

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, January 23, 2025 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226

1. **Vice Chairperson Smith** called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. **Invocation. Commissioner QuanTez Pressley** provided the invocation.
3. **Report from Board Secretary Lydia Gamier.**
 - A. OCI Weekly Inventory Report 01112025_01172025
 - B. Budget Committee (01212025)
 - C. Announcements

The Next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 3:00 p.m., the location will be at Laborers' International Union Local 1191, located at 2161 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48208.

Next Community Meeting will be held Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. the location in the 11th Precinct at SAY Detroit Play Center, located at 19320 Van Dyke Avenue, Detroit, MI 48234.

4. **Oral Communication / Public Comments:** Dr. Karen Gordon
5. **Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.**

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

6. **Chairperson Woods** requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, January 23, 2025. The motion was accepted and adopted.
7. **Chairperson Woods** requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for January 16, 2025. The minutes were adopted as presented.
8. **Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives and Community Leaders.**
9. **BOPC Officers' Report.**

Chair Woods discussed the upcoming interviews and the work the Chair of the Personnel and Training Committee has performed with the search firm TJA Staffing, Inc. regarding their recommendations for the position of Chief of Police. During the next Board of Police Commissioners meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 3 p.m., the location will be at Laborers' International Union Local 1191, 2161 West Grand Boulevard. This information will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

A. Commissioner Pressley read the resolution honoring Captain Jamar Rickett.

**RESOLUTION HONORING
CAPTAIN JAMAR RICKETT**

- WHEREAS** Jamar Rickett was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on May 12, 1997. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Rickett began his career at the Communications Operations Section; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Rickett displayed tremendous knowledge and leadership skills as a Police Officer and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on June 14, 2006. As Sergeant, he was reassigned to the Communications Operations Section. On August 2, 2016 he was appointed to the rank of Lieutenant. His assignments included Crime Intelligence, Communications Operations Section, and reassigned Crime Intelligence; and
- WHEREAS** Lieutenant Rickett was promoted to the rank of Captain on January 17, 2022 and was reassigned to Communications Operations Section, the Twelfth Precinct, Telephone Crime Reporting Unit and Communications Operations Section until his retirement; and
- WHEREAS** Captain Rickett was the deserving recipient of the following awards: Fireworks Award, both Consent Judgment Awards, two Chiefs Merit Awards, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, and the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, as well as numerous letters of commendation from citizens and superiors; and
- WHEREAS** Captain Rickett has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the people of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 28 years. He has served the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of the City of Detroit with loyalty, professionalism, integrity and dedication, and is widely respected throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great City of Detroit, recognize and honor the lifelong contributions and commitment to excellence in public service of Captain Jamar Rickett. His display of courage and unwavering community spirit has improved the quality of life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

We thank and congratulate you, Captain Jamar Rickett.

Commissioner Pressley motioned, “that the Board of Police Commissioners accepts the resolution into our archives.” The motion was adopted.

B. Commissioner Pressley read the resolution honoring Detective Viera Brownlee.

**RESOLUTION HONORING
DETECTIVE VIERA BROWNLEE**

- WHEREAS** Viera Brownlee was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on April 27, 1998. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Brownlee began her career at the Eastern District; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Brownlee’s assignments with the Detroit Police Department included the Eastern District, Grants and Contracts, Sex Crimes, Sixth Precinct, and Vice Enforcement; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Brownlee displayed tremendous knowledge and leadership skills as an officer and was promoted to the rank of Detective on October 26, 2020. Her assignments included Investigative Operations and Sex Crimes; and
- WHEREAS** Detective Brownlee was the deserving recipient of the following awards: NFL Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, MLB All Star Baseball Recognition Award, Ford Fireworks Celebration Award, a Chief Unit Award, a Chief Merit Award, Departmental Citation Award, a Citation Award and several accolades from within the Department and from other agencies and citizens for her professionalism and expertise; and
- WHEREAS** Detective Brownlee has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the people of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 26 years. She has served the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of

the City of Detroit with loyalty, professionalism, integrity and dedication, and is widely respected throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great City of Detroit, recognizes and honors the lifelong contributions and commitment to excellence in public service of Detective Viera Brownlee. Her display of courage and unwavering community spirit has improved the quality of life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

We thank and congratulate you, Detective Viera Brownlee.

Commissioner Pressley motioned, “that the Board of Police Commissioners adopt this resolution into our archives.” The motion was adopted.

C. Commissioner Pressley read the resolution honoring Corporal John Hall.

**RESOLUTION HONORING
CORPORAL JOHN HALL**

WHEREAS John Hall was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on December 14, 1998. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Hall began his career at the Eighth Precinct; and

WHEREAS Officer Hall’s assignments with the Detroit Police Department included the Eighth Precinct, South-East Section, Records Management, Office of the Chief of Police, Force Investigations, and reassigned to the Office of the Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS Officer Hall displayed tremendous knowledge and leadership skills as an officer and was appointed to the rank of Corporal on November 13, 2015. His assignments included the Chief of Police Office and Records Management, until his retirement; and

WHEREAS Corporal Hall was the deserving recipient of the following awards: NFL Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, MLB All Star Baseball Recognition Award, Ford Fireworks Celebration Award, a Chief Unit Award, a Chief Merit Award, Departmental Citation Award, a Citation Award and several accolades from within the Department and from other agencies and citizens for his professionalism and expertise; and

WHEREAS Corporal Hall has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the people of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 26 years. He has served the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of the City of Detroit with loyalty, professionalism, integrity and dedication, and is widely respected throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great City of Detroit, recognizes and honors the lifelong contributions and commitment to excellence in public service of Corporal John Hall. His display of courage and unwavering community spirit has improved the quality of life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

We thank and congratulate you, Corporal John Hall.

Commissioner Pressley motioned, “that the Board of Police Commissioners adopt the resolution into our archives.” The motion was adopted.

10. Chief of Police Report.

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

11. Oral Communication / Public Comments: continued - Minister Eric Blount, Ms. Charnita Williams, Ms. Fredia Butler, Ms. Sharon Pannell, Mr. Rhuben Crowley Jr., Former Commissioner William Davis, and Mr. Scotty Bowman provided public comments.

12. Unfinished Business.

Commissioner Pressley motioned “that the Board of Police Commissioners go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meeting Act, MCL 15.268(a) the Department’s request for the Board to consider Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits for Police Officer Donovan Donehue, Badge 693, assigned to the Twelfth Precinct.” The motion passed.

Commissioner Bell motioned “that the Board of Police Commissioners accepted the Chief’s recommendation to place Police Officer Donovan Donehue, Badge 693, assigned to the Twelfth Precinct on Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits.” The motion passed.

YES = 6

NO = 1

MOTION: PASSED

Yes: Chairperson Woods, Vice Chairperson Smith, Commissioners Banks, Bell, Pressley, Dewaelsche

No: Commissioner Bernard

13. New Business.

Commissioner Pressley motioned “that the Board of Police Commissioners go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Open Meeting Act, MCL 15.268(h) to received legal advice from Corporation Counsel regarding material exempt from discussion by state or federal statue.” The motion passed.

Commissioner Pressley motioned “that the Board of Police Commissioners postpone New Business Item A until next meeting.” The motion passed.

Commissioner Dewaelsche reported to the Board that our contracted Staffing Company, TJA Staffing, Inc. has provided our request of five candidates for the Chief of Police position. I would like to list those names. Todd Bettison, Interim Police Chief from Detroit; Joel Fitzgerald, Chief of Police and Emergency Management from Denver, Colorado; Vernon Coakley Jr., Chief of Police (Retired) from Kalamazoo, Michigan; Joshua Wallace, Commander Chicago Police Department, Chicago, Illinois; and Alan Fear, Chief of Police Lamar, Colorado. I would like to ask the Board of Police Commissioners to accept these five candidates to be interviewed for the police chief’s position. They are recommended by the search committee, as we requested, and these candidates will be interviewed during next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 3 p.m.

Commissioner Dewaelsche motioned, “that the Board of Police Commissioners accept these five candidates to be interviewed on January 30, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.” The motion passed.

14. Adjournment.

Chairperson Woods adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.