



**Citizens Review Board
Tampa, Florida
Meeting Minutes**

The Citizens Review Board of the City of Tampa, Florida convened in a regular session in the City Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. on this 23rd day of August 2022.

The Legal Department was represented by Assistant City Attorney Camaria Pettis-Mackle.

The Recording Secretary was Tonia Wilcox, Sr. City Council/City Clerk Support Technician.

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Aquil.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll call

Tonia Wilcox conducted a roll call. The following members were present upon roll call: Tamayo, Aquil, Valdes, Ingandela, Reyes, Banks and Irvin. Member Collins being absent at roll call.

IV. Approval of the Minutes

Chair Aquil requested a motion for approval of the Minutes from the July 26, 2022, meeting. A motion was made by Guy, seconded by Tamayo. Motion carried, 8-0 with Collins being absent.

V. Public Comment

Chair Aquil asked if there was anyone signed up for public comment.

The following public speakers appeared:

1. Will Aiman – had no public comment.
2. Joe Nohava – approached and spoke with reference to the noise ordinance.
3. Noah Meyers - approached and spoke with reference to the Crime Free Multi Housing Program.

Chair Aquil asked for the record to reflect that member Collins was absent; however, is now present.

Chair Aquil asked if there were any voicemails and written communications from the public.

There were no written public comments.

Senior Assistant City Attorney, Michael Schmid approached and provided an explanation as to how and why, voicemails as well as written comments were implemented during the onset of Covid. Attorney Schmid explained that the voicemails and written comments were avenues for the citizens to be able to leave their comments and share their views, being that the Citizens Review Board meetings were not open to the public.

Assistant City Attorney Camaria Pettis-Mackle approached providing additional details pertaining to the voicemails and written comments and whether the board wishes to continue with such avenues of communications.

Chair Aquil requested a motion: A motion was made by Irvin, seconded by Valdes, recommending that public comments remain accessible by voicemail, e-mail and in-person. Motion carried 9-0.

VI. Staff and Board Response to Public Comments

Discussion took place amongst members and Chief O'Connor regarding the Noise Ordinance and how it pertains to the City of Tampa citizens.

Further discussion took place amongst members and O'Connor regarding the State Noise Ordinance, the specifics relating to the law and the commencement of the law taking effect October 1, 2022.

VII. Community and Tampa Police Department Matters

1. Presentation on Statistics Regarding Gun Violence

Chief O'Connor provided an overview of the data regarding the violent crimes involving firearms through a power point presentation.

Discussion took place amongst members and Chief O'Connor regarding the types of criminal activity which involved a firearm and the Gun Buyback Program.

Discussion took place amongst members and Chief O'Connor regarding the Gun Buyback Program and how the program helps with prevention as to guns being potentially involved in future crimes.

Discussion took place amongst members and Chief O'Connor regarding the reinstating of the bicycle stop program. Chief O'Connor stated that there will be no reinstating of such program.

2. Chief's Community Impact Team

Chief O'Connor introduced the new Community Impact Team, which will involve the community. The Chief wishes to invite a cross segment of the entire community to apply to be on the team, so that the Tampa Police Department can be more engaged in the community.

VIII. Items to be Reviewed

- 1. #20F-142: MOR 1005 Standard of Conduct (Sustained). A Reserve Officer knocked a cell phone from a civilian's hand while attempting to control a crowd at the Amalie Arena. The Officer received a letter of counseling.**

Captain Patrick Messmer approached and reviewed the case regarding a reserved officer working an off-duty job at Amalie Arena during a Lighting game. After the Lighting won the game, a rambunctious large group of individuals forced their way through the barricades, knocking over barriers and rushing onto the secured area. Folks started climbing poles; one individual climbed onto the pole and subsequently knocked the pole over and broke it. Consequently, officers were trying to take an individual into custody and the individual was resisting. Meanwhile, Officer O' Connor tried to assist with the

arrest as the large crowd gathered around. The individuals started videotaping the incident with their camera phones. As individual began moving in closer to record, the officer asked the individual to step back; however, the directive was ignored by the individual. At that point, the officer slapped the cell phone from the individual's hand, the cell phone fell on the ground, the individual retrieved the phone and continued back into the crowd. The citizen was not identified and never came forward with a complaint. Therefore, based on the totality and interviews the acting major sustained a violation of conduct for knocking the cell phone out of the citizen's hand and a letter of conduct was issued.

Discussion took place amongst the members and Captain Patrick Messmer regarding the specifics of the incident that occurred at Amalie Arena between the reserve officer and citizen.

Chair Aquil requested a motion. A motion was made by Irvin, seconded by Collins, that the board concurs with the finding and disposition of case #20F-142: MOR 1005. Motion carried 8-1, with Tamayo voting no. Mr. Tamayo concurred with the findings, but not the disposition.

IX. CRB Staff Reports and Business

1. Vehicle Traffic Stop Policy and Dashboard

Captain Patrick Messmer introduced and discussed with the board. The Tampa Police Department's new transparency and data policy regarding the Vehicle Traffic Stop Policy and Dashboard.

Discussion took place amongst members and Captain Patrick Messmer relating to the new Vehicle Traffic Stop Policy and Dashboard.

2. Presentation Regarding Discipline Matrix

Captain Patrick Messmer presented the board with his facts and findings regarding the discipline matrixes from other police departments.

Discussion took place amongst members and Captain Patrick Messmer regarding the presentation of the discipline matrix.

X. Items Continued

No items to be continued.

Chair Aquil referred to last month's case, 18R-001. The board had proposed that a letter or notification be sent to the public comment participant that prematurely brought the case forward.

Assistant City Attorney Camaria Pettis-Mackle approached and provided a response regarding whether the participant was notified. She stated that the individual had not been identified; however as soon as the individual is located, she'd report back to the board.

Discussion took place amongst members regarding board member Valdes' potential motion that the board does not recommend or support the "Examination of Racial Disparity in Bicycle Stops in the Tampa Police Department" report on the bicycle stop program.

Further discussion took place amongst members in relation to the "Examination of Racial Disparity in Bicycle Stops in the Tampa Police Department" report on the bicycle stop program. The board would like the Interim State Attorney to appear at one of the Citizens Review Board meetings to better explain the program.

Chair Aquil requested a motion. A motion was made by Valdes, seconded by Collins, that Interim State Attorney Suzanne Lopez be invited to present the board her policy as it relates to the bicycle stop program. Motion carried 9-0.

XI. Announcements/New Business

No new business

The next meeting would be held September 27, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. **Location: Forest Hills Community Center, 724 W. 109th Avenue, Tampa, FL 33612.**

Chair Aquil announced that if anyone could not make the next meeting to please notify the Clerk at least 48 hours in advance.

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Citizens Review Board at this time, said meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m. this 23rd day of August 2022.



CHAIRMAN/VICECHAIRMAN



RECORDING SECRETARY



CITY CLERK/DEPUTY CITY CLERK

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Meetings on Demand can be viewed on the City of Tampa Meeting – YouTube Channel website at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLzohJmEqvfJOEd4YJNlHbq>