

Date: April 25, 2025
To: Board Members, Citizen Complaint Authority
From: Dena Brown, Interim Director
Subject: Investigation Summary – May 5, 2025 Board Meeting

INVESTIGATION SUMMARIES – NEW BUSINESS

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Complaint #	24017 & 24022
Complainant	Cherelle Jackson
Incident Date	August 1, 2023 - January 14, 2024
CCA Investigator	Ronald Pugh

**COMPLAINT
SUMMARY**

CCA interviewed Ms. Jackson, CCA also reviewed involved officer and witness interviews and conducted officer interviews. CCA also reviewed relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, relevant police records, records from the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts and computer aided dispatch (CAD) records. BWC footage corroborated the subject officer's version of what occurred. Credible witness statements corroborated the subject officer's version of what occurred.

BWC footage showed officers appeared at Mrs. Jackson’s business, Rusconi’s Bar and Kitchen and Azul between August 1, 2023, and January 14, 2024. Officers responded to approximately seven calls for service at Rusconi’s, two calls for service at Azul Tequila Room (Azul), and one off-site parking infraction related to Mrs. Jackson’s complaints. During these incidents, CPD officers issued three Cincinnati Parking Infractions (CPI), towed one vehicle, and charged three individuals with original misdemeanors. Officers Hoff and Eve were the officers that affected the arrests during the incidents. Under the totality of the circumstances, both officers obtained probable cause for each of the arrests.

Each time CPD officers responded or took enforcement action, a legal right existed to be at the location because the incidents stemmed from calls for service or took place on a public roadway. Additionally, CPD’s Vice Unit also

conducted their investigation based on credible information provided by officers between January and May of 2023 during prior calls for service.

CCA determined that CPD officers did not improperly seize Mr. Jackson or any other individual, and they did not act in a discourteous manner during their interactions with any of the individuals.

CCA determined that CPD officers did not discriminate against Ms. Jackson, Mr. Jackson or any of the patrons of the business due to race or age.

Therefore, the actions of the Cincinnati Police Officers were consistent with CPD policy, procedure, and training.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Discourtesy	Mary Werner	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
2	Discourtesy	Benjamin Schneider	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
3	Discourtesy	Michael Reynolds	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
4	Discourtesy	Kaneshia Howell	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
5	Discourtesy	Courtney Compton	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
6	Discourtesy	Brent Eve	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
7	Discourtesy	Jennifer Hoff	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
8	Discourtesy	Karen Taylor	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
9	Discourtesy	Orion Covrett	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
10	Discourtesy	David Hayes	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
11	Discourtesy	Shawn Newman	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
12	Discourtesy	Jeffrey Bley	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
13	Discourtesy	Colin Vaughn	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
14	Discourtesy	Ronald Hale	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
15	Discourtesy	Bryan Delk	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
16	Discourtesy	Charles Siegel	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
17	Discourtesy	William Giver	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
18	Discourtesy	Terry Jacobs	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
19	Discourtesy	Kandice Roper-Issa	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
20	Discourtesy	Thomas Stanton	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
21	Discourtesy	Keith West	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
22	Discourtesy	Steven Mittermeier (S0577)	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
23	Discourtesy	Andre Shaw	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
24	Discourtesy	Darin Dornette	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
25	Improper Seizure	Jennifer Hoff	Martez Jackson	Exonerated
26	Improper Seizure	Karen Taylor	Martez Jackson	Exonerated
27	Improper Seizure	Brent Eve	Martez Jackson	Exonerated
28	Harassment	Mary Werner	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
29	Harassment	Benjamin Schneider	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
30	Harassment	Michael Reynolds	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
31	Harassment	Kaneshia Howell	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded

32	Harassment	Courtney Compton	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
33	Harassment	Brent Eve	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
34	Harassment	Jennifer Hoff	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
35	Harassment	Karen Taylor	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
36	Harassment	Orion Covrett	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
37	Harassment	David Hayes	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
38	Harassment	Shawn Newman	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
39	Harassment	Jeffrey Bley	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
40	Harassment	Colin Vaughn	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
41	Harassment	Ronald Hale	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
42	Harassment	Bryan Delk	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
43	Harassment	Charles Siegel	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
44	Harassment	William Giver	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
45	Harassment	Terry Jacobs	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
46	Harassment	Kandice Roper-Issa	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
47	Harassment	Thomas Stanton	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
48	Harassment	Keith West	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
49	Harassment	Steven Mittermeier (S0577)	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
50	Harassment	Andre Shaw	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
51	Harassment	Darin Dornette	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
52	Discrimination	Mary Werner	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
53	Discrimination	Brent Eve	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded
54	Discrimination	Darin Dornette	Cherelle Jackson	Unfounded

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Complaint #	24192
Complainant	Rashawn Vaughn
Incident Date	September 16, 2024
CCA Investigator	Jessalyn Goodman

COMPLAINT SUMMARY	
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Date: September 16, 2024

Time: 12:58pm

Location: 22 W. Elder Street

Due to an on-going investigation, Officers Christopher Lind and Benjamin Williamson stopped Mr. Rashawn Vaughn after he exited his vehicle. The officers attempted to place Mr. Vaughn in handcuffs, but Mr. Vaughn pulled away. Officers Lind and Williamson grabbed Mr. Vaughn’s arms and torso and placed him against a wall before he was successfully handcuffed. While the officers escorted Mr. Vaughn to the cruiser, he stated, “Y’all trying to break my arms.” Mr. Vaughn further alleged the officers were “digging up my ass, choked me up.”

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Benjamin Williamson	Rashawn Vaughn	Exonerated
2	Excessive Force	Christopher Lind	Rashawn Vaughn	Exonerated

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Complaint #	24194
Complainant	EK (Minor)
Complaint Received	September 20, 2024
CCA Investigator	Ronald Pugh

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

EK (minor) alleged that on Friday, September 20, 2024 and into the early morning hours of Saturday September 21, 2024, am at 165 Kinsey Ave., he heard shots being fired in the nearby area, but no CPD officer responded. At 2:00am, EK heard the shots again and contacted the Emergency Communications Center (ECC). Several officers responded to the scene. Although EK did not see the person who fired the shots, the shooter's daughter was present and made physical threats towards EK. Officers kept the two apart; however, EK alleged that one officer pushed him. EK wanted to press charges against the woman, instead they told her to go home. Multiple officers, including Officers Daniels and Sgt. Bridwell, refused to take EK's statement. EK also stated Sgt. Bridwell refused to activate her BWC. Officer Daniels directed EK to stay away from the sidewalk. When EK returned to the sidewalk, he was improperly detained by Officer Daniels. Officer Daniels then determined EK was a minor and arrested him for a curfew violation. EK stated Officer Daniels transported him, possibly to the precinct, and improperly forced him to take a breathalyzer, despite EK's protestations. Throughout the encounter, Officer Daniels used profanity towards EK. Officer Bridwell claimed she would provide EK with an email about the encounter but failed to do so.

CCA interviewed EK (minor), Officer Daniels and Sgt. Bridwell. CCA also reviewed relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, relevant police records, and computer aided dispatch (CAD) records.

FINDINGS

Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Dante Daniels	EK (minor)	Unfounded

2	Improper Seizure	Dante Daniels	EK (minor)	Unfounded
3	Improper Procedure	Dante Daniels	EK (minor)	Exonerated
4	Discourtesy	Dante Daniels	EK (minor)	Unfounded
5	Improper Procedure (BWC)	Amanda Bridwell	EK (minor)	Unfounded

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Complaint #	24226
Complainant	Deborah Coulter
Incident Date	October 22, 2024
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Ms. Coulter alleged that on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 2:22 PM her vehicle was illegally searched while it was parked on 13th Street. The Officers reached into her vehicle’s window, let the window down and searched through it, even though she was not present. Witness A, (M/B/Age Unknown), viewed the entire event.

CCA interviewed Ms. Coulter, Officers Reed, Goebel, and Sergeant Robinson with information about the incident. CCA also reviewed relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, relevant police records, and computer aided dispatch (CAD) records. CCA attempted to contact Witness A, but received no response.

Credible evidence, specifically, relevant BWC footage, proves that Officers Reed, Goebel, and Sergeant Robinson did search Ms. Coulter’s vehicle. However, despite the action taken, CPD Manual of Rules and Regulations § 1.21 and applicable case law permitted the conduct that occurred.

FINDINGS

Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Search	Jeremy Reed	Deborah Coulter	Exonerated
2	Improper Search	John Goebel	Deborah Coulter	Exonerated
3	Improper Search	Sabreen Robinson	Deborah Coulter	Exonerated

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Complaint #	24242
Complainant	Lasha Cauthen
Incident Date	November 1, 2024
CCA Investigator	Jessalyn Goodman

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: November 1, 2024

Time: 8:57am

Location: 1717 Western Avenue

While parked in the TruPartner Credit Union drive-through, Ms. Cauthen attempted to complete a transaction, but the bank teller refused. While she debated with the bank teller, CPD Officers Tamera Brown and Carlos Sherman arrived. Officer Sherman advised Ms. Cauthen she would be arrested if she did not leave the property; Ms. Cauthen refused. Officer Sherman arrested Ms. Cauthen and transported her to the Hamilton County Justice Center (HCJC).

Ms. Cauthen stated she was improperly arrested, and Officer Sherman was discourteous to her. Additionally, she alleged Officer Sherman refused to allow her to go to the bathroom after she was arrested, even though she was pregnant,

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Carlos Sherman	Lasha Cauthen	Exonerated
2	Improper Procedure	Carlos Sherman	Lasha Cauthen	Exonerated
3	Discourtesy	Carlos Sherman	Lasha Cauthen	Unfounded

Collateral Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
4	Improper Procedure	Mark Williams	Lasha Cauthen	Sustained

Recommendations/Observations:

#O2501

Ms. Cauthen's request to use the restroom while waiting for Officer Sherman to complete paperwork is not unique; it is one of several complaints that CCA has received in the past about individuals requiring access to a bathroom but being unable to due to various policy procedures or common training limitations. This suggests this is a

common and on-going issue. Although CPD Procedure § 12.600 Prisoners: Securing, Handling, and Transporting states that persons being held should have reasonable access to restrooms while in police holding facilities, it specifies that law enforcement vehicles are not considered a place of detention. While CCA recognizes that there are safety and evidentiary concerns with allowing detained or arrested persons access to a bathroom during an investigatory stop and/or transfer to a detention facility, it may be worthwhile for CPD to consider developing reasonable accommodations with HCJC for individuals to be able to access basic utilities prior to the exchange of custody to prevent unnecessary exposure to biological fluids and/or embarrassing scenarios for those involved.



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Complaint #	25004
Complainant	Shon Waller
Incident Dates	January 9, 2025
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: January 3, 2025

Time: 11:58 AM

Location: 1810 Logan St., Cincinnati, OH 45202

Per CPD EVT Database: Mr. Waller alleged that on Saturday, January 3, 2025, at 11:58 AM at 1810 Logan St., Officers Lind and Myres, after a foot pursuit the officers assaulted him, punched him, unzipped his coat and tased him when he was being compliant. Mr. Waller further stated that the officers did not issue verbal commands during the incident.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Samuel Myres	Shon Waller	Exonerated
2	Excessive Force	Christopher Lind	Shon Waller	Exonerated
3	Improper Procedure	Samuel Myres	Shon Waller	Exonerated
4	Improper Procedure	Christopher Lind	Shon Waller	Exonerated

Collateral Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
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5	Improper Procedure	Mark Williams	Wayne Spencer	Sustained
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Recommendations/Observations:

#R2503

The Citizen Complaint Authority (CCA) recommends a revision and clarification to Cincinnati Police Department Procedure § 12.600, specifically addressing the legal and procedural implications of an individual declining medical treatment while in custody.

Current CPD Procedure § 12.600 Subsection a. states: "If a prisoner becomes sick or injured subsequent to arrest, officers will immediately seek medical attention."

In the incident under review Mr. Waller became physically ill while in the back seat of the police cruiser and began to vomit. Officer Holland appropriately offered medical treatment, which Mr. Waller declined. Officer Holland, along with Officer Goebel, then proceeded to transport Mr. Waller directly to the Hamilton County Justice Center without further medical evaluation.

This scenario raises a critical procedural question: does a subject's refusal of medical treatment absolve officers of their duty to seek "immediate medical attention" under CPD policy? CPD's current policy does not address this distinction nor consider the implications of a waiver or the limits of implied consent in custodial settings.

Under the doctrine of implied consent, particularly relevant in custodial or semi-custodial environments, an individual's consent to medical care may be presumed when; the individual is incapacitated or otherwise unable to give informed consent; there is a reasonable belief that delay in treatment could cause serious harm or death; or the individual is in custody and potentially unable to make voluntary informed decisions.

However, when a conscious, alert, and coherent individual declines care, declination can function as a waiver of medical treatment, provided it is informed and voluntary. Yet, law enforcement officers still have a duty of care to ensure that the individual's medical condition does not require intervention regardless of stated preferences, particularly if the individual is visibly ill, confused, or impaired.

Courts have routinely held that law enforcement has a constitutional duty under the Fourteenth Amendment to provide adequate medical care to individuals in custody.¹ This duty is not always extinguished simply because an arrestee declines treatment, especially when symptoms suggest a possible medical emergency.

CCA recommends that CPD Procedure § 12.600 be revised to include guidance and clarification of Officer Duty on the matter. Moreover, clearly articulate whether the obligation to "immediately seek medical attention" continues when a detainee declines care, especially when observable symptoms suggest a potentially serious condition and encouragement that officers err on the side of caution and seek medical evaluation when there is any uncertainty as to the individual's capacity to make informed medical decisions.

Incorporating this guidance into Procedure § 12.600 will help align CPD practice with constitutional standards and reduce liability exposure while ensuring the safety and dignity of individuals in custody.

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¹ see *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97 (1976); *Helling v. McKinney*, 509 US 25 (1993).

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Complaint #	25011
Complainant	Shelia Gunn
Incident Date	January 16, 2025
CCA Investigator	Ronald Pugh

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Ms. Gunn alleged that on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 1:10pm Officer Chitwood stopped in front of her residence and asked “if her three grandsons that were there were ok, she stated that one of her grandsons told him yes, then Officer Chitwood proceeded to pull into and out of her driveway. She stated approximately 10-15 minutes later, Officer Chitwood along with unmarked vehicles followed her grandsons down the street and “jumped out” on them with guns drawn ordering them on the ground. During the stop the officers threatened her 16-year-old grandson with taking him to 20/20 (Hamilton County Juvenile Justice Center), for no reason. She also stated an officer was laughing at them saying that is why you are dirty now because they had the kids in the mud.”

Ms. Gunn stated Officer Chitwood had a previous run in with the driver of the vehicle, Ty Westlake, which led her to believe that is why the officer stopped by her residence in the first place.

CCA interviewed Ms. Gunn, Officers Chitwood, Mitchell and Perry. CCA made attempts to interview the other individuals in the vehicle but was unsuccessful. CCA also reviewed relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, relevant police records, records from the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts and computer aided dispatch (CAD) records.

FINDINGS

Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Stop	Jerney Chitwood	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated
2	Improper Stop	Zachary Mitchell	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated
3	Improper Stop	Grant Perry	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated
4	Improper Search	Jerney Chitwood	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated
5	Improper Search	Zachary Mitchell	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated
6	Improper Search	Grant Perry	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated

Collateral Allegation

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
7	Improper Pointing of a Firearm	Jeremy Chitwood	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated
8	Improper Pointing of a Firearm	Zachary Mitchell	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated
9	Improper Pointing of a Firearm	Grant Perry	Shelia Gunn	Exonerated



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Complaint #	25019
Complainant	Ashley Roper
Incident Dates	January 17, 2024
CCA Investigator	Roberts Stephens

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

CCA interviewed Ms. Roper, Officers Gleckler and Richmond about the incident. CCA also reviewed relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, records from the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts, computer aided dispatch (CAD) records, and relevant police records.

Credible evidence, specifically, relevant BWC footage, proved that Officers Gleckler and Richmond did seize Ms. Roper. However, despite the action taken, CPD Procedure Manual § 12.554 Investigatory Stops, § 12.110 Handling Suspected Mentally Ill Individuals and Potential Suicides and Ohio Revised Code (ORC) §5122.10 Emergency Hospitalization permitted the conduct that occurred. Specifically, the evidence establishes the following:

- Officers Gleckler and Richmond had probable cause to take Ms. Roper into custody and transport her to Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES). Ms. Roper’s mother contacted Emergency Communications Center (ECC) for assistance with Ms. Roper. A member of the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) responded to the incident and spoke with Ms. Roper, and after this conversation the MCT employee requested the assistance of police officers. Officer Gleckler and Richmond responded and was informed that an emergency hold on Ms. Roper had been made.
- Ms. Roper tried to explain that she did not need to go to PES or that her mother could drive her. However, the MCT employee already determined that a medical hold was needed, therefore officers needed to transport her to PES. Relevant BWC showed Ms. Roper was ultimately cooperative with officers, she handed over her knife and stepped outside. Ms. Roper stated that she did not want to be transported in handcuffs. Officers convinced Ms. Roper to allow them to handcuff her and transported her to PES. There were no further incidents during transport. The officers had probable cause to seize Ms. Roper for emergency hospitalization pursuant to ORC §5122.10.

Therefore, the actions of Officers Gleckler and Richmond were consistent with CPD policy, procedure, and training.

FINDINGS

Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Austin Gleckler	Ashley Roper	Exonerated
2	Improper Seizure	Alexander Richmond	Ashley Roper	Exonerated

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Complaint #	25024
Complainant	Christopher Carson
Incident Dates	January 29, 2025
CCA Investigator	Robert Stephens

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: January 29, 2025

Time: 5:38 pm

Location: 3400 Victory Parkway

Mr. Carson alleged he was improperly stopped by Cincinnati police officers, handcuffed and his vehicle was searched. He stated that in the handcuffing, he was “slammed” against his vehicle. Furthermore, Mr. Carson attests that his fourth amendment rights were violated.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Stop	Nicholas Treinen	Christopher Carson	Exonerated
2	Improper Stop	Austin Watson	Christopher Carson	Exonerated
3	Excessive Force	Nicholas Treinen	Christopher Carson	Unfounded
4	Excessive Force	Austin Watson	Christopher Carson	Unfounded
5	Improper Search	Nicholas Treinen	Christopher Carson	Exonerated
6	Improper Search	Austin Watson	Christopher Carson	Exonerated

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Complaint #	25026
Complainant	Christopher Carson
Incident Dates	January 29, 2025
CCA Investigator	Robert Stephens

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2025

Time: 12:58 am

Location 1: Thorntons Gas Station at 4530 Reading Road

Location 2: Hamilton County Justice Center (HCJC) at 1000 Sycamore Street

After an incident at Thorntons gas station (Reading/Tennessee location), Mr. Demetrius Hill was apprehended and transported to the HCJC by Officer Kali Love. Mr. Hill maintained that upon arrival at the facility, he was "snatched" out of Officer Love's cruiser by Officer Mark Anton. Mr. Hill alleged excessive force by Officer Anton while he was detained at the HCJC. While handcuffed inside of the facility, Mr. Hill stated that he was shoved against the wall several times by Officer Anton.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Abuse of Authority	Kali Bell	Demetrius Hill	Unfounded
2	Excessive Force	Mark Anton	Demetrius Hill	Not Sustained

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