

Citizen Complaint Authority
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Attendees Present

CCA Board Members

Samuel Burbanks, IV, Chair
John Williams, Vice Chair
Louis Arnold, Member
Clarice Warner, Member

Attendees Absent

Staff

Assistant City Manager (ACM) Natasha Hampton
Dena Brown, Interim Director
Andrew Alanis, Investigator
Morgan Givens, Investigator
Jessalyn Goodman, Investigator
Ronald Pugh, Investigator
Arnie Slaughter, Investigator
Robert Stephens, Investigator
Joseph Vesper, Investigator
Brandon Upchurch, Sr. Administrative Specialist
Shurdina Mitchell, Administrative Specialist
Captain Mark Burns, Internal Investigation Section
David Sturkey, Assistant City Solicitor, Law Department
Steve Sobel, CitiCable General Manager
Tom Potter, CitiCable Production Manager
Darius Jones, CitiCable Programming Manager

Chair Burbanks, IV called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept minutes from the October 2024 meeting. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed**

Director's Report

Interim Director Dena Brown presented the Director's Report to the Board.

The Board was presented with 14 new fully vetted CCA investigation reports.

The Board Chair requested the Director provide a report on the backlog of cases over 90-days old. As of October 25, 2024:

Fifteen cases are 90-180 days old

- a) 4-are awaiting CPD records
- b) 2-are pending officer interviews
- c) 2-are being written
- d) 7-are expected to be submitted to the board December 2024

Eighteen cases are 180-365 days old

- a) 5-are pending officer interviews
- b) 3-are being written
- c) 3-on legal hold
- d) 2-submitted to the director for review
- e) 5-are expected to be submitted to the board December 2024

One case is over 2-years old

- a) The case involves a discharge of a firearm allegation. Due to the nature of the incident, CCA is awaiting records.

Public Comment

Cincinnati Black United Front Members Mrs. Roley and Jennifer Foster were present and commented. Mrs. Roley commented on their theme for the evening “Officers on detail performing poorly.” Mrs. Roley requested a copy of the director’s report.

The following citizens were in attendance and commented on their case:

- CCA #24004 Davis McDonald
- CCA #23278 Qijuan Rogers
- CCA #24166 Cheryl Morgan

Old Business

Interim Dena Brown presented a report on behalf of ACM Hampton from City Manager Long regarding her direct response to CCA recommendations on case numbers 23115 and 23023. City Manager Long memos were addressed to Chief Theresa Theetge.

CCA Case 23115-6961

The memo reads as follows: “The purpose of this memo is to provide my follow-up to sustained CCA Cases that occurred June 7, 2024.

Per the CCA investigation sustained allegation “Excessive Force” and “Improper Procedure”. I agree with CCA’s recommendation that we should address reoccurring allegations of any nature as it relates to our officers. City residents deserve to have public safety professionals who are at the highest caliber of training, and while that is most of our officers, there are at times where there may need to be interventions for officers who aren’t performing at the level expected. As it pertains to Officer Scalf, I support the recommendations of CCA in addition to the intervention plan that you have created, I would encourage you to memorialize this approach and be prepared to utilize it as a process to address future reoccurring allegations.”

CCA Case 23023

The memo reads as follows: “The purpose of this memo is to provide my follow-up to sustained CCA Cases that occurred January 30, 2024.

Per the CCA investigation sustained allegation “Improper Procedure: Use of Force. I agree with CCA’s observation regarding taser uses, use this as an opportunity to remind the officers that they should aim for the back of the individual actively resisting arrest and if a frontal shot must be taken, target the lower torso and legs. If this could be addressed during roll call announcements that would be preferred.

In this case one of the most disturbing deployments was the one aimed at Mr. McNary’s head.”

New Business

1. **CCA Case Number 23204:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA’s findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

2. **CCA Case Number 24099:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA’s findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

3. **CCA Case Number 24004:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to table until more information is reviewed. Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

4. **CCA Case Number 23174:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA’s findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

5. **CCA Case Number 23185:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA’s findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

6. **CCA Case Number 23201:** Member Arnold moved and Vice Chair Williams seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

7. **CCA Case Number 23278:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to table until further investigation. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

8. **CCA Case Number 24101:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

9. **CCA Case Number 24015:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose - Abstain 1). **Motion passed.**

10. **CCA Case Number 24045:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

11. **CCA Case Number 24073:** Member Arnold moved and Vice Chair Williams seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

12. **CCA Case Number 24109:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

13. **CCA Case Number 24120:** Member Arnold moved and Vice Chair Williams seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

14. **CCA Case Number 24166:** Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 4 - Oppose - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

All CCA reports will be forwarded to the City Manager for review and final disposition.

Announcements

Investigator Morgan Givens resigned from CCA. CCA's Interim Director Dena Brown and Mrs. Roley from Cincinnati Black United Front, thanked Investigator Givens for her service at CCA.

Closing

Vice Chair Williams moved and Member Arnold seconded a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The meeting ended at 8:04 p.m. (Agree 4 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, December 2, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.**

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