



## **CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

May 13, 2025

### **MEETING MINUTES**

#### **CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Billy Sharp, Chair  
Brandon Brown, Vice Chair  
Diana Cyganovich  
David Gatian  
Sherall Hardy  
Chenoa Miller  
Kenneth Mountcastle

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES**

Lillian Hall, Asst. Director of Law  
Michael Hess, Asst. Director of Law

#### **OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

Kristen Traxler, Interim Administrator  
Vince Funari, Senior Investigator  
Art Bowker, Investigator  
Adam Eisen, Investigator  
LJ Green, Investigator  
Hamza Khabir, Investigator  
Tammi Lampkin, Investigator  
James Ouk, Investigator  
Joseph Szymanski, Investigator  
Jessyca Watson, Investigator

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### **MEETING AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order** Brandon Brown, Vice Chair  
Member Miller had to excuse herself at 9:30, and returned to the meeting at 11:55.
  
- II. **Approval of Minutes** Brandon Brown, Vice Chair  
The minutes from the April 2025 CPRB were approved contingent upon the amendments that were identified. Discussion included changes to the Public Comment section addressing the 1<sup>st</sup> District police department, adding GPO's to the rational and adding the final motion to accept the resignation of Terriana Graham was carried. The motion to accept the minutes was made by Brandon Brown and second by Sherall Hardy.
  
- III. **Public Comment**  
A. No one present for public comment.
  
- IV. **Training Session**  
A. Dispatch-Process and Procedures Lt. Neidbalson  
Chief Dispatcher Davila



The Communications department provided a brief training on processes and procedures. Initial calls to 911 are routed directly to the county, regardless of the city in which you reside. Last year, 600,000 calls were made to Cleveland. The training highlighted the roles of bilingual call takers and dispatchers. Chief Davila gave an overview of the dispatchers' mental health protocol, mentioning that a doctor is available on-site once a week for anyone in need of support.

V. **Presentation of Investigations**

Kristen Traxler  
Interim Administrator



**OPS2024-0099**

**Complainant: Byas**

Det. Donald Kopchak, #2139

Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

Allegation B: Bias Policing

Det. Robert Sauterer, #685

Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search

**Case Summary:** On Friday, September 27, 2019, Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) Det. Robert Sauterer, #685 and Det. Donald Kopchak, #2139 served a Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas search warrant at Ms. T. Byas's residence on the 400 block of E. 146<sup>th</sup> Street. Detectives Sauterer and Kopchak served the legally signed/issued search warrant Ms. Byas's residence in compliance with CDP procedure regarding search and seizure. Their interactions with Ms. Byas during the search were courteous/ professional, and did not display a bias against her or her son Mr. Byas.

**Case Findings:**

**Det. Robert Sauterer #685**

**Allegation A: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated** - The Preponderance of the evidence gathered through the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the Patrol Officers' actions were consistent with the law, Cleveland Division of Police General Police Order 2.02.02, Manual of Rules 4.17, training, or procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Det. Donald Kopchak #2139**

**Allegation B: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation to include WCS, Investigators Report, Officers Interviews, and Manual of Rules 5.01, 5.08, and 5.09, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Det. Robert Sauterer #685**



**Allegation B: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation to include WCS, Investigators Report, Officers Interviews, and Manual of Rules 5.01, 5.08, and 5.09, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Det. Donald Kopchak**

**Allegation C: Bias Policing**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation to include WCS, Investigators Report, Officers Interviews, and General Police Order (GPO) 1.07.08, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

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**OPS2024-0199**

**Complainant: Foster**

Sgt. Mathias Varga, #9298

Allegation A: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service

**Case Summary:** On 08/16/2024, Ms. Foster contacted the Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) to report a protection or violation against her neighbor. Additionally, Ms. Foster wanted that same neighbor arrested for using her vehicle to hit one of the painters she hired to paint her house. Sgt. Mathias #9298, did issue a citation to the neighbor for a protection order violation, but did not make any arrest, because the individual who was allegedly hit by the vehicle thought it was an accident and did not want to press any charges.

**Case Findings:**

**Sgt. Mathias Varga, #9298**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** The Preponderance of the evidence including WCS supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur. The officers' actions were in accordance with GPO 5.05.02-Protection Order Enforcement.

Motion: Sherall Hardy

Second: Brandon Brown

Motion: Carried

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**OPS2023-0080****Complainant: Foster**

P.O. Ryan McCarthy, #1009

Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

Allegation B: Lack of Service-No Service

P.O. Russell Shantery, #2094

Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

Allegation B: Lack of Service-No Service

Sgt. Scott Navratil, #9257

Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

Allegation B: Lack of Service- No Service

P.O Michael Smith, #2017

Allegation B: Lack of Service-No Service

**Case Summary:** On 6/8/23, Ms. S Foster filed a complaint at the OPS office. Ms. Foster claims that on 2/27/23 she was assaulted at the Jacks Casino while playing the slot machine. Ms. Foster has alleged a lack of service because the police failed to provide her protection. Ms. Foster also alleged biased policing because she believes that the assigned detective had a vested interest in the case.

During the course of this investigation, OPS became aware that Det. Michael Cozart retired from the Cleveland Division of Police on 2/5/2024. Therefore, allegations against Detective Cozart will no longer be investigated.

On 4/13/2023, Ms. Foster filed a complaint with OPS via telephone. Ms. Foster claims that on 4/1/2023, she was in an altercation with her neighbor, Ms. T Lewis. Ms. Foster claims that Ms. Lewis came onto her porch, spit at her and struck her broken wrist 3 times with a chair. Ms. Foster has alleged a lack of service on the part of the police officers who responded because Ms. Lewis was not arrested. Ms. Foster added that the Sgt. who responded was unprofessional towards her. These complaints were merged into one case prior to being assigned to the Investigator. Ms. Foster believes that the Officers who responded to her home on 4/1/2023 and the Detective in charge of her case are also employed by the Jacks casino which is why they did not arrest her neighbor for assault.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Ryan McCarthy #1009**



**Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence the alleged conduct did not occur. The Officers were courteous and respectful in their speech and conduct as outlined in Manual of rules 5.08 and 5.09.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Russell Shantery #2094**

**Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence the alleged conduct did not occur. The Officers were courteous and respectful in their speech and conduct as outlined in Manual of rules 5.08 and 5.09.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**Sgt. Scott Navratil #9257**

**Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence the alleged conduct did not occur. The Officers were courteous and respectful in their speech and conduct as outlined in Manual of rules 5.08 and 5.09

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Ryan McCarthy #1009**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service-No Service**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence the alleged conduct did not occur. The Officers gave full attention to Ms. Foster, listening to her concerns and explaining the process of filing charges against her neighbor. The officers' actions were consistent with Manual of Rules 4.03.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Russell Shantery #2094**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service-No Service**



**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence the alleged conduct did not occur. The Officers gave full attention to Ms. Foster, listening to her concerns and explaining the process of filing charges against her neighbor. The officers' actions were consistent with Manual of Rules 4.03.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**Sgt. Scott Navratil #9257**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service-No Service**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence the alleged conduct did not occur. The Officers gave full attention to Ms. Foster, listening to her concerns and explaining the process of filing charges against her neighbor. The officers' actions were consistent with Manual of Rules 4.03.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Michael Smith #2017**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service-No Service**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence the alleged conduct did not occur. The Officers gave full attention to Ms. Foster, listening to her concerns and explaining the process of filing charges against her neighbor. The officers' actions were consistent with Manual of Rules 4.03.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

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**OPS2024-0139**

**Complainant: Foster**

P.O. Carlos Robles, #2283

Allegation A: Lack of Service-No Service

P.O. Elijah Cintron, #1115

Allegation A: Lack of Service-No Service

**Case Summary:** On June 24, 2024, Ms. Foster requested a tow of an illegally parked commercial vehicle from Fortunate Ave, Cleveland, Ohio. P.O Robles and P.O. Elijah Cintron #1115 investigated and found the truck was not a commercial vehicle and was not parked illegally.



### **Case Findings:**

#### **P.O. Elijah Cintron #1115**

##### **Allegation A: Lack of Service-No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, to include the WCS footage, dispatch records and an OPS interview, supports that Officers investigated the Ms. Fosters Claim of an improperly parked commercial truck on or about June 24, 2024 consistent with Manual Section 4.18 but instead found non-commercial truck legally parked on a city street.

Motion: Sherall Hardy

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

#### **P.O. Carlos Robles #2283**

##### **Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, to include the WCS footage, dispatch records and an OPS interview, supports that Officers investigated the Ms. Fosters Claim of an improperly parked commercial truck on or about June 24, 2024 consistent with Manual Section 4.18 but instead found non-commercial truck legally parked on a city street.

Motion: Sherall Hardy

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

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### **OPS2022-0222**

**Complainant: Williams**

P.O. Sierra Morris, #1258

Allegation A: Lack of Service: No Service

P.O. Tyeisha Sain, #438

Allegation A: Lack of Service: No Service

P.O. David Polocy, #1031

Allegation A: Lack of Service: No Service

P.O. Nauman Elkhatib, #120

Allegation A: Lack of Service: No service

P.O. Samuel Sheehan, #448





Allegation A: Lack of Service: No Service

P.O. Jordan Blade, #1129

Allegation A: Lack of Service: No Service

P.O. Michael Crane, #2108

Allegation A: Lack of Service: No Service

**Case Summary:** Ms. Williams said that on 07-27-22, she called the Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) for help, no action was taken, leaving her feeling failed by the police. She said she was harassed by her cousin, K. Brown, whom she had refused to house. Mr. Brown had forcibly entered her residence, threatened her, and despite having witnesses and providing evidence, including text messages, the responding officers did not arrest Mr. Brown, file a report or provide her any information. She said the officers could not prove Mr. Brown broke into the residence, even-though she had evidence of his eviction. Ms. Williams said she was told to meet the officers two hours later, exacerbating her frustration as she didn't receive the same officers and they had not returned. She said a male officer named "Sherman" had not handled her situation properly and claimed to be the "Chief of Police" however, said he was professional and believed to be a Sheriff. Regarding a separate incident of Mr. Brown allegedly slashing her tires. She said she received a police response, a report number, and had no complaint with this incident. Ms. Williams reported she was currently pursuing legal action against Mr. Brown in Housing Court. She had issues with the submitted Housing Court Documents, her eviction was not approved, and there were no agreements with Mr. Brown. The text messages she had received by Mr. Brown of taking her things, she had already reported in a different incident. She noted the officers advised her to evict Mr. Brown in Housing Court. Cuyahoga County Probate Records showed the residence was in probate and attached to an Estate. A 100% transfer of the residence to the complainant had not occurred until 01-24-23. Cleveland Municipal Court showed she attempted to evict Mr. Brown, but the Housing eviction was canceled on 07-27-22 at 10:00 A.M.

#### **Case Findings:**

**P.O. Sierra Morris #1258**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service-No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence gathered including WCS, Recorded Statements, and CDP Manual Rules 4.06 and 4.18, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but were consistent with law, CDP manual rules and regulations, CDP General Police Orders, training and/or procedures. The Officers responded to and investigated the incident and provided information to Ms. Williams.

Motion: Brandon Brown



Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Dave Gatian (Stepped out during presentation)

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Tyeisha Sain #438**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence gathered including WCS, Recorded Statements, and CDP Manual Rules 4.06 and 4.18, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but were consistent with law, CDP manual rules and regulations, CDP General Police Orders, training and/or procedures. The Officers responded to and investigated the incident and provided information to Ms. Williams.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Dave Gatian, Billy Sharp (Stepped out during presentation)

Motion: Carried

**P.O. David Polocy #1031**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence gathered including WCS, Recorded Statements, and CDP Manual Rules 4.06 and 4.18, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but were consistent with law, CDP manual rules and regulations, CDP General Police Orders, training and/or procedures. The Officers responded to and investigated the incident and provided information to Ms. Williams.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Dave Gatian, Billy Sharp (Stepped out during presentation)

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Nauman Elkhatib #120**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence gathered including WCS, Recorded Statements, and CDP Manual Rules 4.06 and 4.18, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but were consistent with law, CDP manual rules and regulations, CDP General Police Orders, training and/or procedures. The Officers responded to and investigated the incident and provided information to Ms. Williams.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Dave Gatian, Billy Sharp (Stepped out during presentation)



Motion: Carried

**P.O. Samuel Sheehan #448**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence gathered including WCS, Recorded Statements, and CDP Manual Rules 4.06 and 4.18, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but were consistent with law, CDP manual rules and regulations, CDP General Police Orders, training and/or procedures. The Officers responded to and investigated the incident and provided information to Ms. Williams.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Dave Gatian, Billy Sharp (Stepped out during presentation)

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Jordan Blade #1129**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence gathered including WCS, Recorded Statements, and CDP Manual Rules 4.06 and 4.18, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but were consistent with law, CDP manual rules and regulations, CDP General Police Orders, training and/or procedures. The Officers responded to and investigated the incident and provided information to Ms. Williams.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Dave Gatian, Billy Sharp (Stepped out during presentation)

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Michael Crane #2108**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence gathered including WCS, Recorded Statements, and CDP Manual Rules 4.06 and 4.18, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but were consistent with law, CDP manual rules and regulations, CDP General Police Orders, training and/or procedures. The Officers responded to and investigated the incident and provided information to Ms. Williams.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Dave Gatian, Billy Sharp (Stepped out during presentation)

Motion: Carried



**OPS2022-0296**

**Complainant: Andrews**

Detective Tywon Little, #2177

Allegation A: Improper Procedure-Search

P.O. Justin Longstreet, #2061

Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Tow

P.O. David Myers, #2297

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Tow

P.O. David Myers, #2297

Allegation C: WCS Violation

**Case Summary:** On October 21, 2022, Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) officers executed a search warrant at 635 E. 124<sup>th</sup> Street, Cleveland, Ohio, and towed Ms. Andrews's vehicle. Ms. Andrews stated the warrant incorrectly indicated her vehicle was parked in front of her residence, while it was actually parked six to eight houses away on the same street due to her suspended license; explaining she parked her vehicle down the street to avoid her landlord. Ms. Andrews said the vehicle's tags and plates were valid until December 2023. At the time of the incident, she was placed under arrest and learned that her vehicle was towed from her sister. Ms. Andrews believed her vehicle was improperly towed, expressing after receiving a return receipt of search warrant for her vehicle, the warrant inaccurately cited her vehicle's location from a non-existent address. Ms. Andrews identified an "involved member" as a "Detective", but could not provide a name as the Detective's name from the warrant wasn't legible.

**Case Findings:**

**Detective Tywon Little #2177**

**Allegation A: Improper Procedure- Search**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, including the investigator's report, WCS, and General Police Order 2.02.02, it is shown that Det. Little #2177 complied with rules and laws, and the allegation did not occur

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Justin Longstreet #2061**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure: Tow**



**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence and the investigator's report, the officer complied with General Police Order (GPO) 6.03.01 and 6.03.02.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**P.O. David Myers #2297**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure: Tow**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence and the investigator's report, the officer complied with General Police Order (GPO) 6.03.01 and 6.03.02.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**P.O. David Myers #2297**

**Allegation C: WCS Violation**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence to include the investigator's report and interviews. P.O. Myers WCS battery was charged to full capacity prior to his tour of duty. His WCS battery stopped working during his approve OT and was in partial compliance of Section (IL.)(B)(7) Of GPO 4.06.04. GPO 4.06.04 does not mandate an officer needing to follow certain procedures with a dead battery working after his tour of duty.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

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**OPS2023-0220**

**Complainant: Woods**

P.O. Maximo Estremera, #357

Allegation A: Improper Procedure-Tow

**Case Summary:** On September 10, 2023, P.O. Maximo Estremera #357 issued parking infractions and towed vehicles along W. St. Clair Ave near the Standard Apartment Building, including Ms. Raymell Wood's silver 2022 Nissan Sentra. P.O. Estremera identified and acted on visible "No Parking Anytime" signs posted in the area. He followed proper procedures, issuing a parking infraction and completing the required communication and documentation. P.O. Estremera's



actions complied with CDP Policy and Procedures, and Cleveland Codified Ordinances regarding on street parking.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Maximo Estremera #357**

**Allegation A: Improper Procedure-Tow**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence and investigator report the officer was in compliance of General Police Order (GPO) 6.03.01 and did not violate Codified Ordinance 405.02 and 451.03.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Sherall Hardy

Abstain: Chenoa Miller- Not Present during the case presentation.

Motion: Carried

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**OPS2024-0262**

**Complainant: Bryant**

P.O. Joseph Litton, #722

Allegation A: Lack of Service-No Service

**Case Summary:** Ms. N Bryant had her car towed from a parking meter on E. 9<sup>th</sup> St. on the morning of October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Eckes towing company received a call to tow the vehicle from a Ms. M. Margerum. Ms. Margerum had mistaken the vehicle for her husband's vehicle. Ms. Bryant called the police to report that her car was stolen. Her call was placed as a priority level 4. Ms. Bryant waited several hours for officers to arrive to her about her missing vehicle. Ms. Bryant went to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Police Station. Ms. Bryant was told that her issue was a civil matter. P.O. Litton completed a Motor Vehicle Theft report for Ms. Bryant. P.O. Litton spoke with Eckes towing and was able to recover Ms. Bryant's vehicle at no cost to her.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Joseph Litton #722**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service-No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence to include the Officer's WCS footage, finding that the alleged conduct did occur but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police General Police Orders, trainings, or procedures. P.O. Litton followed Manual Rule 4.18. The findings also show, the delay in response was due to unavoidable workload and when the officer was able to respond, he went over and beyond by recovering Ms. Bryant's vehicle at no cost to her.

Motion: Diana Cyganovich

Second Sherall Hardy



Abstain: Brandon Brown- Not in the room during the presentation.

Motion: Carried

**A motion was made by Chair Sharp to select P.O.Litton #722 to be recognized by the Board with the instruction to OPS to look into the Officers eligibility firsthand. The motion was second by Member Hardy.**

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**OPS2022-0093**

**Complainant: Lamalfa**

P.O. Dimitri Blackwell, #710

Allegation A: Excessive Force

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search

P.O. Ashley Schut, #888

Allegation A: Excessive Force

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search

Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

**Case Summary:** On March 9, 2022, Mr. Lamalfa alleged Excessive Force and Improper Proper Procedure against Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) Officers.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Dimitri Blackwell #710**

**Allegation A: Excessive Force**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, including the investigator's report, WCS, and Manual of Rules 2.01.03 and 2.01.05, it is shown that the officers complied with rules and laws, and the allegation did not occur.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Ashley Schut #888**

**Allegation A: Excessive Force**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, including the investigator's report, WCS, and Manual of Rules 2.01.03 and 2.01.05, it is shown that the officers complied with rules and laws, and the allegation did not occur.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried



**P.O. Dimitri Blackwell #710**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include reports and WCS, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but the Officers' actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police General Police Orders, training, or procedures.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Ashley Schut #888**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include reports and WCS, supports a finding that the alleged conduct occurred but the Officers' actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police General Police Orders, training, or procedures.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Ashley Shut #888**

**Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Unfounded-** The Preponderance of the collected evidence, to include WCS supports that the alleged conduct did not occur.

Motion: Billy Sharp

Second: Glen Parker III

Motion: Carried

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**OPS2022-0140**

**Complainant: Sims**

Detective Ryan McNamara, #949

Allegation A: Improper Procedure- Property Damage

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search

P.O. Richard Rospierski, #2006

Allegation A: Improper Procedure- Property Damage

Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search





Detective Michael Fallon, #2529

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search

Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/ Conduct

Sgt. Daniel Florentz, #9340

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search

Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

Sgt. Michael Harper, #9230

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search

Detective Robert Jorgensen, #2312

Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search

P.O. John Kosko, #1071

Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search

Detective King Krug, #2557

Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search

Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/ Conduct

Sgt. Jake Simonelli, #9306

Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search

Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/ Conduct

**Case Summary:** Mr. Sims stated on November 26<sup>th</sup> 2021, Cleveland Division Police (CDP) executed a search warrant at his residence located at 3211 w 121<sup>st</sup> without a valid search warrant. Mr. Sims also stated that the officers mistreated his autistic son by running at him with assault weapons and handcuffing him, and caused damage to his residence and property while effecting the search warrant. The OPS investigation revealed that CDP had a valid search warrant. The complainant refused to sign an acknowledgement but was left a copy of the warrant. Damage to property during the search was limited and consistent with CDP Policy. No rifles or other weapons were pointed at the complainant's son. The officers involved in the detainment, serving of the search warrant, and search of the home abided by and complied with CDP policy and procedure.

**Case Findings:**

**Detective Ryan McNamara #949**

**Allegation A: Improper Procedure-Property Damage**



**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.02 and 2.02.04), trainings and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Richard Rospierski #2006**

**Allegation A: Improper Procedure-Property Damage**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.02 and 2.02.04), trainings and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Detective Michael Fallon #2529**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Sgt. Daniel Florentz #9340**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried



**Sgt. Michael Harper #9230**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-**The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Detective Robert Jorgensen #2312**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-**The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**P.O. John Kosko #1071**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Detective Kevin Krug #2557**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown



Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Detective Ryan McNamara #949**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure- Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Richard Rospierski #2006**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Sgt. Jake Simonelli #9306**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**P.O. Malik Wilson #1749**

**Allegation B: Improper Procedure-Search**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** The preponderance of the evidence gathered throughout the investigation supports a finding that the alleged conduct did occur, but the officer's



actions were consistent with law, Cleveland Division of Police Orders (2.02.04 Warrant Services), trainings, and procedures.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Detective Michael Fallon #2529**

**Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS, written documents and interviews, supports a finding that the Officers' actions were consistent with Law, Policy and Procedures. The Officers conducted themselves in a respectful manner to the public as well as in their speech, conduct and contact with those on scene, abiding by CDP Manual of rules 4.05, 5.08 and 5.09.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Sgt. Daniel Florentz #9340**

**Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS, written documents and interviews, supports a finding that the Officers' actions were consistent with Law, Policy and Procedures. The Officers conducted themselves in a respectful manner to the public as well as in their speech, conduct and contact with those on scene, abiding by CDP Manual of rules 4.05, 5.08 and 5.09.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

**Detective Kevin Krug #2557**

**Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/ Conduct**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS, written documents and interviews, supports a finding that the Officers' actions were consistent with Law, Policy and Procedures. The Officers conducted themselves in a respectful manner to the public as well as in their speech, conduct and contact with those on scene, abiding by CDP Manual of rules 4.05, 5.08 and 5.09.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried



**Sgt. Jake Simonelli #9306**

**Allegation C: Unprofessional Behavior/ Conduct**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS, written documents and interviews, supports a finding that the Officers' actions were consistent with Law, Policy and Procedures. The Officers conducted themselves in a respectful manner to the public as well as in their speech, conduct and contact with those on scene, abiding by CDP Manual of rules 4.05, 5.08 and 5.09.

Motion: Brandon Brown

Second: Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried

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**OPS2022-0158**

**Complainant: Sutton**

P.O. Derrick Brown, #713

Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service

P.O Seth Mercer, #868

Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service

**Case Summary:** On June 26, 2022, Patrol Officer Derrick Brown #713 and Patrol Officer Seth Mercer #868 responded to a call. They displayed professionalism and protected the rights of minors. They conducted a thorough on-site investigation and gathered witness statements, which Detective Christopher Horvath #2034 later utilized to conclude his investigation.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Derrick Brown #713**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, which includes interviews with the complainant and subject officer, CDP Incident reports, a search warrant, and Cleveland Municipal Court Records, supports a finding of Exonerated as the officer's actions were consistent with General Police Orders.

Motion: **TABLED**

Second: **TABLED**

Motion: **TABLED**

**P.O. Seth Mercer #868**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- No Service**



**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence, which includes interviews with the complainant and subject officer, CDP Incident reports, a search warrant, and Cleveland Municipal Court Records, supports a finding of Exonerated as the officer's actions were consistent with General Police Orders.

Motion: **TABLED**

Second: **TABLED**

Motion: **TABLED**

**The board agreed to table the case so the Investigator get the rational from the Officers as to why all the witness statements weren't included and also additional information on the reporting requirements. The motion to table the case was made by Brandon Brown and Second by Diana Cyganovich.**

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**OPS2024-0083**

**Complainant: Anonymous**

P.O. Darian Laska, #757

Allegation A: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service

**Case Summary:** On 04/16/2024, OPS received an anonymous complaint that P.O. Darian Laska #757 witnessed a physical altercation between two females outside of a vehicle, and he did not make any arrest. P.O. Laska stated he only saw one punch being thrown. However, none of the involved parties wanted to speak with him about the incident.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Darian Laska #757**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service**

**Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the Preponderance of the evidence, P.O. Laska did not know there was an on-going altercation between the two females when he approached their vehicle from the rear. General Police Order 3.04.01, Warrantless Arrest did not authorize P.O. Laska to make an arrest due to the offense not being a felony under Ohio Revised Code 2903.13 Assault.

Motion: Dave Gatian

Second: Sherall Hardy

Opposed: Billy Sharp (Questioned the Officer's decision) and Diana Cyganovich

Motion: Carried



**VI. OPS Status Report**

**A. Community Engagement Update**

EJ Pavlinich

Director of Community  
Engagement

EJ Pavlinich's community engagement update included information about ongoing initiatives. He concentrated on enhancing the inner office culture. The Office of Professional Standards had previously been regarded as a toxic work environment, characterized by distrust, disrespect, and anxiety. Since Interim Administrator Traxler took over, there have been noticeable improvements in the office climate, including increased productivity and stronger relationships among colleagues. We are discovering that we share core values, which helps us build professional connections. The OPS is not only becoming a stress-free environment, but the office is also getting a makeover with new décor and updated workspaces. EJ discussed the health and mental health initiatives within the city and OPS.

**VII. Old Business**

Billy Sharp, Chair

**A. CPRB Bios need to be completed**

**VIII. New Business**

Billy Sharp, Chair

A. A motion was made to officially accept Brandie Hall as the new Intake Coordinator for the Office of Professional Standards. The Motion was made by Brandon Brown and second by Sherall Hardy.

B. A motion was made to accept Jessyca Watson as the Acting General Manager of the Office of Professional Standards. The motion was made by Brandon Brown and Second by Sherall Hardy.

**IX. Adjournment**

Brandon Brown, Vice Chair

A. Vice Chair Brandon Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Member Mountcastle.