



## POLICING ADVISORY COMMISSION

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**Monday, October 10, 2022**

**6:30pm to 8:20pm**

**[Meeting Virtually](#)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Commission members present:** Cherri Branson, Ruahama Endishaw, Robin Gaster, Jenn Lynn, Ty McKinney, Vernon Ricks, Eric Sterling [7 attendees]

**Commission members absent:** Laurie Ekstrand, Caroline Fredrickson, Nadia Sandi [3 absent]

**Ex-officio members present:** Sgt. Cate Brewer (FOP), Capt. Jordan Satinsky (MCPD) [2 attendees]

**Support staff:** Susan Farag, Nazeefa Hossain, Logan Anbinder [3 staff]

**Guests:** Acting Asst. Chief Nicholas Augustine (MCPD), Capt. Marc Erme (MCPD), Capt. Stacey Flynn (MCPD), Bishop Paul Walker (PAB/ACC), Heidi Rhodes (JUFJ), Andi Simon (County resident), Charles M. James III, Anna [8 attendees]

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**Meeting was called to order at 6:34.**

#### **I. Attendance and Administrative Items (6:34PM)**

- Ms. Farag took attendance and began recording the meeting. Ms. Farag confirmed that six PAC members were present, which represents a quorum. (Ms. Endishaw joined after this time.)
- Total attendees: 20
- **VOTE:** Minutes for the following meetings were confirmed by a vote of 6-0, subject to corrections: Jan. 10, 2022; Jan. 31, 2022; Mar. 14, 2022; Mar. 28, 2022; May 9, 2022; Jun. 13, 2022

#### **II. Guest – Bishop Paul Walker, Chair, Police Accountability Board (approx. 6:40PM)**

- Bishop Walker spoke to the PAC about the Police Accountability Board (PAB) and the Administrative Charging Committee (ACC), both of which he chairs. He discussed the process by which complaints are submitted to the PAB and then reviewed and acted upon.
- Bishop Walker answered questions from the PAC regarding funding for the PAB. Mr. Gaster, Mr. Sterling, and Ms. Branson expressed concerns about the independence of the incoming PAB executive director (ED) since the ED will report to the County Executive. Mr. Walker also spoke

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about the impact of the current MCPD collective bargaining agreement (CBA) on the PAB's review process.

- Mr. Ricks asked Mr. Walker whether any cases have come in to the PAB for review. Mr. Walker responded that some initial cases have come in from individuals testing out the system or reporting complaints outside the PAB's jurisdiction, but new complaints are also coming in and the PAB will move on investigating them after receiving training.
- The PAC expressed interest in continued collaboration with the PAB. Bishop Walker invited PAC members to attend PAB meetings.

### **III. Guest Speaker – Captain Marc Erme, MCPD, to speak on the 2021 Use of Force Report (7:07PM)**

- Capt. Erme of the MCPD presented to the PAC on the 2021 MCPD Use of Force Report. He summarized the details of the report, including that the number of use of force incidents reported increased roughly 25% from 2020 to 2021. He discussed that COVID-19 was a factor in the lower use of force rates in 2020.
- Mr. Sterling noted that uses of OC spray and ECW decreased significantly year over year, which Capt. Erme credited to MCPD's focus on de-escalation techniques.
- Mr. Ricks asked how incidents are recorded when multiple officers are involved in a single use of force incident; Capt. Erme responded that each officer must complete a form, and that the duration of the use of force is evaluated in addition to the decision to use force in the first place.
- Capt. Erme indicated that MCPD is working on a real-time dashboard displaying use of force data which will be available in the future. At Mr. Gaster's suggestion, Capt. Erme suggested that Chief Jones is amenable to changing MCPD data collection procedures to better capture necessary data. Capt. Erme also noted the PAC's request for more context in future Use of Force Reports.
- In response to Ms. Branson's concern that the use of force is separate from the IA reports on egregious incidents, Capt. Erme expressed willingness to expand on the context in the Use of Force report.
- Capt. Erme advised the PAC about an anticipated increase in the number of use of force incidents this current calendar year, partly due to both County and State changes in laws that affect the kind of incidents that must be reported as use of force incidents. Mr. Gaster suggested that MCPD provide a detailed comparison of what information is and is not captured in the 2022 report.
- **ACTION:** Since Capt. Flynn holds Capt. Erme's former position, PAC members should direct questions about the Use of Force Report to her, as well as any suggestions about context to include in future reports to help provide a clearer picture of the analysis.

### **IV. The Chair has requested PAC feedback on the ELE4A draft audit (8:05PM)**

- **ACTION:** Ms. Branson requested that all feedback be sent to her by Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **V. New Business (8:08PM)**

- Mr. McKinney mentioned that the Maryland State Police has offered him and the other PAC members the opportunity for training on their virtual reality system that is intended to address mental health issues on calls for service, as well as implicit bias. He plans to attend the training on November 7<sup>th</sup> and invited other PAC members to join.

- Acting Asst. Chief Augustine mentioned that MCPD is also looking into using a virtual reality system to train officers and community members. Mr. McKinney expressed interest in speaking to MCPD about this
- **ACTION:** Capt. Clarke will reach out to Mr. McKinney about MCPD virtual training
- **ACTION:** Ms. Farag will also connect Acting Asst. Chief Augustine with Mr. McKinney regarding the training
- **VOTE:** The PAC voted, moved by Ms. Branson and seconded by Mr. Ricks, to put Mr. McKinney in charge of looking into the area of virtual reality training.
- **ACTION:** PAC members should send suggestions to Ms. Branson regarding the topic of the public meeting that the PAC must hold by the end of this calendar year.
  - The PAC discussed that this meeting could potentially be a town hall with the PAB.
  - Ms. Farag offered to arrange a hybrid public forum.

**VI. Meeting Adjourned at 8:20PM.**