

Approved Minutes of Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, July 17, 2025 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

1. **Chair Dewaelsche** called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. A quorum was declared.
 - A. **Invocation.** Commissioner QuanTez Pressley provided the invocation.

2. **Introduction of Police Commissioners.**

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance		
	In Attendance	Not-In Attendance
Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Chair	Yes	
Darryl Woods, Vice Chair	Yes	
Tamara Liberty Smith	Yes	
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.	Yes	
Cedric Banks	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Yes	
Ricardo Moore		Excused
QuanTez Pressley	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	9	1

3. **Oral Communication/Public Comment:** Dr. Gordon provided public comments.
4. **Chair Dewaelsche** requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, July 17, 2025. The motion was accepted and adopted.
5. **Chair Dewaelsche** requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for June 26, 2025. The minutes were adopted as presented.

Chair Dewaelsche requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for July 3, 2025. The minutes were adopted as presented.

Chair Dewaelsche requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for July 10, 2025. The minutes were adopted as presented.
6. **Introduction of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives and Community Leaders.**
7. **Resolution Honoring Police Officer Brett Letwin (Retirement).**

Resolution Honoring Police Officer Brett Letwin

- WHEREAS,** Brett Letwin was appointed to the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy on March 21, 1994. He successfully graduated on July 19, 1994 and was assigned to the Twelfth Precinct; and
- WHEREAS,** Police Officer Letwin diligently served the residents, neighborhoods businesses, and stakeholders in the Twelfth Precinct for nearly a decade. On September 14, 2005, he was assigned to the Eastern District, where he served for more than eight years. On January 6, 2014, Officer Letwin was assigned to the Fifth Precinct, where he continued to serve until his retirement. In all his assignments, Police Officer Letwin exhibited a strong commitment to improving public safety and the quality of life for all communities; and
- WHEREAS,** Police Officer Letwin was the deserving recipient of the following awards: a Department Citations in 2004, 2005 and 2011; the Major League Baseball 2005 All-Star Game Award; both Consent Judgement Awards, the Rosa

Parks Funeral Award, the 2014 Ford Fireworks Award, and the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award. He also received numerous commendations from supervisors and letters of appreciation from the public. With his retirement on July 11, 2025, Police Officer Letwin continues to be known as a consummate professional in public safety and law enforcement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the residents of Detroit, awards this resolution in recognition of Police Officer Brett Letwin's 31 years of dedicated and diligent public service. His courage, leadership, and unwavering community spirit have improved the quality of life for the residents of Detroit. His dedicated service merits our highest regards, and best wishes for his future endeavors.

We thank and congratulate you, Police Officer Letwin.

Chair Dewaelsche motioned "to adopt the Resolution Honoring Police Officer Brett Letwin." The motion was adopted.

8. 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. On July 12, 2025, Chief Bettison attended and spoke at Samir Grubbs funeral. Both individuals involved in the drive-by shooting have been charged by Prosecutor Worthy. In August, DPD will be hosting their Peace Nic at Skinner Park. Regarding the officer involved shooting, Chief Bettison stated that when the 16 year old suspect reached for a handgun, it went off, striking the officer in the hand and the officer returned fire, fatally wounding the teen. Stated that the teenager was out past curfew. The curfew will be strictly enforced and is not meant to be punitive but rather for parents to be responsible for their children. On July 8, 2025, Grow Detroit Talent was kicked off with over 8,000 youth that have summer jobs, money in their pockets and being occupied and hopefully not out in the streets. The penalties for the parents for their child breaking curfew is currently \$75 for the first offense. The Mayor has submitted an increase proposal, increasing the fee to \$250 for the first offense and up to \$500 for the second offense. Community Violence Intervention has impacted the community, with decreased violence and street beefs. DPD is seeking additional funding for the program via the Public Safety Trust Fund, which has passed the House and is waiting to pass the Senate. That is House Bill 4260 and 4261.

Officers in the Ninth Precinct conducted a search warrant on a location. At the location, they recovered 16 firearms and suspected cocaine of over \$2,000. DPD is still enforcing drugs and hitting dope houses. On Sunday July 6, 2025, DPD officers led 100 Detroit students from the Explorer Camp to Howell, Michigan, staying on a college campus for 5 days. The Explorer Camp will be starting in June of next year. Other initiatives include Cooling with Cops, Biking with Cops and a community violence intervention basketball league in conjunction with PAL.

Commissioner Banks requested that Ms. Angela, whose son was ran over, can receive an update on the status of her case with DPD and would like her to have regular updates. **Chief Bettison** stated that not only will she receive an update today, but she will also receive regular updates. **Commissioner Banks** inquired on the shooting incident that occurred on Lawrence and Trinity Street involving a teenager being shot in a crowd of people by a DPD member. Commissioner Banks stated that he would like to view the body camera footage of the incident to ensure that the officer followed department procedure. Additionally, Commissioner Banks inquired if the officer will receive re-training. **Chief Bettison** stated that he would have to look into the incident to ensure that they are speaking of the same incident and report back to Commissioner Banks. He also stated that Commissioner Banks will have access to the video footage.

Commissioner Bernard commended Chief Bettison on his efforts that resulted in a positive encounter with DPD. DPD was present at a club event and it was a peaceful interaction between the public and the police. **Chief Bettison** thanked Commissioner Bernard for the remarks and also recognized the members of DPD, the Mobile Field Force and the Block Party Detail.

Commissioner Pressley inquired on what changes Chief Bettison has initiated as it pertains to traffic enforcement and if the Board can see how many accidents have occurred, how many tickets have been issued so that the Board can see the tangible results of the increased traffic enforcement. **Chief Bettison** stated that DPD is doing traffic enforcement on the freeways and is ensuring that traffic enforcement is stepped up, resulting in vehicles being impounding if individuals don't have the proper documentation to operate the vehicle. Additionally, Chief Bettison stated that they will do a presentation before the Board with the information Commissioner Pressley has requested. **Commissioner Pressley** inquired if areas that have higher traffic infractions can receive additional resources and if a portion of the jobs for the

youth be reserved for at risk youth. **Chief Bettison** stated yes, those areas can receive additional resources and that one of the reasons that the basketball league was started was for at risk youth.

Commissioner Burton inquired if there have been any updates on the King shooting and asked if he could be briefed on that incident later this week. **Chief Bettison** stated that the investigation is ongoing and doesn't have any information to report to the Board at this time. Additionally, Chief Bettison stated that he could brief Commissioner Burton on the incident.

Chief Bettison submitted a list for the promotion to the Ranks of Commander (1), Captain (1) and Sergeant (12) requesting those members be promoted.

Vice Chair Woods moved, "to approve the recommendation of Chief Bettison to promote the following individual to the Rank of Commander." The motion passed.

Captain William Sims

Commissioner Bernard moved, "to approve the recommendation of Chief Bettison to promote the following individual to the Rank of Captain." The motion passed.

Lieutenant Shelly Eggers

Vice Chair Woods moved, "to approve the recommendation of Chief Bettison to promote the following individuals to the Rank of Sergeant." The motion passed.

Police Officer Christopher Yocum
Police Officer Brian Gibbings
Police Officer Joseph Lennis-Saunders
Detective Lindsay Rogan
Police Officer Bryan Borowski
NPO Aaron Kraszewski

Detective Danielle Noyse
Police Officer Matthew Spehar
Police Officer Joshua Houston
Police Officer Aaron Jones
Detective Kellie Patillo
Police Officer Michael Harrington

9. **Oral Communication / Public Comment: continued** – Lieutenant Mark Young, Minister Eric Blount, Ms. Charnita Williams, Ms. Bernice Smith, Mr. Jahdante Smith, Mr. Steve Walker, Ms. Victoria Camille, Ms. Taura Brown, Former Commissioner William Davis, Mr. Meeko Williams, Mr. Overwith and Public Citizen provided public comments.

10. **Presentation to the Board.**

- A. **Human Resources Bureau – Director Katrina Patillo, DPD Personnel:** Director Katrina Patillo, Human Resources Bureau, presented information regarding staffing and hiring of DPD personnel for the month of June 2025.

Vice Chair Woods inquired about the 3 terminations on the June 2025 report that shows terminated/pending arbitration. **Director Patillo** stated that it means the officers have been terminated and are pending arbitration. These terminations did not necessarily occur in June. The officers may have been suspended/terminated in a previous month and it is carried over to the current report until the adjudication process is over.

Commissioner Pressley inquired if the MCOLES investigation has been completed and if systems have been put in place to prevent it from happening again. **Director Patillo** stated that systems have been put in place to ensure that it doesn't happen again and quarterly audits will be occurring. She stated that she can't speak on the investigation portion or when the investigation will be completed. That information would have to be obtained from DPD leadership.

Chair Dewaelsche inquired if the career fair will be taking place at headquarters. **Director Patillo** stated that the career fair will be held at the Detroit Police Training Center.

11. Report from Board Secretary Lydia Gamier.

- A. 250714 BOPC Facial Recognition Report
- B. 250714 BOPC Shot Spotter Weekly Report
- C. ALWOP PO Kevin Bryant
- D. Police Committee Memorandum
- E. Announcements

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the 5th Precinct at Community Center at AB Ford Park, 100 Lenox Street, Detroit, MI 48215

Next Committee Meetings: All Committee Meetings are held at DPSH, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

Personnel & Training Committee, Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Towing Committee, Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

12. Unfinished Business.

Commissioner Bernard stated, "By direction of the Policy Committee, I move to adopt as policy, Directive 306.1 Evidence Property." The motion passed.

13. New Business.

Vice Chair Woods motioned, "To post the following vacant positions within the approved fiscal year 2025-2026 budget to be posted for applications 2 Administrative Assistant positions for the Office of Chief Investigator and 1 Administrative Assistant 2 position for the BOPC Office Administration." The motion passed.

14. Adjournment.

Chair Dewaelsche adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.