



POLICING ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Policing Advisory Commission's Statement on the Death of Tyre Nichols in Memphis, TN

For Immediate Release: Friday, February 17, 2023

Many Montgomery County residents have seen video depicting the fatal beating of Tyre Nichols by police officers in Memphis, Tennessee after a traffic stop in early January. The Policing Advisory Commission (PAC) commends Chief of Police Marcus Jones' and the County Council's statements on January 27 about that fatal incident.

Inevitably, many of us ask (as we have asked after similar fatal incidents), "Could this happen to me or my child here in Montgomery County?" That question has been directed to some members of the PAC.

The County Council and the Montgomery County Police Department have created new policies to:

- minimize the use of force,
- de-escalate situations to prevent the use of force,
- use minimal force if force is necessary,
- strengthen and clarify the duty of officers to intervene if they witness another officer acting inappropriately, and
- train in such tactics and scenarios.

The Policing Advisory Commission was created by the County Council in 2020 as a tool to help the Montgomery County Police Department to further reduce the possibility of such incidents occurring here. The County Executive arranged for both a comprehensive professional audit of the MCPD and a public Task Force to Reimagine Public Safety in the county. Last year, a new system of state-mandated accountability with a County Police Accountability Board was inaugurated.

The PAC supports the MCPD's positive steps. We are well aware these issues will need continued work and vigilance.

Policing Advisory Commission

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