

**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 315 E. Kennedy Blvd, Tampa Florida, 33602 at 6:00 p.m. on this 25th day of July 2023.

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

The 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: Banks, Tamayo, Reyes, Aquil, Ingandela and Valdes. Member Collins and Guy were absent at roll call.

IV. Approval of the Minutes

Chair Aquil requested a motion for approval of the Minutes from the June 27, 2023, meeting. A motion was made by Reyes, seconded by Tamayo. Motion carried 6-0, with Collins and Guy being absent.

V. Public Comment

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

There were no in-person public comments.

Chair Aquil asked if there were any voicemails for public comments.

Assistant City Attorney Ian MacAlister approached and quoted the voicemail, which was received on June 27, 2023, from Sandra Zirky. Ms. Zirky stated "in the 1700's the police were designed to capture runaway slaves and brutalize them. Until this day we have placed minorities behind bars for state profiting. We see cops brutalizing lives and engaging in racism and hatred. Also, we have a police system who covered up an identity of a pedophile, a system that falsified and destroyed evidence of a hate crime of a minority regarding the Bayshore incident". Ms. Zirky further stated that, "the police department is not fit to address the racism that is currently occurring in the fire department, and we as citizens do not favor a system that continues to oppress others, as we the citizen's demand and re-dress proper accountability".

Chair Aquil asked if there were any written public comments.

There were no written public comments.

VI. Staff and Board Response to Public Comments

There were no board responses to public comments.

VII. Items to be Reviewed

- 1. 18R-003: During a vehicle pursuit of a homicide suspect, officers were fired upon by the suspect. When the homicide suspect stopped and exited his vehicle, he fired at officers while attempting to carjack another vehicle. The officers returned fire killing the suspect in the intersection. There were no injuries to officers or civilians. The investigation concluded that there was no violation of department policy or procedure by any officer.**

Detective Jason Degagne with the Tampa Police Department Internal Affairs Bureau approached and presented the case concerning a homicide suspect. On April 1, 2018, a Senior Sergeant with the Tampa Police Department was contacted by the South Fulton County Police Department, advising him that a wanted homicide suspect was in Tampa. TPD officers utilized state of the art technology to locate the vehicle in which the suspect was driving. The TPD officers were able to make a positive identification of the suspect with a recent photo which was provided by the South Fulton County Police Department. At that time, the TPD officers attempted to make a traffic stop; however, the suspect fled. A Tampa Police Department Sergeant who engaged in the pursuit was shot at by the suspect but was not injured. The TPD officers lost the suspect for a short period during the pursuit; except TPD's Aviation Unit quickly gained sight of the suspect and alerted TPD's ground unit officers of the suspect's location. The suspect stopped his vehicle, exited, and walked towards the intersection of 28th Ave and 15th Street. The suspect produced two 9mm semi-automatic handguns, began firing at TPD officers and an innocent civilian's vehicle. One of the suspect's bullets struck the rear window of the civilian's vehicle. As the officers tactically converged on the suspect, he approached the civilian's vehicle trying to gain access, but thankfully her doors were locked which prevented a possible carjacking or hostage situation. At that moment, four TPD officers were in fear for their lives and the lives of innocent bystanders. Due to the suspect's actions the officers were forced to fire their departmental issued firearms until there was no longer an active threat from the suspect. The suspect succumbed to his injuries and no one else was injured in the extremely violent standoff. The Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office reviewed the case and concluded that all the officers were justified in the use of deadly force towards the suspect.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective Degagne, regarding the suspect's past criminal history. Detective Degagne stated that the suspect was no stranger to violence, he was on parole for a "2005" aggravated assault charge when this crime occurred.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective DeGagne, regarding who was the first to deploy their weapon, TPD officers or the suspect. Detective Degagne stated that the suspect was the first to fire his weapon.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective Degagne, regarding how many rounds of gunshots were fired by the TPD officers. Detective Degagne confirmed that there were 52 rounds fired by the TPD officers.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective Degagne, regarding the weapons qualification of TPD officers. Detective DeGagne confirmed that the department has a one-year weapons qualification criteria that is required.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective Degagne, regarding the dates of weapons qualification concerning a specific TPD officer. Detective Degagne stated that he did not have a definite answer to the question and will report back with the answer at the next CRB meeting.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective Degagne regarding the ping service that was used to locate the suspect and if the department knew for sure that this was the actual phone of the suspect. Detective Degagne stated that the ping locator had already been verified by the Georgia Police Department and the US Marshall's Office prior and that this was indeed the suspect's phone.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective Degagne, regarding why the US Marshall's were assisting in the apprehension of the suspect. Detective Degagne stated that whenever there is a violent felony offender which crosses state lines the Marshall's are notified to assist.

Discussion took place amongst members and Detective Degagne, regarding the types of communication threads TPD has with the neighboring state's police departments. What type of working relationships does TPD have with the Federal Investigative Bureau, US Marshall, and Fugitive Task Force to ensure the safety of our citizens moving forward? Detective Degagne stated that TPD's relationship is outstanding with the neighboring states police departments. Detective Degagne also stated that TPD has multiple officers that are staffed with the Federal Bureaus, and their working relationships are great.

Chair Aquil asked for the record to reflect that member Collins was absent; however, is now present. Board member Collins' arrival time was 6:18 p.m.

Chair Aquil requested a motion. A motion was made by Valdes, seconded by Tamayo, concurring with the disposition and findings of case, 18R-003: Motion carried 6-1, with Banks abstaining and Guy being absent.

VIII. Community and Tampa Police Department Matters

No Community and Tampa Police Department Matters.

X. Items Continued

Chair Aquil confirmed the date of October 24, 2023, for the Kelsey Storemski case to be heard at the CRB meeting,

XI. Announcements/New Business

Discussion took place amongst members to take a month hiatus and cancel the August 22, 2023 CRB meeting.

A motion was made by Tamayo, seconded by Reyes, to cancel the scheduled August 22, 2023 CRB meeting. Motion carried 7-0, with Guy being absent.

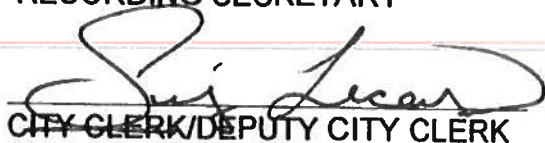
Chair Aquil announced the next meeting will be held on **September 26, 2023 at 6:00pm**, Old City Hall, 315 E. Kennedy Blvd, 3rd Floor, and if anyone is not able to attend the meeting to please notify the Clerk at least 48 hours in advance.

XII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Citizens Review Board at this time, said meeting was adjourned at 6:34p.m. this 25th day of July 2023.


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/UCLzohJmEqvfJOEd4YJNlHbg>