



# **CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

June 17, 2025

## **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

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

Billy Sharp, Chair  
Brandon Brown, Vice Chair  
Diana Cyganovich  
David Gatian  
Sherall Hardy  
Kenneth Mountcastle  
Glenn Parker III

### **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

### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES**

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

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## **MEETING AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order** Brandon Brown, Vice Chair
  - A. **Roll Call**

Member Miller was not present during the CPRB Meeting. The absence was excused. Member Mountcastle was present but had a hard out at 1:00pm. Member Cyganovich was present at the start time but was having technical difficulties with her computer so she had to log off and come in to OPS to properly attend the meeting.
- II. **Approval of Minutes** Brandon Brown, Vice Chair

There were no minutes to approve.
- III. **Executive Session** CPRB

Vice Chair Brown made the motion to enter Executive session to discuss, Personnel, Discipline and Employment matters. The session was to include the Law Department, Human Resources, and OPS Interim Administrator Traxler.
- IV. **Presentation of Investigations** Kristen Traxler  
Interim Administrator



**OPS2022-0158**

**Complainant: Sutton**

**Presented by: James Ouk**

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:** This case was originally heard during the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting and was agreed upon by the Board to be tabled so the Investigator can obtain the rationale from the Officers as to why all the witness statements weren't included and additional information on the reporting requirements.

On June 26, 2022, P.O. Derrick Brown #713 and P.O. 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 Det. Christopher Horvath #2034 later utilized to conclude his investigation.

**Case Findings:**

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

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

**OPS Recommendation: Exonerated**

**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, training or procedures. The rationale for this recommendation is rooted in the prompt response of both Officers to the incident. They provided service, gathered evidence, and submitted their report. The OPS investigation supports their adherence to GPO 8.2.03 and GPO 1.07.08, as well as all relevant GPOs in this instance including those related to juvenile rights.

**Motion:** Brandon Brown

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

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

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

**OPS Recommendation: Exonerated**

**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, training or procedures. The rationale for this recommendation is rooted in the prompt response of both Officers to the incident. They provided service, gathered evidence, and submitted their report. The OPS investigation supports their adherence to GPO 8.2.03 and GPO 1.07.08, as well as all relevant GPOs in this instance including those related to juvenile rights.

**Motion:** Brandon Brown

**Second:** Sherall Hardy

**Motion:** Carried

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**OPS2024-0282**

**Complainant: OPS Directed**

**Presented by: Lachickia Green**

P.O. Jason Hyrn, #578

Allegation A: Lack of Service: No Service

**Case Summary:** OPS received an anonymous complaint against Det. Demetrius Woods #2127 on June 14, 2024, concerning an incident on June 13, 2024, in which he was involved in an on duty traffic accident. P.O. Jason Hyrn #578 arrived on the scene of the accident and completed an investigation but no traffic citation was issued. The allegations against Det. Woods were presented to the CPRB on November 12, 2024. At that time the CPRB made a Lack of Service allegation against P.O. Hyrn for failing to cite Det. Woods for a traffic violation.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Jason Hyrn, #578**

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

**OPS Recommendation: Exonerated**

**CPRB Recommendation: Exonerated-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence including WCS footage and OH-1 Reports, reflects that P.O. Hyrn obtained statements from all parties and identified Det. Demetrius Woods #2127 as the at-fault driver which is consistent with the requirement of Manual Section 4.18, GPO 8.01.02, and GPO 8.1.01 and he was not required to issue traffic citations.

**Motion:** Sherall Hardy

**Second:** Brandon Brown

**Motion:** Carried

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**OPS2023-0173**

**Complainant: Westfall**

**Presented by: Lachickia Green**

P.O. Martin Richardson-Liberan, #1169

Allegation A: Lack of Service: Insufficient Service (03/28/2023)



P.O. Frank Garmback IV, #394

Allegation A: Lack of Service: Insufficient Service (03/28/2023)

Sgt. Michelle Gricar, #9262

Allegation B: Lack of Service: Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)

P.O. Michael Valdez, #1384

Allegation B: Lack of Service: Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)

P.O. Stephanie Martinez, #1548

Allegation B: Lack of Service: Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)

P.O. Anthony Estremera, #799

Allegation B: Lack of Service: Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)

Det. Zachary Banks, #645

Allegation B: Lack of Service: Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)

**Case Summary:** On March 28, 2024, Mr. Westfall alleges Lack of Service-Insufficient Service by P.O. Ryan Frantz #1734 (Employment ended 11/15/2024), P.O. Frank Garmback IV, #394, and P.O. Martin Richardson-Liberan #1169. He states that the officers failed to assist him with retrieving his property from his former home.

WCS recordings of this incident show Officers assist Mr. Westfall with transferring his personal property from his former home and into his vehicle. At the close of the encounter Mr. Westfall informed the officers that he had gathered the items that he needed and thanked the officers for assisting him.

WCS recordings dated April 1, 2023 show Sgt. Michelle Gricar #9262, P.O. Michael Valdez #1384, P.O. Stephanie Martinez #1548, P.O. Anthony Estremera #799 and P.O. Zachary Banks #645.

**Case Findings:**

**P.O. Martin Richardson-Liberan**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service-Insufficient Service (03/28/2023)**

**OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**



**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS and Officer Interviews, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

**P.O. Frank Garmback IV, #394**

**Allegation A: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service (03/28/2023)**

**OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS and Officer Interviews, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

**Sgt. Michelle Gricar, #9262**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)**

**OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS and Officer Interviews, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

**P.O. Michael Valdez, #1384**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)**

**OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS and Officer Interviews, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

**P.O. Stephanie Martinez, #1548**



**Allegation B: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)**

**OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS and Officer Interviews, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

**P.O. Anthony Estremera, #799**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)**

**OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS and Officer Interviews, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

**Det. Zachary Banks, #645**

**Allegation B: Lack of Service- Insufficient Service (04/01/2023)**

**OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded-** Based on the preponderance of the evidence to include WCS and Officer Interviews, supports a finding that the alleged conduct did not occur.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Diana Cyganovich

**Motion:** Carried

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**OPS2022-0154**

**Complainant: Calmino**

**Presented by: Lachickia Green**

P.O. Robquetta Lavender, #2594

Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct

Allegation B: Lack of Service

Allegation C: Bias Policing

**Case Summary:** Ms. Calimano made allegations of Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct, Lack of Service and Biased Policing from an incident on June 11, 2022 after she and her son were involved



in a fight with a Rent-A-Center sales associate located at 1566 Pearl road. She alleges that P.O. Robquetta Lavender #2594 was unprofessional and seemed to favor the other party involved in the incident because he stated that he had a family member that is also a Cleveland Police Officer. Ms. Calimano further alleges that P.O. Lavender incorrectly listed her as the suspect on the police report, failed to include all details on the police report and also failed to interview her son Carlos who was transported to Metro Health Hospital prior to the officers arrival to the scene of the incident.

#### **Case Findings:**

##### **P.O. Robquetta Lavender, #2594**

##### **Allegation A: Unprofessional Behavior/Conduct**

##### **OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded**-Based on the preponderance of the evidence, including the investigator's report, WCS, and Manual of Rules 5, 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. Robquetta Lavender, #2594**

##### **Allegation B: Lack of Service**

##### **OPS Recommendation: Exonerated**

**CPRB Recommendation: Exonerated**-Based on the preponderance of the evidence, which includes interviews with the complainant and subject officer, CDP Incident reports and Manual of Rules 4. P.O. Robquetta Lavender responded to the incident, obtained statements from all parties involved, gathered information about the victim, provided a police report number and information to the City of Cleveland Prosecutors Office if she wished to file charges.

**Motion:** Billy Sharp

**Second:** Glen Parker III

**Motion:** Carried

##### **P.O. Robquetta Lavender, #2594**

##### **Allegation C: Bias Policing**

##### **OPS Recommendation: Unfounded**

**CPRB Recommendation: Unfounded**-Based on the preponderance of the evidence, including the investigator's report, WCS, and General Police Order (GPO) 1.07.08, 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

V. **Old Business**

**Billy Sharp, Chair**

A. Member Diana Cyganovich made the motion to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> special CPRB Meeting for the month of June. The meeting would take place on June 24<sup>th</sup> and would be contingent upon being able to have a quorum on that day. The motion was seconded by Member Dave Gatian.

VI. **Adjournment**

**Brandon Brown, Vice Chair**

A. The motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chair Brown and seconded by Member Hardy.