Chief's Advisory Panel for the Tampa Police Department

February 3, 2026, 6:00pm

Tampa Police Department Training Center

116 S. 34th St.

Tampa, Fl. 33605

Meeting Minutes

The Tampa Police Department was represented by Chief of Police Lee Bercaw, Criminal Investigations Division Major Eric DeFelice, Captain of Professional Standards Lisa Purcell, Captain of Community Outreach Brian Hill, Lieutenant Robin Polk, Corporal Robert Suddler and Master Police Officer Richard Fujimoto.

Additional representatives from the Tampa Police Department Senior Assistant City Attorney Michael Schmid.

The Advisory Panel consisted of Albert Cooke, Lincoln Tamayo, Devon Ingandela, Irene Guy and retired Tampa Police Captain David Goodman. Panel members Carlos Valdes and Andrew March, were not in attendance

The Recording Secretary was Detective Michael Baran, Tampa Police Department.

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Chair Albert Cooke conducted introductions along with members of the panel.

IV. Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes from October 7, 2025, were approved and signed by the panel.

V. Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

VI. New Business

Chief Lee provided an overview of the department's community outreach efforts, including specialized programs, liaison officer initiatives, and safety programs. He also introduced the Virtual Reality (VR) training system developed for the newly issued TASER 10, discussed officer wellness initiatives, and announced the hiring of twenty-two new officers.

Major Eric Defelice briefed the panel on the comprehensive officer wellness program, highlighting mental and physical health resources and peer support efforts designed to help officers manage high-stress situations.

Lieutenant Robin Polk presented updates on the Behavioral Health Unit, community engagement initiatives, the School Resource Officer program, the Explorer Program, and the Police Athletic League.

Lieutenant Robin Polk and Captain Lisa Purcell jointly discussed Officer Wellness Program offerings, including trauma management resources, stress-reduction strategies, and physical health services aimed at improving overall officer well-being.

Corporal Robert Suddler and Master Police Officer Richard Fujimoto demonstrated the TASER 10 VR training system and conducted a tour of the AXON training pods.

VII. Old Business

No panel members had any questions or additional input from the previous topic of the Tampa Police Department Communications presentation.

VIII. Future Meeting

All panel members agreed to the next meeting to take place on May 5, 2026. Future topics discussed.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Chief's Advisory Panel at this time, said meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. this 3rd day of February 2026.

Minutes approved by the motion to adopt.

CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR

RECORDING SECRETARY

DISCLAIMER

The Tampa Police Department does not prepare verbatim transcripts of the proceedings of the Chief's Advisory Panel.