

Approved Minutes of Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, May 22, 2025 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

1. **Chairperson Woods** called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.
 - A. **Invocation.** Minister Eric Blount provided the invocation.
2. **Oral Communication/Public Comments:** Mr. Ernest Riley provided public comment
3. **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	Yes	
Lisa Carter		Excused
Ricardo Moore		Excused
Jesus Hernandez	Yes	
QuanTez Pressley	Yes	
Eva Garza Dewaelsche	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

4. **Chairperson Woods** requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, May 22, 2025. The motion was accepted and adopted.
5. **Chairperson Woods** requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for May 15, 2025. The minutes were adopted as presented.
6. **Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives and Community Leaders.**
7. **Resolution Honoring Retired Police Officer Kelvin Patrick (Posthumously).**

Resolution Honoring Retired Police Officer Kelvin Patrick (Posthumously)

- Whereas, Kelvin Patrick, a Detroit native with a love of history and a dynamic personality, was drawn to public service. His interest lead him to submit applications to become a Detroit police officer or a firefighter. The Police Department proved quicker to secure his skills and talent by accepting him to the training academy. On October 24, 1977, Officer Patrick was appointed to the Detroit Police Department; and
- Whereas, Police Officer Patrick loved his job in law enforcement. His assignments included Special Duty Unit, Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy Section, Communications Operations Section, and Western District. He became known as a consummate professional for his respectful and effective engagement in serving and protecting the community; and
- Whereas, On Friday, May 24, 1996, Officer Patrick and his partner Officer Kathy Warren were patrolling a residential area when they saw two youth on the street during school hours. The officers stopped the patrol car to question the teenagers, ages 14 and 16 years old, about skipping school. In a shocking and violent attack, one or both teenagers opened fire, striking Officer Warren in the hand and Officer Patrick several times in his torso and chest. One bullet pierced his spine and caused paralysis; and
- Whereas, Police Officer Patrick refused to let the attempted murder or the paralysis stop him from serving the public or from living and enjoying a full life. With grit and determination, he learned to drive using hand controls and returned to work for several years before receiving duty disability on August 14, 2006. Ultimately succumbing

to the gunshot wounds sustained in the line of duty, Officer Patrick, Badge 4458, passed away on February 6, 2025 at 68 years old. The greater Detroit community will gather Saturday, May 31, 2025 for a special remembrance of his bravery, dedicated service, and inspiring perseverance. Therefore, be it

Resolved, The Board of Police Commissioners awards this resolution posthumously to Police Officer Kelvin Patrick in recognition of his dedicated and distinguished service to the Detroit Police Department and the residents of the City of Detroit. May his selfless sacrifice and commitment as a law enforcement professional forever be remembered.

Commissioner Bell motioned “to adopt the resolution honoring Retired Police Officer Kelvin Patrick (Posthumously).” The motion was adopted.

8. **BOPC Officers’ Report.**

Resolution Honoring Police Commissioner Jesus Hernandez

Whereas, Jesus Hernandez has etched a lasting mark on the City of Detroit, its residents, and its institutions during many years of civic leadership and community service, including recently as a member of the Board of Police Commissioners; and

Whereas, Police Commissioner Hernandez joined the Board in May 2020 following his appointment by Mayor Mike Duggan and confirmation by the City Council. During a critical time, he helped steer the Board, the Police Department and the City through twin global challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic and a new police reform movement after the murder of George Floyd by a city of Minneapolis, Minnesota police officer; and

Whereas, Along with his powerful commitments to community involvement and public service, Commissioner Hernandez contributed greatly to the Board of Police Commissioners through business acumen as an executive at Ford Motor Company, DTE Energy, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Most notably, Commissioner Hernandez served as Personnel and Training Committee Chair during two national searches for a Chief of Police which culminated in the tenures of Chief James White and Chief Todd Bettison. As Committee Chair, he also led the hiring expansion of investigators for the Office of the Chief Investigator, the Board’s investigative unit for public complaints against police officers and other Department employees; and

Whereas, Commissioner Hernandez continues to be a forceful leader for uplifting and improving the community in his many other leadership roles in local and state organizations, such as the Michigan Hispanic Collaborative, Detroit MOTTEP Foundation, and Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan. Since last fall, Commissioner Hernandez has been part of a historic milestone as one of two Hispanic Board members serving at the same time. As he completes his five-year term this month, the Board and community will long remember his contributions and impact. Therefore, be it

Resolved, The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners awards this resolution in recognition of dedicated and diligent service by Police Commissioner Jesus Hernandez. Your dedication and commitment to civilian oversight, the City of Detroit, and residents merit our highest regards.

We salute you, Commissioner Jesus Hernandez, for a job well done and wish you continued success in the future.

Commissioner Pressley motioned “to adopt the resolution honoring Police Commissioner Jesus Hernandez.” The motion was adopted.

9. **Chief of Police Report.**

Chief Todd Bettison reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property and recent critical incidents impacting the community. Chief Bettison discussed an interview that he participated in with CNN on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 where Chief Bettison discussed recruiting and staffing efforts within the Detroit Police Department. DPD Recruiting Unit spoke with potential applicants at the Employee Resource Fair on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the Coleman A. Young Recreation Center, which is now open. On Saturday, May 24, 2025, the DPD Recruiting Unit will be speaking with community members at the Motown Roller Club. PAL visited the Detroit Police Department’s Training Center on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 to expose students to how things occur at the Police Academy. John R. Community Fun Day will be on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2025 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Eleventh and Twelfth Precincts will be hosting a community fun day at the Dakota Inn. Today, we celebrated our Women in Blue.

Nineteen (19) women of the Detroit Police Department were present at the Annual Women in Blue Ceremony. The MGM Grand Casino and Hotel hosted. Police Officer Savannah Mann of the Special Response Team was the winner.

Community Updates from the Precincts are as follows: Second Precinct continues to focus on community safety and traffic enforcement. In the past week, the Second Precinct has made 49 arrests, confiscated 5 guns, wrote 5 tickets for no license plate and impounded 2 vehicles for no license plates. Third Precinct made 15 felony arrests and issued 128 tickets for traffic stops over the past week. Fourth Precinct updates includes an event that occurred on Thursday, May 15, 2025 when officers were on patrol in the area of Homer and Lawndale when they saw a vehicle speeding and run a red light. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. The driver did not have a license and was placed into custody. Officers also recovered a weapon from the vehicle. Officers from the Fourth Precinct made 23 arrests, confiscated 8 guns and towed 2 boats over the weekend. Officers at the Fifth Precinct made 19 felony arrests and wrote 232 tickets for traffic stops over the weekend. Officers from the Ninth Precinct made 30 felony arrests last week and wrote 120 tickets from traffic stops over the past week.

Commissioner Bernard requested a copy of stats that Chief Bettison provided regarding the number of arrests, tickets and confiscated guns within the Precincts. Additionally, Commissioner Bernard asked if all the arrests were a result of the traffic stops. **Chief Bettison** stated no, not every arrest is a result of the traffic stop.

Commissioner Woods requested that a teletype/communication be circulated within DPD regarding red light running. He stated that officers are running red lights and it was recently reported in the media about an officer running a red light and injuring a citizen. **Chief Bettison** responded, stating that yes, a teletype/communication will be put out and that officers are to obey traffic laws.

Commissioner Pressley commented on sustained citizen complaints that he is reviewing and demeanor and failure to activate body worn cameras according to department policy are occurring frequently. Stressed that officers need to understand their responsibility surrounding activating their body worn camera. **Chief Bettison** stated that due to the department having a large percentage of younger officers that is the underlying factor with some of the demeanor complaints. Additionally, Chief Bettison stated that they are continually pushing officers to activate their body worn cameras.

Commissioner Bernard stated that OCI brochures on how to file a complaint is not available in scout cars nor precincts. Inquired if OCI information can be included on the ticket when officers are issuing tickets to citizens. Additionally, Commissioner Bernard stated that inmates at the Detroit Detention Center are also not receiving information about how to file a complaint against officers. **Chief Bettison** stated that brochures can be placed in scout cars and precincts as well as the Detroit Detention Center. Unsure if it is possible to include that information on a ticket.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired on when the body worn camera is supposed to be turned on. Additionally, Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired on how it is discovered that they are not being activated and what is the discipline an officer receives for failure to activate body worn camera. **Chief Bettison** stated that police contact and citizen engagement is the determining factor and if police action is going to be taken then the body worn camera should be activated. It is not reasonable to be on at all times. When it comes to discipline, a disciplinary matrix is used to determine the disciplinary action that the officer will receive. **Deputy Chief Parrish** stated that there is a list of activities that requires activation of the body worn camera; and, that is in any citizen encounter that is in the furtherance of law enforcement activity would require the body worn camera to be activated.

Commissioner Pressley inquired if all officers present are required to activate their body worn camera or are they to rely on their partner. **Deputy Chief Parrish** stated that all officers are required to activate their body worn camera.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired on how it is being discovered that officers are not turning on their body worn camera. **Chief Bettison** and **Deputy Chief Parrish** both stated that random audits are done to review videos.

Commissioner Bernard inquired on which officers are required to wear a body worn camera. **Chief Bettison** stated that there is no rule on an officer reaching a certain rank and no longer having to wear a body worn camera. If the officer, regardless of rank, will be interacting with citizens and engaging in law enforcement activities, then that officer should have on a body worn camera.

Commissioner Woods stated that citizens who are victims of raids erroneously should have their property restored in a reasonable amount of time. **Chief Bettison** stated that is a reasonable request and the Board and the Department can work together on addressing that and a line item in the budget may have to be included to fund a contract so that can be addressed.

Commissioner Burton requested from the Chief the number of lawsuits against the Department and the amount of payouts from the Department from 2024 to year to date. Also inquired if the Department will be utilizing shoulder mounted cameras in the future to allow investigators to see what the officers see. **Chief Bettison** stated that he will have to do further research on shoulder mounted cameras. Regarding the lawsuits and payouts, stated that he would have to reach out to Corporation Counsel for that information.

10. **Oral Communication/Public Comments: continued** – Minister Eric Blount, Ms. Fredia Butler, Ms. Charnita Williams, Ms. Denise Boyce-Hardison, CAC Scotty Boman, Ms. Cherise Liddell, Mr. David Tinsley, Lieutenant Mark Young, Mr. Roo, Former Commissioner William Davis and Ms. Taura Brown provided public comment.

11. **Presentation to the Board. DPD Budget Report (Fiscal Year Q3 Jan – Mar 2025) – ACFO Nevrus Nazarko**

ACFO Nevrus Nazarko reported on DPD budget for Fiscal Year Quarter 3 (Jan-Mar 2025). Reports included Quarter 3 Year-to-Date Budget versus Actual Revenues and Expenses, General Fund Quarter 3 Year-to-Date FY25 Budget versus Actual Revenue and Expenses, Vehicle Purchase Report, Capital Expenditure Report and Grant Activity Report.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired of the revenues and expenditures and how it is reconciled and should not the revenues be more than the expenditures. **ACFO Nevrus Nazarko** responded that since the police department is not a revenue generating organization to support 100% of its operation that is why the revenues are lower than the expenditures. To close the gap, the remaining portion of the budget comes from the city's general fund. Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired if it will always be covered by the city's general fund to which Nazarko responded yes.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired if DPD is on target to meet the budget to which Nazarko responded yes.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired on what the budget allows per year for vehicle purchases to which Nazarko stated that vehicle purchases do not come out of the main budget and that they are paid through the city through another department.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired on columns within the budget that have \$1 listed to which Nazarko responded stating that it serves as a placeholder for purchases that have not yet happened.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired on the amount of capital improvements being \$100,500 and that amount seeming very low to which Nazarko responded stating that it is not the entire year but rather just for the third quarter.

Commissioner Dewaelsche inquired about grant revenues to which Nazarko responded stating that it's a timing issue and that once the money has been spent then they will be reimbursed from the grants.

12. **Unfinished Business.**

- A. Motion to make contingent offers to Jasmine Espinoza and Dior Mathis and enter salary negotiations for the position of Administrative Assistant – Board of Police Commissioners.

Commissioner Woods motioned "to provide offer letters to Jasmine Espinoza and Dior Mathis for the position of administrative assistant within the salary range of \$43,876 and \$65,755 pending further negotiation and background check." The motion passed.

13. **New Business.** None

14. **Adjournment.**

Chairperson Woods adjourned the meeting at 4:59 p.m.