49:25
smiling 39:4
Smith 8:11,20,22 11:19 14:8,
 10 17:3,7,8,13 18:17 19:17,
 19,21,22 20:7,14 21:17 50:20
 51:2 64:4,7 71:3 72:1 75:3
 80:23 81:1
social 27:25 30:17 31:10
 41:22 55:2,3
society 54:16
socioeconomic 23:11
soliciting 51:17
solve 30:19

sons 27:2 34:15
Sorority 27:12
sorts 4:3,6 55:24
Soul 21:11
sound 17:18
Southfield 76:14
space 49:11
Spain 24:20
spanning 32:19
spare 27:8
speak 2:12 3:14 10:10 16:21
 40:3 48:18,20,21 57:17 74:2
speaker 4:25 6:24 8:8,18
 42:21 49:19 60:9 61:18 62:15
 73:11
speakers 3:12 8:9,20 53:23
speaking 10:11 25:6 28:4
 31:17 51:23 61:20
speaks 16:20 22:23 41:24
special 38:20 50:10 75:7,15,
 18 76:20,23,25 77:15
specialist 26:13 75:25
specifically 44:19 74:8
spectacular 45:7
spending 27:8 34:16
sphere 59:15
spirit 21:8 25:11 28:8
spoke 7:2
spoken 8:12
sponsor 68:23
sports 27:10
square 43:14
stadium 67:16
stadiums 69:24
stadium... 69:25
staff 6:3,19 14:16 15:12 19:8,

12 33:16 36:9 37:2 59:7 61:1,
17 73:8 75:23 79:16,23,24
80:4

Staffing 76:13,22

stage 42:15

stakeholders 33:17

stalk 11:11

stalked 60:17

stalking 11:7,9

stand 6:3 9:14 21:13 28:23
35:7

standing 18:14 26:4 32:14
63:11

standpoint 40:5

stands 65:7 68:24

Starfish 31:6

start 36:4

started 63:7 70:22

starter 53:7

starts 63:8

state 3:13 7:6 8:2,5 15:2 23:24
24:1,6,15,16,25 48:7 53:25
58:8 77:24

stated 10:21

stately 30:10

statements 62:5

stations 71:8

stay 21:2 50:1 56:20

steadfast 10:1

stealing 66:10

Stephanie 14:24

stop 58:12 69:13

stopped 55:18,22 56:5 58:12

stores 11:13

story 66:19

Straw 12:20

street 3:4 64:24 65:1 67:15
68:12 72:24

streets 37:11 68:7

strikes 40:21

stripe 42:23

strong 33:5,15 37:19 38:24
49:10

Stroud 26:18

Stroughter 26:5,6,9 27:8,20
28:7 29:3,7

Stroughter's 26:25

student 23:19 34:21

students 23:10,15,20,24 24:3,
20 25:2 27:5,7,24 28:1 30:18
33:4,15,16,21

studied 5:6

Studio 25:2

study 5:17

studying 68:10

stuff 11:14 36:24 40:19 42:23
56:22 66:12 71:23 72:6

stupid 72:6

subject 26:16 76:6

subpoena 8:4

subpoenaed 8:2

succeed 30:22

success 27:22,25 29:2 32:13
33:18 35:11 74:1

successful 16:1

successfully 24:4

suffered 3:25

suffering 46:11 47:4

suggested 78:1

summarily 58:10

Sunday 41:9

Supervising 14:23

supervisor 20:24

supervisory 36:9

support 13:8 28:15 31:12,21
34:25 35:3 36:5

supported 13:10

supporting 37:19 44:23

supports 38:3,4

supposed 41:2 52:16

survey 4:13,16,21

surviving 55:4

sustained 60:4

Sweet 6:6

Swiping 11:13

switching 17:12

swoop 19:16,17,18

sworn 17:19

T

Tahoe 61:10

takes 48:1

taking 10:3,15 21:15 45:14

talents 25:3

talk 9:16,20,22 10:4 37:17,22
38:22 50:1,3 57:18 60:7,16
62:22 69:3 80:4

talked 4:5 7:12 45:8 47:20
62:19 63:2,22

talking 41:9 46:2 54:20 64:8,
22 67:8

Tamara 19:22

task 46:2 57:23

taskmaster 58:4

tasks 44:25

Tate 4:13,19 7:1,11 60:15

Tate's 4:22

taught 26:16

Taylor 14:22
teacher 26:16 32:24 33:3
teachers 22:9 35:11
teaching 32:21 33:1
team 16:8 24:5,14,15 44:21
Tech 5:19 26:19
technical 79:23
technically 9:11
techniques 24:23
telling 41:3 63:7,10,14 69:24
Tenth 18:22 50:12,15 61:4
tenure 8:25
Teresa 14:20 80:10
term 27:18
terms 4:20 69:4
test 23:20
Texas 5:17
texts 40:25
thankful 4:8
That's 20:7 69:18
theoretically 18:6
there've 73:23
Theta 27:12
the... 28:23
thing 4:12 5:20 10:4 40:19,20
 46:5 49:6 57:19 62:3
things 16:12 36:25 38:7 40:9,
 10 53:10 55:24 61:2,13 64:23
 65:19 71:5,10,23 73:9,21
thinkers 30:15
Thompson 60:13 62:16,18,24
 64:2,5,9,11,13,23 65:16,23,24
 66:4,11 67:22 68:3,14 69:8,
 12,18,21 70:3,5,16 71:1,12,
 19,22 72:3
thought 62:3

thousands 19:6 45:8
threatened 5:12 70:16
threatening 70:22
throw 41:1 53:3
Thursday 2:2,24 3:2
Thursday's 29:22
ticket 63:19
tight 42:12
time 2:7,16 3:16,17,18 5:14
 8:7 9:20,25 10:11 15:15 17:12
 18:10 19:23,25 20:10 21:20
 27:8 34:17 38:12 39:3,4 43:21
 54:7 61:24 66:20 70:19,20
 74:22 76:24 80:11
timely 43:25
times 8:12 57:18 62:8 66:12
tired 70:20
title 24:17
titles 32:23 42:1
TJ 76:13,22
today 2:1 10:23 18:19 19:25
 20:3,5,25 21:9 22:8 30:3 41:7,
 8 42:5 61:21 67:23
today's 13:16
today... 29:21
Todd 7:10 8:23 15:1 17:20
 20:9 55:17 73:16,17
told 5:9 55:23 57:12 63:12
 65:3 66:17,19 70:21
tolerated 59:2
tomorrow 40:7
tools 35:18
top 43:21
tormented 54:13
Toronto 24:21
toss 58:19
tossed 55:24

total 4:7 44:14
touch 2:8 45:12
tough 40:18,19,20 46:2
tow 5:12 63:21
Track 24:14
tragedy 9:24
trained... 71:21
training 24:23 52:24 75:8,15,
 18 76:21,23,25 77:16,18 78:7
transferred 10:25
transparency 9:5 37:7 42:5
 74:7,10
trash 11:3
traumatized 56:11
travel 24:19
traveling 21:6 27:9
treat 19:4,5,23 21:20 40:21
 45:8 62:6,10
treated 62:11
trial 47:22 48:1
trip 38:13
trips 38:14
Trump 56:2 62:4
trunk 19:4,23 21:20 45:8
trust 38:24 42:11
trustees 34:4
Tuesday 3:6,7 74:4
turn 7:25 9:19 39:10 54:16
turned 79:20
turning 15:21,22
turnouts 18:23
Tuskegee 9:1
TV 39:4
tweaks 80:9
two-time 33:22

Tyler 20:2
type 5:15 42:18 71:8 73:1
types 73:9
Tyrone 15:3
Tyson 14:22

U

unarmed 56:14
unavoidable 16:14
unclear 7:1,23 21:18 66:23
unclear1 43:4
understand 8:16 34:7 35:16
 36:12 40:13 69:11 74:15
Underwood 3:11 8:9,19 14:20
 53:22 60:10 73:11
unemployment 7:8
Unfinished 74:21
unforgettable 16:14
unfortunate 10:16
uniform 39:2
uniform... 70:6
unique 31:9 32:17
unit 44:14 46:22 48:5,6,8
 49:15
University 26:11,13 29:23
 31:8 33:23 34:4,7 49:12
unprofessional 52:21
unveiling 80:13
unwavering 25:10 28:8 31:21
update 39:23
updates 39:24 75:19
urge 18:4 29:25
utmost 48:3

V

valid 65:7
valuing 42:7
valve 43:20
Van 33:8
vantage 52:5
vehicle 5:9 58:8,10
vendor 65:1 72:24
vendor's 64:25 68:12
venue 72:18
Verynda 26:5,9 27:11,24 28:7
veteran 43:1 50:18
Veteran's 80:4
Veterans 42:25
Vice 8:11 18:20 75:1
victims 9:23 10:3
video 9:13,18 46:11,15
videos 40:8
view 40:11
violation 73:6
violence 44:5 54:9 62:5
vision 16:5 34:18 46:3,4
visual 24:24
Viti 35:14
vocal 24:19
volume 43:20
vote 22:4 77:25 79:7
voted 13:18

W

wait 17:10
walk 49:14
wanted 4:10 7:9 38:4 59:21

71:3 73:16 74:1 79:14
want... 6:16
Warfield 6:17,18 14:19 59:5
was... 57:5
watched 51:14
watching 27:10
Wayne 3:2 9:7,8 33:12
wearing 52:1
Weathers 20:22
wedding 21:2
Wednesday 50:11
week 36:19,21 41:10 49:16
 55:21 61:21,24 79:6
weekly 2:22 51:22
weeks 3:24 61:11
welcoming 15:24
Wendy's 50:11
West 3:4
Western 33:23 34:4
What's 77:2 78:5
Whitmer 34:5
wide 33:14
wife 21:10 63:5,11,12,14,16,
 18,19 70:14 71:1
wife's 63:16 70:22
William 15:5 53:24
Williams 8:20 10:9,10 12:19
 32:14,15 33:11,22 34:15,16
 39:24 41:8
Willis 46:7,10,12,13 47:23,25
Wings 72:19
with... 62:18,20
WJR 41:8
woke 40:18
woman 7:13 32:14

women 36:8 59:25**Wonderful** 48:17

Woods 2:1,16,20 3:9,15,20,22
 4:2,18 5:2 6:2,12,18,23 7:24
 8:7,10,18 10:7 11:16,18 12:7,
 12,16,23 13:1,4,9,15,18,21,
 23,25 14:3,10,12,15 15:6,18,
 23 16:20,24 17:10,14 19:3,18,
 20 20:6,12,17 21:14,23 22:1,
 22 25:15,20,25 28:11,16,20
 29:8,11,16 30:5 31:25 32:4,7,
 10 34:11,22 35:1,6,12 39:14,
 18 41:17 42:20,22 43:2 45:21,
 24 46:20 47:7,12 48:20,23,25
 49:9,20 50:2,4 51:3,19 53:15,
 20 54:19 55:12,15 56:24 57:2
 58:3,20 59:4,11,14,19 60:9
 61:15,17 62:1,14,17,22 64:1,
 3,10,12,18 66:5 67:24 69:1,
 11,16,20 70:7,13,24 71:2,17,
 21 72:9 73:3,14 74:21 75:2,6,
 11,22 77:2,7,10,17,21 78:5,
 11,14,16 79:11,22 80:25 81:4

Woodward 61:5**word** 6:7 53:3 73:22**words** 18:18

work 16:15 21:8 33:10 38:6
 39:8 42:9,13 43:9 53:16 55:3,
 11 56:11 61:1 65:4,5 72:18
 80:20,21

worked 33:14 44:14**workers** 55:3**working** 11:6 48:7,10,12 59:7**works** 6:18 72:11**world** 24:3,8,19**worst** 26:16

Worthy 9:7 40:1 46:20 48:2,
 11,19,22

would've 7:6**wound** 7:15,19,20**wounded** 21:6**Wow** 17:1**wrap** 40:4**wraps** 79:3**written** 23:19 62:8**wrong** 40:10 56:15 62:12 69:5**wrongdoing** 78:4

Y

yards 41:10**Yay** 24:5

year 5:4 10:13 31:1 33:12
 44:2,7,9,17

years 5:4 21:3 24:8 26:17
 27:13 32:20 36:7 43:1 46:7,16
 61:6

yesterday 40:1**York** 24:21 62:8

young 18:11 26:4 27:2 28:2
 32:14 38:17 40:16 56:4,7,12
 59:1 60:20,25

you... 57:12 59:18

Z

Zack 19:17**Zook** 9:7

Zoom 2:4 14:24 15:5 60:13
 73:11