



BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING #11-NOVEMBER 20, 2023 @ 12:00 PM,

ROOM #118, HISTORIC COURTHOUSE AND VIA WEBEX

Call to Order:

- Chair Linda Shields (District 2) called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

Roll Call

- Peter Fitzpatrick (District 1), Linda Shields (Chair-District 2), Ralph Dennis (District 3), Renee Streib (District 5) and Elizabeth Dishon-Feuer (District 7) appeared in person. Nigeria Rolling-Ford (At-Large), Kara White (At-Large), John Chambers (District 4) and Scott Richman (District 6) appeared via WebEx.
- Henry Callegary and Kelly La Valley were in attendance from the Baltimore County Administrative Office. Bambi Glenn was in attendance representing the Baltimore County Office of Law. Major Matthew Gorman from the Baltimore County Police Department attended in person. Members of the public were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

- Ralph Dennis (District 3) moved to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023 Police Accountability Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Dishon-Feuer (District 7).
- The motion to adopt the October 16, 2023 meeting minutes was approved unanimously.

Administrative Updates:

- Mr. Callegary provided administrative updates.
- The Police Accountability Board schedule for 2024 was presented as follows:
 - March 19, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
 - June 24, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

- September 16, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
- November 18, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
- December 16, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
- All meetings will be held in Room 118, Historic Courthouse.
- Ralph Dennis (District 3) moved to adopt the 2024 Police Accountability Board schedule as presented by Mr. Callegary. The motion was seconded by Renee Streib (District 5).
- The motion to adopt the 2024 meeting schedule was approved unanimously.

New Business:

Presentation by Major Matthew Gorman (Baltimore County Police Department)

- Major Matthew Gorman of the Baltimore County Police Department presented updates on Internal Affairs statistics and general information.
- The types of cases that Internal Affairs investigates are administrative complaints and community complaints. A new process was implemented for captains and higher-ranking officers as of July 1, 2022, and as of July 1, 2023 for field officers.
- Major Gorman presented the following statistics:
 - 187 complaints received by Internal Affairs as of November 19, 2023.
 - 148 complaints received in the 2022 calendar year.
- The new complaint process involves a formal investigation. Any complaint that involves a member of the public will be investigated, reviewed at several levels, and then is forwarded to the Administrative Charging Committee for review and a decision.
- Approximately 75 pending cases could be forwarded to the Administrative Charging Committee. Six complaints have been heard by the Administrative Charging Committee to date, with four cases having been processed through the Police Accountability Board online portal, two of which likely will be heard by the Administrative Charging Committee. The two other cases were resolved after discussion with the complainant.
- Elizabeth Dishon-Feuer (District 7) asked about the Baltimore County Police Department's website, which currently outlines non-community complaints, without an explanation of the Administrative Charging Committee process. Will this be updated? Major Gorman responded that he will investigate.
- Elizabeth Dishon-Feuer (District 7) asked how much detail a member of the public can view about their complaint status on the website? Major Gorman stated that it shows whether it has been assigned, if it's under investigation and whether or not it will be forwarded to the Administrative Charging Committee.
- Peter Fitzpatrick (District 1) asked Major Gorman if the increase in cases has contributed to the change in the reporting requirements? Major Gorman responded yes; he would attribute it to the former.
- Peter Fitzpatrick (District 1) asked about Internal Affairs resources. Major Gorman responded that the Baltimore County Police Department is moving forward in re-

staffing. In 2023, year to date, there have been 163 cases that have been closed. In 2022, 131 cases were closed.

- Linda Shields (Chair-District 2) asked if there have been any trends in 2023, as far as the reporting of the types of incidents that are more common? Major Gorman responded that some of the common ones are discourtesy, body camera violations and investigative claims.

Annual Report Update:

- Coordination Manager Henry Callegary reviewed the Draft of the 2023 Annual Report of the Baltimore County Police Accountability Board. A vote on the adoption of the report will be held at the December 18, 2023 meeting.
- Peter Fitzpatrick (District 1) asked if there are any trends with legislative issues as to the Police Accountability Board or the Administrative Charging Committee. Mr. Callegary answered that other County boards have not prepared Annual Reports yet and there are discrepancies in different jurisdictions based on volume of cases, and that the drafting committee (Chair Linda Shields and members Kara White and Elizabeth Dishon-Feuer) believe it is premature to identify local trends.
- Peter Fitzpatrick (District 1) asked if there have been any rumors in the legislature of elements of the statutes that may be changed? Mr. Callegary answered that there may be proposed changes, but nothing definitive has been proposed as of now.
- Ralph Dennis (District 3) asked if it would be helpful in the Annual Report, to include the number of cases that are pending review? Mr. Callegary answered that he will look into this matter with Internal Affairs.
- Mr. Callegary asked members to submit proposed changes ahead of the December meeting so that they can be formatted and prepared for review ahead of time.

Updates on the Administrative Charging Committee by Elizabeth Dishon-Feuer (District 7-ACC Designee):

- Review of files:
 - Failure to Enforce a Protective Order. The officer was not administratively charged and exonerated.
 - Alleged lack of knowledge of residency laws. The officer was not administratively charged and exonerated.
 - Stealing a license plate and profiling a citizen. The officer was not administratively charged and exonerated.
- There are four complaints pending as of the November 20, 2023 which will be heard at the December 8, 2023 meeting.

Public Comment:

- Peta Richkus suggested that in the Annual Report, policy recommendations be added in time for the January 10, 2024 legislative session and would like to ensure the Board has adequate resources available.
- A member of the community (“Bianca”) stated that she feels she was discriminated against by the Baltimore County Police Department. These incidents led to extremely negative experiences and complaints, which took over a year and a day to go before the Administrative Charging Committee. The cases were closed, and in one of them the accused officer was exonerated on a false arrest complaint. She asked if the Administrative Charging Committee had the appropriate information to address complaints.
- A member of the public spoke on the gang situation in Baltimore County. She stated that she has spoken to Baltimore County Police Department and her situation was never addressed.

Adjournment and Next Meeting:

- At 1:01 p.m. Linda Shields (Chair-District 2) reminded members of the Baltimore County Police Accountability Board of the upcoming December 18, 2023 meeting at 12:00 p.m., Room 118, Historic Courthouse and via WebEx.
- At 1:02 p.m., Ralph Dennis moved that the Baltimore County Police Accountability Board adjourn until December 18, 2023 at 12:00 p.m., when it will meet in Room 118, Historic Courthouse and via WebEx. Elizabeth Dishon-Feuer seconded the motion.
- The motion was approved unanimously.