

Police Civilian Review Panel

April 6, 2023

George Mason University, Johnson Center Dewberry South

4400 University Dr. Fairfax, VA 22030

Meeting Summary

Panel Members Present:

Todd Cranford, Chair

Bryon Garner

Michael Lau

Celeste Peterson

Dirck Hargraves

William Ware

Janell Wolfe

Others Present:

Kenneth Bynum, Counsel

Sanjida Lisa, PCRP

Steven Richardson, PCRP

Rachelle Ramirez, OIPA

2nd Lt. Matthew Lane, Internal Affairs Bureau

Lt. Todd Sweeney, Internal Affairs Bureau

Community member

Chairman Cranford called the Police Civilian Review Panel's (PCR) business meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and after taking attendance noted the presence of a quorum. He welcomed everyone to the Panel's April 6, 2023, meeting and thanked the George Mason University and Dean for hosting the Panel's meeting. Chairman Cranford provided historical background and context to the community members in attendance of the creation of the Panel. Chairman Cranford also discussed the different kinds of cases the PCR reviews and explained the difference between cases that the Panel reviews and cases that the Office of the Independent Police Auditor (OIPA) reviews.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Hargraves moved approval of the meeting agenda. Mr. Ware seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Approval of March 16, 2023, Draft Meeting Summary: Mr. Hargraves moved approval of the Panel's March 16, 2023, meeting summary. Mr. Garner seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Richardson presented his Executive Director's report. Mr. Richardson announced that the Panel had been invited to discuss the plausibility of PCR youth engagement and the potential collaboration with County partners to engage with Fairfax County youth. Mr. Richardson added that the PCR would be working with various Fairfax County departments and representatives, such as Neighborhood and Community Services, Out of School Network, Fairfax County Police Department, and My Brothers Keepers, to collaborate on a "Safe Summer" event. Mr. Richardson also mentioned that the PCR would participate in various summer fairs and events throughout the County and that he will notify Panel members of these outreach opportunities for maximum Panel participation.

Mr. Richardson reminded Panel members of the upcoming Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) annual Community Use of Force Training Day on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at the FCPD Criminal Justice Academy. Mr. Richardson also reminded Panel members of upcoming Panel meetings and their locations in May and June.

Mr. Richardson recognized Supervisor Walkinshaw (Braddock District), who shared a few remarks. Supervisor Walkinshaw thanked the Panel for holding their meeting in his district and for holding Panel meetings throughout the County, which allows Fairfax County residents to come out and learn more about Panel matters.

Mr. Lau arrived at approximately 7:26 p.m.

PCRCP Matters: Mr. Hargraves shared that he is a member of the Ad Hoc Police Reform Taskforce committee and in this capacity, asked whether the Panel wanted to request monitoring and/or investigatory authority from the Board of Supervisors for the PCRCP's Executive Director. Chairman Cranford asked Mr. Hargraves to provide the Panel with a summary document to provide further information about the taskforce and their recommendations. Mr. Hargraves stated that he will share taskforce recommendations with the Panel.

Ms. Peterson asked for an update on the Recommendations Matrix and said that she would like the matrix to be updated on a regular basis. Mr. Richardson responded that he had provided the matrix to FCPD representatives and that FCPD had not yet provided updates on the seven new recommendations. Mr. Richardson also stated that FCPD had addressed the two older recommendations in the matrix and that the updates had been flagged as a priority. Ms. Wolfe expressed her frustration at the delay in getting updates from FCPD on the matrix and wanted to ensure that the requests were being communicated effectively.

Mr. Bynum asked for an update on the PCRCP quarterly meeting with FCPD where PCRCP and FCPD representatives can discuss updates to the recommendations matrix more regularly. Mr. Lau asked what the Panel could do moving forward to ensure that the Panel received responses to their recommendations in the matrix.

New Business: Ms. Wolfe asked whether any subcommittee reviews were forthcoming. Mr. Richardson and Ms. Lisa stated that we will convene a subcommittee to review a recent request and that all the Panel members had access to view the administrative file on Teams. Mr. Lau asked how a Panel member could review the case and he was advised that the Executive Director makes arrangements with the FCPD's Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) representatives to meet at a precinct to review the case file. Mr. Lau asked whether there were any updates on the officer involved shooting of Timothy Johnson from February 2023. Chairman Cranford reminded Mr. Lau that the PCRCP would not be involved in monitoring cases of officer involved shootings, but if the family of Mr. Johnson wanted to submit a complaint with the PCRCP for something that falls under PCRCP purview, such as racial discrimination, the Panel would potentially have the ability to do so.

Ms. Ramirez provided an update on the Virginia Coalition of Oversight Committees, temporarily termed VACOLE, and when the next meetings will be held to discuss oversight in Virginia and collaborating with the National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE). Mr. Richardson added that

he was on a subcommittee of VACOLE charged with collaborating with NACOLE to secure formal NACOLE recognition.

Ms. Ramirez updated the Panel on an officer involved shooting that occurred on April 5, 2023, involving a Virginia State police officer and a FCPD police officer. Ms. Ramirez stated that two individuals sitting in a vehicle that had been pulled over were shot. The driver was transported to the hospital and the passenger died at the scene.

Hearing nothing further, Chairman Cranford moved to allow the community members present to come forward with any questions or comments they might have. The community members asked questions and provided constructive criticism to the Panel. These queries included suggestions on PCRCP messaging to Fairfax County residents and terminology used in PCRCP flyers and brochures, the Panel's processes and how much authority they have, and public perception of the Panel and County officials with the general Fairfax County community.

Adjournment: Mr. Hargraves motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Garner seconded, and it carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.