

Date: May 23, 2025
To: Board Members, Citizen Complaint Authority
From: Dena Brown, Interim Director
Subject: Investigation Summary – June 2, 2025 Board Meeting

INVESTIGATION SUMMARIES – NEW BUSINESS

1

Complaint #	24227
Complainant	Deborah Jones, Behalf of Witness A
Incident Date	October 18, 2024
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

**COMPLAINT
SUMMARY**

Date: October 18, 2024

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Block of 1600 Linn St., Cincinnati, OH 45202

Ms. Jones alleged that on October 18, 2024, at 5:30 PM, near approximately Block of 1600 Linn St., she saw three male officers Tase and arrest a black man (Witness A) outside of her apartment. The Officers aggressively held the man down. Moreover, the entire use of force was excessive.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Taylor Howard	Witness A	Exonerated
2	Excessive Force	Tyler Lane	Witness A	Exonerated

Collateral Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
3	Improper Procedure	Jason Wallace	Unknown	Sustained

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2

Complaint #	24229
Complainant	Demetrius Hill
Incident Date	October 4, 2024
CCA Investigator	Dr. Arnie D. Slaughter

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: Friday, October 4, 2024

Time: 10:46 pm

Location: Government Square

Mr. Demetrius Hill was engaged in a verbal dispute with a Cincinnati Metro supervisor regarding the status of the #20 Metro bus at Government Square. Mr. Hill maintained the Metro supervisor lied about the status of the bus, was hostile, threatened violence against him, and “then reached under his seat in a manner that suggested he might be retrieving a weapon.” Mr. Hill stated that “this unexpected threat alarmed me, and fearing for my safety, I immediately called 911 to report the incident.”

Mr. Hill also stated the following in his written complaint:

When CPD officers arrived, rather than focusing on the threatening behavior of the Metro supervisor, the officers appeared to treat me as the primary suspect. The Metro supervisor also spoke to the officers, making counterclaims. The officers then indicated to me that the Metro supervisor alleged I had made the same threat toward him, and that they intended to allow us both to leave without issuing

any citations or making any arrests. However, the officers informed me that the Metro supervisor claimed I was banned from using the Metro bus system.

Mr. Hill alleged that he experienced a lack of service by CPD, Lieutenant Patrick Caton abused his authority, and he was illegally seized and transported to the UC Health Psychiatric Emergency Department (PES). Mr. Hill stated that he was held at PES for four hours before being released by medical personnel without further action.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Lack of Service	Orion Covrett	Demetrius Hill	Exonerated
2	Lack of Service	Hunter Followell-Gibson	Demetrius Hill	Exonerated
3	Lack of Service	Karen Taylor	Demetrius Hill	Exonerated
4	Lack of Service	Lt. Patrick Caton	Demetrius Hill	Exonerated
5	Abuse of Authority	Lt. Patrick Caton	Demetrius Hill	Unfounded
6	Improper Seizure	Lt. Patrick Caton	Demetrius Hill	Exonerated

Collateral Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Discrimination	Karen Taylor	Demetrius Hill	Unfounded
2	Discrimination	Lt. Patrick Caton	Demetrius Hill	Unfounded

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Complaint #	24246
Complainant	David Cruse
Complaint Received	October 29, 2024
CCA Investigator	Andrew Alanis

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: October 29, 2024

Time: 8:20 pm

Location: 1200 block of Queen City Avenue

Mr. Cruse alleged that on Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at the end of the 1200 block of Queen City Avenue, police officers later identified by CCA to be Officers Andreus Flowers and Etienne Merriweather improperly seized him and did not request a supervisor when he requested one. This happened after he filmed the Officer and observed them at an “at rest patrol.”

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Procedure	Andreus Flowers	David Cruse	Exonerated
2	Improper Seizure	Andreus Flowers	David Cruse	Exonerated
3	Improper Procedure	Andreus Flowers	David Cruse	Unfounded
4	Improper Procedure	Andreus Flowers	David Cruse	Exonerated
5	Improper Procedure	Etienne Merriweather	David Cruse	Exonerated
6	Improper Seizure	Etienne Merriweather	David Cruse	Exonerated
7	Improper Procedure	Etienne Merriweather	David Cruse	Unfounded
8	Improper Procedure	Etienne Merriweather	David Cruse	Exonerated

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4

Complaint #	24249
Complainant	Christian Davis
Incident Date	December 5, 2025
CCA Investigator	Andre Alanis

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Ms. Davis alleged that on Thursday, December 5, 2024 on Liberty Street between Elm and Race Streets, police officers later identified by CCA to be Officers Samuel Bailey and Samuel Myres improperly stopped her and were discourteous.

CCA interviewed Ms. Davis, Officers Samuel Bailey and Samuel Myres. CCA also reviewed relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, relevant police records, Hamilton County Clerk of Courts records, and computer aided dispatch (CAD) records.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Stop	Samuel Bailey	Christian Davis	Exonerated
2	Discourtesy	Samuel Bailey	Christian Davis	Unfounded
3	Improper Stop	Samuel Myres	Christian Davis	Exonerated
4	Discourtesy	Samuel Myres	Christian Davis	Unfounded

5

Complaint #	25012
Complainant	Envy Orellana
Incident Date	January 28, 2025
CCA Investigator	Ronald Pugh

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Mr. Orellana alleged that on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 12:15 pm, in the Central Business District near the Main Library, while driving he witnessed an unknown officer later identified as Officer Condon approach an unknown male black later identified as David Taplin in the intersection and “throw him to the ground.”

CCA interviewed Mr. Orellana and Officer Condon, CCA also attempted to interview Mr. Taplin but multiple attempts were not successful. CCA also reviewed street camera footage from the Real Time Crime Center, relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, relevant police records, records from the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts, use of force reports, and computer aided dispatch (CAD) records.

Credible evidence, specifically, relevant Real Time Crime Street Camera footage, proves that Officer Condon did use force. However, despite the action taken, CPD Procedure Manual § 12.545 Use of Force permitted the conduct that occurred. Specifically, the evidence establishes the following:

Street camera footage showed Mr. Taplin walking into the middle of the street as Officer Condon’s cruiser approached the intersection, Mr. Taplin reached inside the cruiser attempting to strike Officer Condon. Officer Condon exited the cruiser, gave verbal commands (but Real Time Crime Street Cameras do not have audio, so the conversation was not captured) and attempted to place Mr. Taplin under arrest; Mr. Taplin struggled with Officer Condon for several minutes, but Officer Condon eventually was able to successfully place Mr. Taplin in handcuffs without further incident.

Therefore, the actions of Officer Condon were consistent with CPD policy, procedure, and training.

FINDINGS

Original Allegation

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Joshua Condon	Envy Orellana	Exonerated

Collateral Allegation

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Procedure	Mark Williams	Envy Orellana	Sustained

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6

Complaint #	25016
Complainant	Tyshawn Carter
Incident Dates	January 28, 2025
CCA Investigator	Kaitlyn Streicher

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: January 28, 2025

Time: 4:25 pm

Location: 501 York Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

CCA Receipt: February 4, 2025

Mr. Tyshawn Carter alleged that Officer John Goebel “followed me 5 blocks without lights.” He alleged there was “no probable cause for traffic stop,” and he sustained “nerve damage (left wrist) from handcuffs.” Additionally, he alleged that his vehicle was searched by other CPD officers, who were later identified by CCA to be Officers Joshua Condon and Samuel Bailey.

Mr. Carter indicated there were “multiple broken components interior of vehicle,” and “debris and trash thrown all over car (very unprofessional and malicious).”

Mr. Carter stated further, “I’m almost sure that this report won’t be taken seriously, but I will not let this officer get away with the things he did to me including falsely imprisoning a college student, impounding my car and accusing me of selling drugs!!”

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Stop	John Goebel	Tyshawn Carter	Exonerated
2	Improper Seizure (Person)	John Goebel	Tyshawn Carter	Exonerated
3	Excessive Force (Handcuffing)	John Goebel	Tyshawn Carter	Unfounded
4	Discourtesy	Unknown Officer	Tyshawn Carter	Unfounded
5	Improper Search	Joshua Condon	Tyshawn Carter	Exonerated
6	Improper Search	Samuel Bailey	Tyshawn Carter	Exonerated
7	Improper Seizure (Vehicle)	John Goebel	Tyshawn Carter	Exonerated

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7

Complaint #	25037
Complainant	David Isome
Incident Date	February 21, 2025
CCA Investigator	Dr. Arnie D. Slaughter

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: Friday, February 21, 2025

Time: 3:43 pm

Location: Near 4661 Kings Run Drive

Mr. David Isome alleged that his cellular phone was improperly confiscated by Officer Dylan Scalf during a traffic stop. According to Mr. Isome, Officer Scalf stated that he was confiscating the phone based on an investigation. Officer Scalf did not provide a warrant or any documentation that permitted him to retain the phone. Mr. Isome maintained that he is not under any investigation. Ms. Triful Robinson, who was in

the vehicle during the traffic stop, stated that Mr. Isome was asked to step out of his vehicle and was detained in handcuffs.

FINDINGS

Allegation

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Dylan Scalf	David Isome	Not Sustained

Collateral Allegation

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Corey Gould	David Isome	Not Sustained

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8

Complaint #	25064
Complainant	Justiano Nolasco
Incident Dates	April 3, 2025
CCA Investigator	Roberts Stephens

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Mr. Nolasco alleged that on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 5:30 am at 2712 E Tower Drive, Officers Vanlierop, Phillips, and Hines used excessive force. Mr. Nolasco stated that he was pushed to the ground, and punched in the face, causing him to break his teeth. He stated that his right shoulder was also injured.

CCA interviewed Officers Vanlierop, Phillips, and Hines about the incident. CCA was unable to interview Mr. Nolasco regarding the incident. CCA also reviewed relevant body worn camera (BWC) recordings, records from the Hamilton County Clerk of Courts, use of force reports, computer aided dispatch (CAD) records, and relevant police records.

Credible evidence, specifically, relevant BWC footage, proves that Officers Vanlierop, Phillips, and Hines did take Mr. Nolasco to the ground in the course of his arrest. However, despite the action taken, CPD Procedure Manual § 12.545 Use of Force permitted the conduct that occurred. Specifically, the evidence establishes the following:

- The subject officer's use of force was objectively reasonable in light of the applicable factors for evaluating force under the Fourth Amendment and CPD policy;

- On April 3, 2025, officers were dispatched to a report of a vehicle idling in the roadway at an intersection. Upon arrival, officers made contact with the driver, Mr. Nolasco. During the initial contact, Mr. Nolasco appeared disoriented and confused. Officers also observed open containers of alcohol in plain view within the vehicle.
- As part of the investigation into possible impairment, Officer Phillips requested Mr. Nolasco exit the vehicle. Once outside, Mr. Nolasco was asked to perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests. These instructions were provided through a language line interpreter to ensure clear communication in Spanish. Mr. Nolasco was uncooperative and argumentative; he refused to follow the instructions given by Officer Hines.
- When Officer Phillips attempted to take Mr. Nolasco into custody, Mr. Nolasco physically resisted by pulling away. In CCA’s interview with Officers, they stated that, in response to Mr. Nolasco’s actions, they utilized a balance displacement technique.
- To safely guide him to the ground in a nearby grassy area. BWC shows that once on the ground, Mr. Nolasco continued to resist by placing his arms underneath his body. Officers were eventually able to gain control of his arms and apply handcuffs without further incident.
- Though officers took Mr. Nolasco to the ground, at no time did any officer strike Mr. Nolasco or use any additional force beyond what was necessary to effect the arrest. Mr. Nolasco was then transported and secured in the rear of a police cruiser without further resistance.

Therefore, the actions of Officers Vanlierop, Phillips, and Hines were consistent with CPD policy, procedure, and training.

FINDINGS

Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Evan Vanlierop	Justiano Nolasco	Exonerated
2	Excessive Force	John-Allen Phillips	Justiano Nolasco	Exonerated
3	Excessive Force	Grayson Hines	Justiano Nolasco	Exonerated

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