

Date: 10/2/26
To: Board Members, Citizen Complaint Authority
From: John Kennedy, Director
Subject: Investigation Summary – October 12, 2026 Board Meeting

INVESTIGATION SUMMARIES – NEW BUSINESS (Consent Agenda)

#1

Complaint #	26017
Complainant	Tara Hannig
Complaint Received	January 21, 2026
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: September 25, 2025	Complaint Received: January 21, 2026
Time: 7:38 p.m.	Records Requested: January 21, 2026
Location: 2310 Ferguson Rd.	Records Received: January 30, 2026

Per CPD EVT database: "Complainant was stopped by PO Ruberg, who was working an off-duty detail at the Kroger store. Complainant stated that PO Ruberg falsely stopped her and accused her of theft. Complainant stated that since PO Ruberg was working a private detail, he shouldn't be able to act as an on-duty officer for the Cincinnati Police Department."

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Jeffrey Ruberg	Tara Hannig	Exonerated

#2

Complaint #	25275
Complainant	Latonia Cross
Complaint Received	December 26, 2025
CCA Investigator	Ronnie Pugh

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: December 16, 2025

Complaint Received: December 26, 2025

Time: 4:15 pm

Records Requested: December 26, 2025

Location: 3315 Ibsen Ave

Records Received: January 30, 2026

Ms. Latonia Cross stated her daughter (TC – a minor, 15 years old) was arrested for Criminal Trespass and Resisting Arrest while refusing to leave the parking lot of Raising Cane’s Restaurant. Ms. Cross stated that Officer Benjamin Allen used excessive force while making the arrest of her daughter.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Benjamin Allen	TC (a minor)	Unfounded

#3

Complaint #	26094
Complainant	Jeremy Hitch
Complaint Received	April 10, 2026
CCA Investigator	Arnie Slaughter

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: April 7, 2026

Complaint Received: April 10, 2026

Time: 11:00pm

Records Requested: April 10, 2026

Location: Kroger Clifton (1 West Corry St.)

Records Received: April 15, 2026

Mr. Jeremy Hitch alleged that Officer Trent Crutcher used excessive force and was discourteous to him during an incident on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at approximately 11:00pm. Mr. Hitch stated that while at the Clifton Kroger on university campus, “Cincinnati Police manhandled me out of their store when I was trying to charge my phone, see if I got a text message from my pharmacist, and see if the pharmacy was open to

secure my life-saving medication. It was totally not necessary for them to put their hands on me and tell me I'm trespassed from the store."

Mr. Hitch maintained that he does not know if the officer referenced in his complaint was a "real police officer and refused to dispatch a supervisor."

FINDINGS

Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Excessive Force	Trent Crutcher	Jeremy Hitch	Unfounded
2	Discourtesy	Trent Crutcher	Jeremy Hitch	Unfounded

#4

Complaint #	26085
Complainant	Mariam Cisse
Complaint Received	April 6, 2026
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: January 18, 2026

Complaint Received: April 6, 2026

Time: 2:00 am

Records Requested: April 6, 2026

Location: 1905 Elm St.

Records Received: None

*Viewed at Records on June 9, 2026

Per Email: Ms. Mariem Cisse alleged that on January 18, 2026, she was arrested for no reason, thereby improperly seized. The police report stated that the officer attempted to stop her for a pedestrian violation, when the officer asked her to stop, she decided to run, disobeying officer commands. The city prosecutor provided evidence on March 13, 2026. The evidence contained 37 video files, however, none of these videos showed Ms. Cisse's alleged offense.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Eric Kohler	Meriam Cisse	Exonerated
2	Improper Seizure	Joshua Harrel	Meriam Cisse	Exonerated

#5

Complaint #	26081
Complainant	Sharif Ward
Complaint Received	April 1, 2026
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: March 28, 2026

Complaint Received: April 1, 2026

Time: 5:30 pm

Records Requested: April 1, 2026

Location: 3030 Central Pkwy, Cincinnati, OH 45225

Records Received: Partial May 4, 2026

Mr. Ward alleged that he was stopped for no reason by a CPD officer at the White Castle located at 3030 Central Pkwy, Cincinnati, OH 45225, after he left the AAA Car Wash on Central Ave. Officer Andreus Flowers informed him that the reason for the stop was because his license plate cover was too dark. Mr. Ward maintained that his license plate cover is clear.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Andreus Flowers	Sharif Ward	Exonerated

INVESTIGATION SUMMARIES – NEW BUSINESS (Discussion Agenda)

#1

Complaint #	25257
Complainants	Elvin Wade Sr. and Elvin Wade II
Complaint Received	December 2, 2025
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: November 10, 2025

Complaint Received: December 2, 2025

Time: 04:27 pm

Records Requested: December 2, 2025

Location: Paddock Rd. and Summit Rd.

Records Received: June 11, 2026

Mr. Elvin Wade Sr. and his son Elvin Wade II alleged that CPD officers improperly stopped, handcuffed, and searched them along with their two vehicles, one of which was not at the scene of the stop. Messers Wade Sr. and Wade II also alleged that they were racially profiled during this incident.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Carl Reed	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
2	Improper Seizure	Jeremy Chitwood	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
3	Improper Seizure	Grant Perry	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
4	Improper Seizure	Brendon Rock	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Exonerated
5	Improper Search (Person)	Grant Perry	Wade II	Exonerated
6	Improper Search (Person)	Carl Reed	Wade Sr.	Exonerated
7	Improper Search (vehicle)	Grant Perry	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Exonerated
8	Improper Search (vehicle)	Carl Reed	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Exonerated
9	Improper Search (vehicle)	Jeremy Chitwood	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Exonerated
10	Improper Search (vehicle)	Zachary Mitchell	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
11	Improper Search (vehicle)	Brendon Rock	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
12	Improper Search (vehicle)	Grant Perry	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
13	Improper Search (vehicle)	Clinton Butler	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
14	Improper Search (vehicle)	Kelly Reindl	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained
15	Discrimination	Grant Perry	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Unfounded
16	Discrimination	Carl Reed	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Unfounded
17	Discrimination	Jeremy Chitwood	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Unfounded

Collateral Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
18	Improper Procedure (Form 18DD)	Kelly Reindl	Wade II, Wade Sr.	Sustained

OBSERVATION

#O2605

Although the search of the Wagoneer was invalid under CPD Procedure § 12.140, the circumstances do not establish a violation of the Fourth Amendment. Case law recognizes that a K9's narcotic detection alert to a vehicle may establish probable cause to search the vehicle under the automobile exception to the warrant requirement.¹ In contrast, CPD Procedure § 12.140 imposes a more restrictive requirement by contemplating the use of a K9 to develop probable cause for obtaining a search warrant when the vehicle is unattended in a public place. The procedure does not expressly address an exception that permits officers to conduct a warrantless search in this type of incident.

#2

Complaint #	26143
Complainant	Lucion Vaughn
Complaint Received	June 1, 2026
CCA Investigator	Joseph Vesper

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: May 31, 2026

Complaint Received: June 1, 2026

Time: 6:25 pm

Records Requested: June 1, 2026

Location: 160 E Freedom Way #150

Records Received: Partial June 11, 2026

Mr. Lucion Vaughn alleged that on May 31, 2026, he tried to pick up an order from a restaurant when he was approached by Officers because he was wearing a face mask and hoodie. Moreover, he alleged that he was stopped and detained for no reason, thereby improperly seized. Mr. Vaughn also alleged that he was forcefully pushed by Officers and when he attempted to file a complaint, he was denied a supervisor.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Jason Mellman	Lucion Vaughn	Sustained
2	Improper Seizure	Robert Hemsink	Lucion Vaughn	Sustained
3	Excessive Force	Jason Mellman	Lucion Vaughn	Unfounded
4	Excessive Force	Robert Hemsink	Lucion Vaughn	Unfounded

¹ See *United States v. Perez*, 440 F.3d 363 (6th Cir. 2006); *State v. Lippmeier*, 2002-Ohio-1731; *State v. Raslovsky*, 2020-Ohio-515.

5	Improper Procedure	Jason Mellman	Lucion Vaughn	Sustained
6	Improper Procedure	Robert Hemsink	Lucion Vaughn	Sustained

Collateral Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
7	Improper Procedure	Jason Mellman	Lucion Vaughn	Sustained
8	Improper Procedure	Robert Hemsink	Lucion Vaughn	Sustained

#3

Complaint #	26104
Complainant	Kavin Pickett
Complaint Received	April 16, 2026
CCA Investigator	Kaitlyn Streicher

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: March 28, 2026

Complaint Received: April 16, 2026

Time: 7:09 pm

Records Requested: April 16, 2026

Location: Kroger, 1 W. Corry Street

Records Received: August 1, 2026

Mr. Kavin Pickett alleged that he was sitting outside Kroger for approximately 15 to 20 minutes while waiting for someone who was shopping inside. Officer Trent Crutcher approached him with two security guards and told him it was, "Time to go." Mr. Pickett questioned what was going on, at which time Officer Crutcher told him to put his hands behind his back and threatened to "get physical" if he did not comply. Officer Crutcher handcuffed Mr. Pickett, and the handcuffs were too tight and caused "agonizing pain." He then walked him through Kroger to a back office, where he remained for approximately 15 minutes while security wrote paperwork to trespass him. He was photographed, and Officer Crutcher "flicked" his hat off his head, then "slammed it back down" on his head while he was handcuffed. Officer Crutcher threatened to take him to jail, but he was ultimately released.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Trent Crutcher	Kavin Pickett	Exonerated
2	Improper Procedure (Handcuffing)	Trent Crutcher	Kavin Pickett	Not Sustained
3	Excessive Force	Trent Crutcher	Kavin Pickett	Unfounded

Collateral Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
4	Improper Procedure (Contact Card)	Trent Crutcher	Kavin Pickett	Sustained

RECOMMENDATION

#R2619

CCA contacted the CPD Training Academy to inquire about the issue concerning detail officers not having access to equipment to complete paperwork at their assignment. Captain Craig Gregoire (#C0018) stated that paperwork is primarily completed via an in-car computer. If a detail has a car with a computer assigned to it, they can complete their necessary paperwork. If there is no car assigned, then the detail will ask for a car to respond to their location or go to the District to complete paperwork if no car is available. Further, CCA requested all Contact Cards completed by Officer Crutcher from January 1, 2024, to September 17, 2026; of which there was only one completed.

While detail officers are working outside of their typical duties with CPD, CPD Procedure Manual is clear that the detail is an extension of their police service employment, and they are still required to abide by all rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and directives applicable to officers in an on-duty status.²

CCA recommends that CPD should provide updated training to Officer Crutcher, to remind him of his roles, requirements, and responsibilities while working these details, especially as it relates to completing important paperwork such as Contact Cards. Further, CPD should ensure that all detail officers have the equipment needed to complete necessary paperwork on their detailed assignment and should remind officers of alternative options to complete this paperwork if the equipment is not immediately available.

#4

Complaint #	25142
Complainant	Darrell McKenzie
Complaint Received	July 23, 2025
CCA Investigator	Jessalyn Goodman

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: July 23, 2025

Complaint Received: July 23, 2025

Time: 4:00am

Records Requested: July 23, 2025

Location: [REDACTED]

Records Received: September 19, 2025

² §19.140 Outside Employment (Revised 02/06/2026)

Officers Kali Love and Terrance Dobbins arrived at Mr. Darrell McKenzie's residence and detained his 15-year-old grandson (hereafter referred to as "JJ"). The officers used zip ties and placed him in the back of their police cruiser. The officers explained that JJ was a suspect in a crime involving a Colerain Township Police Department (CTPD) officer. JJ was detained for approximately 40 minutes before the CTPD officer arrived, who then stated that JJ was not the suspect. JJ was released.

Mr. McKenzie stated that the officers responded to the residence at 4:00am, causing disruption and general alarm to the household and neighborhood; he is concerned that JJ was detained with zip ties in the cruiser, rather than allowing JJ to remain in the home. Further, Mr. McKenzie is concerned these actions were discriminatory, as he believed the officers would not have acted similarly to a white household in a different neighborhood.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Kali Love	JJ (A Minor)	Exonerated
2	Improper Procedure	Kali Love	JJ (A Minor)	Unfounded
3	Discrimination	Kali Love	JJ (A Minor)	Unfounded
4	Discrimination	Terrance Dobbins	JJ (A Minor)	Unfounded

#5

Complaint #	25256
Complainant	Imani Sherrer
Complaint Received	December 2, 2025
CCA Investigator	Jessalyn Goodman

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Incident 1:

Date: September 24, 2025

Complaint Received: 12/02/2025

Time: 1:15pm

Records Requested: 12/02/2025

Location: 3643 Spring Grove

Partial Records Received: 04/29/2026

Officer Collin Joyce conducted a traffic stop of Ms. Imani Sherrer's vehicle "for no reason." Officer Joyce stated that she had a window tint violation, but Ms. Sherrer explained that while the window is tinted, it is transparent. Officer Joyce cited her and she left; later, she realized she had taken Officer Joyce's ticket book.

Incident 2:

Date: October 1, 2025

Time: 12:54pm

Location: Cincinnati Police District 3 (2300 Ferguson Road)

On October 1, an unknown officer contacted Ms. Sherrer stating she had warrants and needed to come to District 3. Ms. Sherrer drove to District 3 with her mother, Witness A. When Ms. Sherrer arrived, Witness A remained in the vehicle while Ms. Sherrer returned the citation book. Officer Joyce arrested Ms. Sherrer for the active warrants. Instead of releasing the vehicle to Witness A, Officer Joyce forced Witness A to leave the vehicle so it could be searched and towed. Ms. Sherrer believed the search and towing of the vehicle was improper.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Collin Joyce	Imani Sherrer	Exonerated
2	Improper Seizure	Collin Joyce	Imani Sherrer	Exonerated
3	Improper Procedure	Collin Joyce	Imani Sherrer	Exonerated
4	Improper Search	Collin Joyce	Imani Sherrer	Exonerated

#6

Complaint #	26025
Complainant	Aundrea Andrews
Complaint Received	February 2, 2026
CCA Investigator	Arnie Slaughter

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: November 13, 2025

Complaint Received: February 2, 2026

Time: 12:05 am

Records Requested: February 2, 2026

Location: [REDACTED]

Records Received: March 2, 2026

Ms. Aundrea Andrews alleged that she was improperly seized after CPD officers improperly entered her residence. She stated that after being seized, she could not obtain proper clothing prior to entering the police station. She maintained that she was in the back of a police cruiser for four hours without proper clothing and spent another two hours in the cruiser while an officer completed a police report. Ms. Andrews stated that while at the station, several officers (male and female) laughed at her, made jokes about her, and made her feel "very uncomfortable."

FINDINGS

Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Christopher Baker	Aundrea Andrews	Exonerated
2	Improper Seizure	Joseph Carney	Aundrea Andrews	Exonerated
3	Improper Entry	Christopher Baker	Aundrea Andrews	Exonerated
4	Improper Entry	Joseph Carney	Aundrea Andrews	Exonerated
5	Improper Procedure	Christopher Baker	Aundrea Andrews	Unfounded
6	Discourtesy	Christopher Baker	Aundrea Andrews	Unfounded

#7

Complaint #	26039
Complainant	Natasha Jefferson
Complaint Received	February 20, 2026
CCA Investigator	Jessalyn Goodman

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: November 29, 2025

Complaint Received: 02/20/2026

Time: 2:45am

Records Requested: 02/20/2026

Location: 528 E 12th Street

Partial Records Received: 03/20/2026

CPD officers responded to a call for service related to domestic violence. Ms. Natasha Jefferson was arrested and taken to the Hamilton County Justice Center (HCJC) but was refused entry because she experienced a panic attack. The officers transported her to University of Cincinnati Medical Center (UCMC), but the handcuffs were not removed. Ms. Jefferson is concerned because she remained in handcuffs for over one hour.

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure	Grant Wright	Natasha Jefferson	Exonerated
2	Improper Procedure (Handcuffing)	Grant Wright	Natasha Jefferson	Exonerated
3	Improper Procedure (Handcuffing)	Jacob Walters	Natasha Jefferson	Exonerated

RECOMMENDATION

#R2620

During the arrest, Ms. Jefferson experienced an apparent anxiety attack, which affected her ability to breathe. Although she was able to communicate with others by nodding or shaking her head, it is clear she was unable to regulate her breathing. At different points in the MVR footage, Ms. Jefferson stated, “I can’t breathe,”; although it is unclear whether Officers Wright or Walters heard her, Witness B advised the officers before they left for HCJC that Ms. Jefferson wanted to go to the hospital. Officer Wright stated that they would take her to HCJC, (approximately 0.5 miles away) and would follow the recommendation of the on-site physician. In their statements to CCA, Officers Wright and Walter stated they consulted with Sergeant Greene, who advised them to take Ms. Jefferson to HCJC due to its proximity; however, the officers did not take her inside HCJC until 4:53:11 (approximately 30 minutes into the arrest).

CCA recognizes Officer Wright for utilizing various techniques in an effort to alleviate Ms. Jefferson’s anxiety attack. His actions displayed a range of knowledge and demonstrated patience and compassion to assist someone experiencing intense anxiety following a difficult event. However, BWC footage confirmed that they struggled to identify the best way to address Ms. Jefferson’s needs when Officer Wright’s techniques were unable to calm her. Additionally, in their interviews with CCA, Officers Wright and Walters stated that they did not have training specific to these scenarios.

CPD Procedure³ states that “[i]f a prisoner becomes sick or injured subsequent to arrest, officers will immediately seek medical attention.” Anxiety attacks and similar emotional responses may not be a specific injury or sickness, but they can manifest physical symptoms which make ensuring the individual’s safety a priority. As it is not uncommon for individuals to experience severe emotional reactions as a result of police intervention, CCA recommends that CPD identify and provide relevant training for officers so they are better prepared to provide adequate care and attention in similar circumstances.

#8

Complaint #	25279
Complainants	Ethan Reisenfeld
Complaint Received	December 30, 2025
CCA Investigator	Ronald Pugh

COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Date: December 29, 2025

Date Complaint Received: December 30, 2025

Time: 5:43 pm

Date Records Requested: December 30, 2025

Location: 35 E. 7th Street (Memories Lounge)

Date Records Received: February 11, 2026

Mr. Reisenfeld alleged that on Monday, December 29, 2025, Officer Eve improperly seized his girlfriend’s vehicle and was discourteous throughout the encounter. Furthermore Mr. Reisenfeld stated despite his consistent kindness, respect, and cooperation throughout the encounter, Officer Eve was persistently rude,

aggressive, unprofessional, escalated the situation unnecessarily and demonstrated behavior that he believes is unfit for anyone in a position of authority, let alone a police officer.

Mr. Reisenfeld said he was issued a ticket and the vehicle was impounded, even though he had a two-month-old baby inside the business with no immediate means to get her home safely. “I repeatedly stressed that I would pay any tickets and correct my errors, but Officer Eve ignored these pleas. He made unlawful orders, detaining me without cause—it was not a traffic stop, yet he acted as if I was under arrest, forcing me and others to stand against a wall in the freezing cold while restricting our movement. He also yelled at one of my employees for simply exiting the back door of my business, which is private property, further escalating tensions without justification. Additionally, to retrieve my newborn’s essential items from the car, he demanded I hand over the key and stated I wouldn’t get it back until the vehicle was released from impound, leaving me in a vulnerable position. Throughout this ordeal, I remained calm, polite, and compliant, addressing him respectfully as “sir” and seeking to de-escalate. However, Officer Eve’s discourse was nasty and confrontational, constantly attempting to provoke rather than resolve the matter.”

FINDINGS

Original Allegations

No.	Allegation	Involved Officer	Involved Citizen	Finding
1	Improper Seizure (vehicle)	Brent Eve	Ethan Reisenfeld	Exonerated
2	Improper Procedure	Brent Eve	Ethan Reisenfeld	Unfounded
3	Discourtesy	Brent Eve	Ethan Reisenfeld	Unfounded

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