

Citizen Complaint Authority
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 5, 2025

Attendees Present

CCA Board Members

Samuel Burbanks, IV, Chair
Bill Burwinkel, Member
Rosa Cama, Member

Attendees Absent

John Williams, Vice Chair
Clarice Warner, Member

Staff

Cathy Bailey, Assistant City Manager

Shurdina Mitchell, Administrative
Specialist

Dena Brown, Interim Director
Andrew Alanis, Investigator
Jessalyn Goodman, Investigator
Ronald Pugh, Investigator
Arnie Slaughter, Investigator
Robert Stephens, Investigator
Kaitlyn Streicher, Investigator
Joseph Vesper, Investigator
Brandon Upchurch, Sr. Administrative Specialist
Mark Burns, Internal Investigation Section Captain, CPD
Brent McCurley, Lieutenant, CPD
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 5:06 p.m.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Member Burwinkel moved and Member Carma seconded a motion to accept minutes from the April 2025 meeting. (Agree 3 - 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 10 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 April 28, 2025:

- 1) Seven cases are **90-180 days old**
 - a) 3 – are awaiting CPD records
 - b) 1 – is pending officer interviews
 - c) 3 – are being written
- 2) Sixteen cases are **180-365 days old**
 - a) 10 – are awaiting CPD records
 - b) 3 – are pending officer interviews
 - c) 1 – is being written
 - d) 2 – are on legal hold
- 3) Three cases are **1-year old-2-years old**
 - a) 1 – is being written
 - b) 2 – are on legal hold
- 4) One case is **over 2-years old**
 - a) The case involves discharge of firearm allegations. Due to the nature of the incident and the location of the incident in Kentucky, CCA is awaiting records.

CPD Responses to CCA Recommendations

Recommendation 2501 - It is recommended that Officer Whittaker undergo customer service training to address the inappropriate use of profanity and unprofessionalism during interactions with the public. His profane and unprofessional comments undermine the department's commitment to respectful and courteous communication. Such training will enhance Officer Whittaker's ability to engage with the community in a manner that reflects the values and standards of the Cincinnati Police Department, fostering positive relationships and promoting public trust.

CPD Response - Officer Whittaker received Written Counseling for the violation. This was Officer Whittaker's first violation, and no pattern exists warranting additional training at this time. Training needs are regularly addressed by CPD's Training Section, immediate supervisors, and Command Staff. Additionally, Extensive Analysis is conducted on a quarterly basis with sole purpose to identify officers who may be exhibiting negative patterned conduct. Based on the result of the analysis, officers are potentially placed into one of two categories, Intervention or Monitoring.

Recommendation 2502 - The carrying of an arrested person is not defined in the CPD Procedure Manual. In this case all of the officers in their respective CCA interviews were asked if the tactic of carrying Mr. Dabney was considered force. None of the officers interviewed thought the tactic was force. When the same officers were asked if the tactic was escorting all of them stated no. CCA recommends that CPD Procedure 12.545 Use of Force define carrying and incorporate it into one of the following categories: "escorting", "force", or "hard hands". Additionally, CPD Procedure 12.545 Use of Force should specify

under what conditions, and how, an officer may carry an arrested subject, as well as what reporting requirement, if any, there should be. Revising CPD Procedure 12.454 Use of Force to clarify the circumstances in which an arrestee may be carried, and what the reporting requirements are, would provide clarity on this matter for both officers and supervision.

CPD Response - IIS recommended and Chief Theetge approved that language be added to Procedure 12.545, Use of Force, addressing the carrying of subjects who are passive when no other force is used. IIS recommended the language clearly state that the carrying of passive subjects who simply refuse to move of their own volition, does not constitute a use of force, including Hard Hands.

Public Comment

Cincinnati Black United Front (CBUF) member Mrs. Iris Roley spoke. Mrs. Iris Roley greeted all present and thanked all for the use of CCA as a resource. She didn't provide any themes for May 2025 Board meeting.

New Business

1. **CCA Case Number 24226:** Member Burwinkel moved and Member Cama seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

2. **CCA Case Number 25024:** Member Burwinkel moved and Member Cama seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 2 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 1). **Motion passed.**

3. **CCA Case Number 25019:** Member Cama moved and Member Burwinkel seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations. Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

4. **CCA Case Number 24017/24022:** Member Burwinkel moved and Member Cama seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

5. **CCA Case Number 24192:** Member Cama moved and Member Burwinkel seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

6. **CCA Case Number 24194:** Member Cama moved and Member Burwinkel seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

7. **CCA Case Number 24242:** Member Burwinkel moved and Member Cama seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

8. **CCA Case Number 25011:** Member Burwinkel moved and Member Cama seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

9. **CCA Case Number 25004:** Member Cama moved and Member Burwinkel seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

10. **CCA Case Number 25026:** Member Burwinkel moved and Member Cama seconded a motion to accept CCA's findings and recommendations, if any. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

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

Announcements

N/A

Closing

Member Burwinkel moved and Member Cama seconded a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The meeting ended at 6:39 p.m. (Agree 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain 0). **Motion passed.**

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, June 2, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**

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