



Police Accountability Board (PAB) Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 20, 2025

7:00 – 8:30 pm

&

Virtual Option: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81437602787>

Attendees: Bishop Walker (Chair), Ken Kellner (Vice Chair), Alvin McCray, Ronald Wright, Chuck Williams, George Lluberes (Parliamentarian), Alicia Hudson, Katharine “Kate” Manning and Chris Zatrutz, Forrest Gilman-Reilly (*staff*), Laura Byers (*staff, minute taker*)

of General Public (nonmember) Attendees: 1

Motions:

Motion to approve the meeting minutes for February 20, 2025. Approved.

Motion to approve the agenda for March 20, 2025. Approved.

Motion to approve the upload of the Police Accountability Board meeting on March 20, 2025, and future meetings to YouTube.

Staff Report:

Summary:

The staff provided the February 2025 Complaint reports. [Reports page, Police Accountability Board, Montgomery County, MD](#)

Mr. Gilman-Reilly informed board members of the following topics:

- Best practices – Consent research policy. Working with CALEA is willing to meet with board members procuring licenses and will share details when received.
- Recommendation for the Montgomery County FY26 Budget – Emails shared with members
 - Support boards in advocacy if desired
- Meeting Recording – New rules to comply with ADA. Searching for transcripts – TEBS training staff.

Action Item – Schedule a meeting to discuss the Montgomery County FY26 Budget with Mr. Lluberes and the Chairs of the Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee.

Public Comments

- The complainant of ACC cases expressed issues with the language provided in the ACC written opinion and action of the officer involved.

PAB Members Questions to Acting Chief West, Rockville City Police Department.

Summary: The PAB members asked the local Law Enforcement Agencies (either in person or virtually) questions regarding Police Accountability topics including training, de-escalation, mental health, and policies. The full conversation can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1LjDZPMs6o&feature=youtu.be>.

Questions 1-9:

- 1) There have been comments circulated informality that the Law Enforcement Agencies feel the Police Accountability Board is out to get them. Is this true, and if so, what about our actions that have caused this belief to circulate among the LEAs and what can the Police Accountability Board do to help?
 - Answer: When the Police Accountability Board was introduced, the law enforcement agency was apprehensive about the unknown. The Chief supports working with all partners and provides positive communication to strengthen the relationships.
- 2) In an effort to get a better handle on citizen complaints and document trends, what information do you believe collected about the officers' complaints filed against should be uniform across all the agencies in the County?
- 3) Does your department have a policy requiring officers to notify residents when they enter the residents' home or yard? If so, does it apply when the officer enters the property for a wellness check or for other, non-warrant-related reasons?
 - Answer: incident numbers are assigned to all calls. Notes should be included in the incident report. Notes are left if there is property damage and/or to the caller to inform the resident. RCPD is open to standardizing and leaving notes on each call when needed.
- 4) What is the training for off-duty non-uniformed officers? Is there any difference in protocol (compared to uniformed on-duty officers) for approaching and questioning citizens/residents?
 - Answer: Off-duty officers should utilize the police armband to identify themselves and radio in detail to officers when observing a suspect.
- 5) What are the training procedures for de-escalation by off-duty non-uniformed officers?
 - Answer: All officers are required to have de-escalation training, identify themselves, contact on-duty officers to manage, and provide name and badge number if asked.

- 6) Does the Administrative Charging Committee receive/have knowledge of the Chief's recommendation prior to issuing its decision regarding the discipline of an officer? Is the recommendation of the Chief of the LEA part of the file of exhibits forwarded to the Administrative Charging Committee before rendering its decision?
 - Answer: Yes. RCPD provides all files to the Administrative Charging Committee.
- 7) What, if any, safeguards or protections are in place for a junior (lower-ranked) officer who may report misconduct of a senior officer? More specifically, how are junior officers assured that they will not receive any manner of pushback or retaliation from the officer who is the subject of the complaint? Is there an official policy you could share with the Police Accountability Board regarding protection/assurance for complaining officers against any retaliatory practices?
 - Answer: The Rockville City Police Department has strict personnel rules prohibiting retaliation when noting misconduct of fellow officers. Policies are in place to protect officers, and the information is shared in the annual training.
- 8) Acknowledging that officers are overused to handle mental health crises, what, if any, adjustments or changes to training have been implemented for the transfer of these crises to Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT)? Is there a possibility that RCPD could refrain from interacting with persons upon arrival at such incidents?
- 9) In the alternative, could training be adjusted to ensure against the officers' use of force during these encounters (barring any imminent threat to the officer's safety, of course) to assist with community concern, in particular, for the safety of unhoused persons, persons with substance abuse problems and persons with disabilities?
 - Answer to questions 8 and 9: When arriving for a call to handle mental health crises, officers are required to contact the Mental Health Specialist and Clinician. The specialist/clinician provides training and advises better methods to address encounters. MCOT is used if the Mental Health specialist/clinician is unavailable.

Announcements

No announcements.

Adjournment

Bishop Paul Walker, Chair