

POLICE ADVISORY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES

Chairperson Rosa Mar called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on January 25, 2018 at the Knox County Education Association located at 2411 East Magnolia Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Attending Committee: Jered Croom, LaKenya Middlebrook, Robbie Arrington, Ann Barker, Rosa Mar, Robert Gibson

Not Attending: Frank Shanklin

Attending PARC Staff: Clarence L. Vaughn, III, PARC Executive Director

Attending KPD/City of Knoxville Staff: Chief of Police David Rausch, Officer John Morgan, Attorney Ron Mills & Avice Reid, Sr. Director of Community Relations

INTRODUCTION

Chairperson Mar welcomed guests to the fourth quarter meeting of the Police Advisory & Review Committee, which was at the Knox County Education Association. Chairperson Mar recognized Ms. Tonya Cats, President of the Knox County Education Association.

Chairperson Mar also reminded everyone that if they wish to speak during open forum, to please sign up on the sheet at the front entry table. Speaking times will be limited to 3 minutes per person. In addition, Chairperson Mar informed meeting participants of the PARC survey comprised by University of Tennessee Doctorial students. The surveys were handed out and collected by the students.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Mar asked if committee members had reviewed the October 25, 2017 meeting minutes. There were no changes and October 25, 2017 meeting minutes were approved.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS – Jered Croom

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| October 4, 2017 | The Executive Director was asked to serve as a guest speaker for SEED Knoxville's Cohort Program, which teaches students effective trades and use of clean energy resources. The Executive Director's discussion topic was directed to the creation and history of the Police Advisory Review Committee, and PARC's service to the citizens of Knoxville. |
| October 12, 2017 | The Executive Director served as a guest speaker during the Knoxville Police Department's Citizens Police Academy. Participants received information about PARC's history and its service the City of Knoxville. There was a discussion based on the investigation process of PARC and its relationship with the Knoxville Police Department. |
| October 18, 2017 | The Executive Director was invited by Centro Hispano to serve as a guest speaker at their monthly client meeting. The meeting attendees were not fluent in English, and there was a translator provided to share information about PARC's history and ways in which PARC can serve the Latino Community. |
| November 3, 2017 | The Executive Director was invited to serve as a panelist at the University of Tennessee, College of Social Work, Social Justice Conference. The guest panelists included representatives from Project Grad Knoxville, Knox County Public Defender's office, and others. Conference attendees related their questions to ways in which they can serve as advocates for each organization. |
| December 1, 2017 | The Executive Director provided the 3 rd Quarter PARC Report and IAU Case review to the Knoxville Police Department patrol units, criminal investigation department, and support services division. |
| December 1, 2017 | The Executive Director was invited by the Knoxville Optimist Club to serve as a Guest Speaker for their monthly meeting. Club members received information about PARC and its services to the citizens of Knoxville. |
| December 7, 2017 | The Executive Director served as a guest on the Knoxville 311 Radio Talk Show, hosted by 96.3 FM and Russ Jensen. The conversation was geared towards relationships between community members and the Knoxville Police Department. The host, Mr. Russ Jensen, asked several questions related to the creation of PARC and its investigative practices. |

Attendees were reminded everyone that if anyone would like PARC to speak to his or her organization, please call Clarence Vaughn at

the PARC office. The PARC office telephone number is 865-215-3869 and it can also be found in the Informational Brochure located at the entrance table.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Clarence Vaughn gave his fourth quarter report for 2017.

AUDIT OF DISCIPLINE PROCESS

The Committee audits all completed investigations from the Internal Affairs Unit of the Knoxville Police Department. The results of the 4th Quarter audits were as followed:

Total Cases Audited by the Committee was (1) Internal Affair (Closed) Case and (4) Referral Action Forms

Officers Disciplined 0
Officers Corrective Actions Taken 1

Disciplines Imposed: Number of Officers Number of Civilian Employees

Corrective Actions:

Verbal Counseling 1

*Additional Information on the Discipline: The officer involved was counseled on driving practices and the proper way to slow a speeding vehicle.

The Police Advisory and Review Committee and the Executive Director concurred with Internal Affair's conclusions on each case reviewed. The Committee asked for additional information two of the remaining cases. After reviewing the additional information provided, the Committee concurred with the findings of the Internal Affairs Unit.

There was one case pending at the close of the 4th Quarter of 2017.

AUDITS OF KPD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Reviewed the following ordinances, policies, and procedures as result of the Executive Director's evaluation of the Internal Affairs Investigations and complaints brought to the Executive Director:

- General Order 1.22 (Use of Discretion)
- General Order 1.36 (Harassment)
- General Order 1.60 (Response to Resistance/Use of Force)
- General Order 1.41 (Bias Based Policing)
- General Order 3.11 (Traffic Crash Investigation)
- General Order 3.30 (Procedures for Impoundment and Towing of Motor Vehicles)
- Standard Operating Procedure 1.19 (Unbecoming Conduct)
- Standard Operating Procedure 1.37 (Operating Vehicles)
- Standard Operating Procedure 2.04 (Conduct – General)

ADVOCACY (STRENGTHENING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITIZENS AND THE KPD)

- The Executive Director continues to educate citizens about the Police Advisory and Review Committee by speaking as an invited guest to monthly meetings held by community groups.
- The Executive Director provided training to the Knoxville Police Department Citizens Police Academy, regarding PARC's history and its provided services to the City of Knoxville.
- The Executive Director shared the PARC 3rd Quarter Report during the Knoxville Police Department roll calls. Each roll call consisted of patrol officers and various departments within KPD. Officers were provided with case totals, findings, and a detailed review of the complaint types.
- The Executive Director and PARC Board Chair, attended the Knoxville Police Department's Annual Christmas Luncheon held at the Civic Coliseum. The luncheon provided an opportunity for PARC to fellowship with KPD Command Staff and patrol officers.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- The Executive Director continues to meet with citizens outside of and in the PARC office to discuss concerns and complaints to develop plans for successful resolutions.
- The Executive Director takes part in attending several civic and social meetings hosted by community groups and organizations in the City of Knoxville on a monthly basis.
- The Executive Director has been invited to serve as a guest speaker during monthly meetings for non-profit and volunteer based organizations in the City of Knoxville.
- The Executive Director served as a vendor for the Austin-East High School and Vine Middle School career fair, which was hosted by the student body and staff. Several students showcased interest in law enforcement and ways to volunteer with PARC and the City of Knoxville.

NETWORKING

- The Executive Director was selected to serve as a University of Tennessee Chancellor Associate, which has allotted opportunities to build relationships with business and community leaders in the City of Knoxville.
- The Executive Director served as a Principal for the Day at Karns Elementary School, and he was provided an opportunity to meet the Superintendent for Knox County Schools and the current principal for Karns Elementary.
- The Executive Director was selected as a 40 under 40 recipient for the City of Knoxville, which has opened channels of communication amongst Knoxville current and future leaders. PARC has received additional awareness and recognition for individuals that serve in various industries.

Chairperson Mar reminded everyone that if they wanted to speak at Open Forum to please sign up on the sheet located at the back table.

PARC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Audio/Video Subcommittee – Robbie Arrington

Mr. Arrington reported the findings of the Audio/Video Subcommittee for four of the five Internal Affairs case reviewed for the fourth quarter of 2017.

Of the (1) IAU Case and (4) Referral Action Forms reviewed by the PARC Audio/Video Subcommittee:

- 1 RAF The Audio/Video of the officer involved worked properly and the officer activated the wireless microphone while conversing with the complainant
- 1 RAF The Audio/Video of the officer involved was stationed on background mode, which limited the review of audio
- 1 Case The Audio/Video regarding the alleged incident worked properly and the officer involved properly activated his wireless microphone
- 1 RAF The Audio/Video regarding the alleged incident remained in background mode as the officer in question failed to activate his wireless microphone while conversing with the complainant

The remaining case, did not provide any Audio/Video to review.

RAF – Referral Action Form

Case – Internal Affairs Case

SUMMARY

The reviewed Referral Action Form involved a violation of the Knoxville Police Department's General Order 2.16 (In-Car Recording Equipment), in which the infraction was noted on the officer's daily observation report under the technology category.

Racial Profiling Subcommittee – LaKenya Middlebrook

There was two alleged racial profiling PARC cases reviewed by the Committee during the 4th Quarter.

Case #1 Summary:

The complainant came to the PARC Office to discuss an incident that occurred on September 28, 2017. While on the campus of the University of Tennessee, the individual was approached by UT Police Officers. The complainant stated that the officers yelled "Hey Boy,

put your hands behind your back”, in which he was detained. Also, the complainant stated that he was detained for approximately 3 hours before being informed that he was under arrest. The complainant was arrested for theft of a stolen bicycle. The police officers transported the complainant to Knox County Jail, in which he was held for a total of 4 days. The complainant stated that he felt profiled and harassed due to being an African-American Male.

Conclusion:

After further review, the complaint occurred outside of PARC’s jurisdiction and was referred to the University of Tennessee Police Department for further investigation. The complainant was informed and his information was shared with the University of Tennessee, Chief of Police office.

Case #2 Summary:

The PARC office received a phone call from a complainant in reference to her boyfriend being allegedly harassed and profiled by a Knoxville Police Department officer. The individual was stopped and charged with a DUI after allegedly passing the field sobriety test administered by the officer. There was some conflicting information shared by the officer, per the complainant. The complainant alleges that her boyfriend was profiled due to being an African American male. We were informed that the vehicle involved in the incident was impounded and held until further notice.

Conclusion:

The Executive Director made several attempts to contact the complainant, in which he has not received a return call. The case is currently pending further review.

Operations Subcommittee – Ann Barker

Ms. Ann Barker reported on the quarterly totals of the 2017 cases, received and reviewed by the Committee, covering the period October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Total Cases for the Quarter	19
Neighborhood Cases	0
Cases Closed in the Quarter	18
Resolution of Cases Closed for the Quarter	
Executive Director	8
Mediation: Executive Director & KPD	0
Referrals to Appropriate Agencies	3
KPD	7
Executive Assistant	0
Executive Assistant & KPD	0
Total Cases Pending for the Quarter	
PARC <i>Initiated</i> Cases Referred to IAU for the Quarter	0
IAU Completed Cases Reviewed by PARC for the Quarter	1
IAU Referral Action Forms Reviewed by PARC for the Quarter	4
PARC <i>Initiated</i> Cases sent to IAU	0
IAU <i>Initiated</i> Referrals and Cases	0

PARC TRAINING SESSION: KPD

Officer John Morgan: Knoxville Police Department, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Officer Morgan shared information with meeting guests about the process of establishing Neighborhood Watch groups in their communities. Officer Morgan further explained the effectiveness of Neighborhood Watch groups in lessening criminal activities. There was information passed out about the process of establishing a group, and the information included services offered by the Knoxville Police Department to aid citizens in keeping their neighborhoods safe such as the website nextdoor.com to report criminal activities.

Some discussion and questions followed the presentation.

CASE MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE COMMITTEE

There was no specific Internal Affairs Case or Referral Action Form addressed by the PARC Board.

Mr. Jered Croom presented a question regarding the Knoxville Police Department's involvement in negotiating towing fees and usage of wrecker service. Chief David Rausch responded that the Wreckers Commission negotiates fees assigned with towing of vehicles. In addition, Mr. Croom asked a question for Chief Rausch to elaborate on the 24-hour rule of a parked vehicle. Chief Rausch responded that officers have various ways in order to mark the 24-hour period in which a vehicle must be moved. Lastly, Mr. Croom questioned the standard protocol for a "terry stop" by the Knoxville Police Department. Chief David Rausch provided an explanation of the definition of "terry stop". The terry stop is when an individual is apprehended for questioning due to potentially meeting a description of partaking in suspicious behaviors or criminal activity. The "terry pat" is searching of the outer pockets and belongings on a person of interest. The information is recorded on the officer's field interview notes.

CITIZENS ASKED TO APPEAR BEFORE PARC

There was no prior request submitted for a citizen to appear before the PARC Board.

OPEN FORUM

The following citizens addressed the Committee with concerns:

Jacob Denzel Grant: Mr. Grant posed questions to the Knoxville Police Department's concentrated efforts to improve citizen trust and relationships. Chief David Rausch provided several examples of programs and outreach activities that the Knoxville Police Department are partaking in. Mr. Grant further asked a question regarding gun violence and safety. Mr. Grant reflected on the amount of homicides and deaths of young African-American males, and the ease of young males obtaining access to handguns. Chief Rausch responded by speaking directly to the number of homicides in 2017 (32 in Total), and he emphasized the Knoxville Police Department's concern on lessening violence. Chief Rausch gave information about community partnerships directed towards gun violence, and he asked for the community to ensure that information is shared about available services provided along with community organizations.

Jim Golden: Mr. Golden referenced an incident that took place at his place of residence. Mr. Golden's place of residence was involved in a fire incident. Due to Mr. Golden's comment, he assumed that the fire was caused by faulty wiring. Mr. Golden stated that the Knoxville Utilities Board was to blame for the fire incident. Chief Rausch responded by directing Mr. Golden's attention towards Chief Stan Sharp of the Knoxville Fire Department ("KFD"), in which KFD responds to any allegations of arson or malice intent causing fire to properties.

Rosina Akinola: Ms. Akinola directed her concerns towards violence amongst young African-American males. Ms. Akinola informed the PARC Board and Chief David Rausch that her son fell victim to a violent crime, in which his life was taken. Ms. Akinola questioned the Knoxville Police Department's investigative practices. Ms. Akinola informed Chief Rausch that she did not receive any feedback on the status of her son's case. In addition, Ms. Akinola shared that several community members have a lack of trust in the Knoxville Police Department's ability to solve violent crimes that have plagued the African-American community. Chief Rausch responded by sharing his condolences for the lost Ms. Akinola's son. Chief Rausch further responded by stating that investigators have a responsibility to remain in contact with family members, and he informed Ms. Akinola that investigators are to make contact at a minimum of once per month. Chief Rausch recommended that Ms. Akinola speak with Captain Eve Thomas, whom heads the Violent Crimes Unit for the Knoxville Police Department. In addition, Chief Rausch provided names of local organizations and groups directed to those whom are victims of crime.

Moira Connelly: Ms. Connelly presented questions to the Knoxville Police Department and the PARC Board. The question for the Knoxville Police Department regarding dashboard camera video in patrol vehicles. Ms. Connelly wanted an explanation of the terminology of "background mode". Chief David Rausch explained that "background mode" referred to officers driving in their patrol vehicles without any interaction with community members. In addition, Chief Rausch explained that the dashboard camera is recording by frame in a per second recording while in "background mode". Once the officer engages in a conversation with a citizen, the audio transitions from background mode to a live feed. In addition, Ms. Connelly requested that PARC reports be provided in a written format.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Clarence L. Vaughn III, Executive Director