

Committee Name: Citizens Review Board

Period of time this report covers: FY 2019

Committee Chair: Henry T. Black

Committee Members:

Name	Term Period	Special Category
Henry T. Black	8/1/2018 - 7/31/2020	Chairperson
E. Thomas Bowers	8/1/2018 - 7/31/2021	
Magaliz Giraud	8/1/2018 - 07/31/2021	
Nanci Hightower	8/1/2018 - 7/31/2020	
Paris S. Hopkins	8/1/2018 - 7/31/2020	Vice-Chairperson
Tonya Jameson	8/1/2018 - 7/31/2021	
Marc Jensen	8/1/2018 - 7/31/2021	
Robert Keene	8/1/2019 - 7/31/2022	
Derrick Love	8/1/2019 - 7/31/2022	
Samuel Smith	8/1/2019 - 7/31/2022	
John Watkins	8/1/2018 - 7/31/2020	

The main goals and objectives for the Committee:

1. The Board reviews appeals from the outcome of citizen complaints to the Police Department concerning: use of force; unbecoming conduct; arrest, search and seizure; and complaints of arbitrary profiling involving a sworn police officer.
2. The disposition of the review of any discharge of a firearm by an officer, which results in the death or injury of a person, may be appealed to the Board.
3. The CRB serves as an advisory role to the Chief of Police, the City Manager, the City Council and the Community Relations Committee.

Charges or tasks of the Committee (Action items for the reporting year)

- The CRB is charged with making annual reports for the Chief of Police, the City Manager, the City Council and the Community Relations Committee.
- There have been seven (7) meetings for the entire Board and two (2) sub-committee meetings during this reporting year.

Summary of accomplishments:

In response to a request from Police Chief Kerr Putney, the Board provided feedback to proposed revisions to directives related to when and how much force may be applied by officers when responding to resistant subjects. In a relatively short period of time, the Board provided an initial response to the proposed revisions. After a meeting with Chief Putney to discuss their initial response, the Board subsequently created a sub-committee to work on drafting additional recommendations based upon CMPD's current policy format and draft. Those serving on the sub-committee were: Ms. Jameson, Chairperson; Mr. Bowers, Ms. Langevin, and Mr. Watkins. After considerable review and work, the sub-committee presented their recommendations to the full Board. The CRB voted unanimously to approve the subcommittee's recommendations. Those recommendations were presented to Chief Putney during another joint meeting between he and the Board. A copy of the July 15, 2019 cover letter written by the Board's legal counsel, Attorney Julian Wright, and drafts of the CRB's Use of Force Policies recommendations are attached for reference.

During this reporting period, the Board received one appeal on August 2, 2019. The initial hearing to consider this appeal is scheduled for early September.

List of activities in progress including upcoming events/discussions:

1. City Clerk staff continually updates the CRB website that contains pertinent information about the Board, including history, statistics, current board roster, online appeal form, and links to relation information.
2. Two upcoming initial appeals hearings

Issues that need to be addressed/ Recommendations to the City Council:

All cases reviewed by the Board are reminders of the role the CRB plays in holding our police department accountable and in ensuring citizens have a forum to challenge CMPD's decisions regarding officer-involved shootings and police misconduct. We wish to express our appreciation to the Mayor, City Manager and City Council for the opportunity to serve our community in this fashion. We respectfully submit this annual report and request thorough consideration of the following recommendations offered to enhance the appeal process and effectiveness of this board:

1. It is important that membership of this Board remain diverse with respect to age, race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religious beliefs, disabilities, etc.
2. The Board requests City Council continue to seek granting of subpoena power to the CRB from the North Carolina General Assembly.