



**ATLANTA CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

October 15, 2015  
ATL Stat Room, Level G  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
404-865-8622  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
6:30 p.m.

The October 2015 meeting was called to order by *Chair William Harrison* at 6:32 p.m.

**AGENDA**

**ROLL CALL**

*(The ACRB has eleven members)*

**ACTIVE MEMBERS PRESENT**

<b>PAUL BARTELS</b> ( <i>Secretary/Bartels</i> )	<b>WILLIAM HARRISON</b> ( <i>Chair/Harrison</i> )
<b>BILL BOZARTH</b> ( <i>Vice-Chair Bozarth</i> ) (6:32 arrival)	<b>RUTH PRICE</b> ( <i>Price</i> )
<b>SHERRY WILLIAMS</b> ( <i>S. Williams</i> )	<b>GERALD SOUDER</b> ( <i>Souder</i> )
<b>ALAN MORRIS</b> ( <i>Morris</i> )	<b>GINO BROGDON, JR.</b> ( <i>Brogdon</i> )

**ACTIVE MEMBERS ABSENT**

**All Members Present**

**VACANT BOARD SEATS**

**APAB-NPU** (*Group S-Z*) – (*5 months*)  
**Atlanta Business League** (*vacant 3 years and 4 months*) **Nomination Pending**  
**Office of the Mayor** (*vacant 2 years and 2 months*)

**STAFF ATTENDEES**

**SAMUEL LEE REID** (*Reid*), Executive Director; **SHEENA ROBERTSON**, Investigation Manager (*Investigator Robertson*); **ROBIN LOLAR**, Investigator, Sr., (*Investigator Lolar*); **BRIAN FLEMING**, Investigator, Sr., (*Investigator Fleming*); **MYOLA SMITH**, Project Manager (*Smith/Transcriber*); **VERONICA HOFFLER**, COA Law Department.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, AUGUST 13, 2015**

The *Chair* opened the meeting with the approval August 13, 2015 minutes.

*Bartels* moved to approval the minutes as recorded. *Price* seconded. No discussion, the minutes were approved with one abstention, *S. Williams* who advised that she was unable to read the August 2015 minutes completely.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015**

*Bozarth* moved to accept the minutes for September 10, 2015 meeting. *Bartels* seconded. There was one abstention from *S. Williams*. *Williams* noted that she did not have chance to read the minutes. Hearing no discussion, the motion was approved.

Agenda Note: *\*It should be noted that by consensus, item III, Public Comments was moved to the end of the agenda (item IX) because the individuals for whom this time was specifically designated were not present.*

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **A. CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT PRESENTATIONS**

*Director Reid* reported that he had made several presentations recently regarding civilian oversights:

- October 8<sup>th</sup> Presented to the Cobb Democrat Women's Organization that is anticipating starting a Civilian Oversight in Cobb County.
- September 19 Presented to APAB briefly on the ACRB, and provided updates on the proposed ordinance changes and BWCs. "It was a good meeting and also it was an opportunity to let APAB know what ACRB is currently doing. Some members who are appointed by APAB are attending APAB meetings regularly; however, it was recently learned that each NPU has been consistently showing an ACRB representative scheduled on their agenda. I'm not sure how this happened, but given the number of NPUs it would not be possible for our small staff to sustain that schedule. With the help of the APAB board members, we may be able to attend on a rotating basis or something like that...maybe quarterly or bi-monthly to make as many meetings as possible."
- September 24 *Reid* had an interview with 'A Closer Look' radio show with Rose Scott and Dennis O'Hara to discuss BWCs.

Next month, there will be possibly four cases to review. One of them involves an officer involved shooting. It is very important that everyone look through the information. We are having so many cases in November because in December, we will have a special program for the board.

### **B. COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Charles Curry, Community Outreach Specialist, provided an update on outreach activity. He reported that outreach has been focused on establishing "partnerships." "Clearly, we have found that by joining forces with effective and established community-based institutions like the public library, Urban League, Job Corps of Atlanta, National Action Network, Concerned Black Clergy of Greater Atlanta and many others, we are able to extend our reach to the homeless, ex-offenders, unemployed youth, seniors, and many other underserved sectors of our community.

We are also developing a strategy of partnering with smaller groups like MEN'S WEAR INC. and WOMEN IN THE STRUGGLE MINISTRIES that already have well-established ties to larger community institutions. This is how we are now able to offer our training workshops at the Carver and the Walter & Andrew Young YMCAs. One of the most significant partnerships within the last month began when a young lady arrived at our offices seeking to be trained through our Community Outreach Volunteer Ambassador Program or COVAP. One of her sorority sisters had heard about us from one of the radio spots and our newest volunteer had decided to encourage her sorority to adopt ACRB as part of its community outreach. To date, we now have trained nine members of the Lambda Nu Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. from the campus of Georgia State University and have been told to expect at least 12 more. We conducted training on campus last Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, during Zeta Week and were honored to have two members carry our banner and support us last Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Lights Parade and Outdoor Celebration in the English Avenue Community.

*Discussion and Comments...*

1. **(Harrison)** *I have a question. On your monthly report that you send out, are you putting the Town Hall Meetings that come up with the Police Department?*
2. **(Curry)** *When we are made aware of the meetings, and by the way, we have requested this information on many occasions, if provided, we will include them. The problem has been not getting the information or getting it too late.*
3. **(Harrison)** *Let's start doing that because I believe Midtown is this week. A lot of times, they discuss things we are handling as well. I think that they are having another one coming up. Let's see if we can get some of those on there, and also, Lee **(Reid)**, what happened to the officer that normally comes in here?*
4. **(Robertson)** - *Lt Webb. I spoke to him earlier, he has some car troubles; he may or may not be here today.*
5. **(Harrison)** *And the deputy chief that is over him?*
6. **(Reid)** *I spoke with Major Martin and he actually intended on being at the meeting on last week but, he had a previous engagement tonight, so he was unable to attend tonight.*
7. **(Harrison)** *So, there are 2 to 3 meetings that we have not had anybody here so we need to make a note of that and to make sure that they start attending on a regular basis because that just started happening.*
8. **(Robertson)** *I just want to note for the Town Hall Meeting, we didn't get notice of that until the day before.*

## **INTAKE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2015**

Investigation Manager **Robertson** reported that for the month of September 2015, the ACRB received twelve (12) complaints.

### **A. COMPLAINT BREAKDOWN AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### **Dismissals:**

Out of the 12 complaints, ACRB is requesting that seven (8) be dismissed:

1. ACRB Case 15-105 - False Arrest  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction.
2. ACRB Case 15-106 – Inadequate Service  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction.
3. ACRB Case 15-107 – Inadequate Service  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction.
4. ACRB Case 15-108 – False Arrest  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction.

5. ACRB Case 15-109 – Inadequate Service  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction.
6. ACRB Case 15-112 – Unprofessional Behavior  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction.
7. ACRB Case 15-113 – False Arrest  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction.
8. ACRB Case 15-114 – False Arrest  
Recommend dismissal for lack of jurisdiction

**\*\*It should be noted that the proper referrals were given to those citizens whose complaints fell outside of ACRB's jurisdiction.**

**Four Complaints Recommended for Possible Investigations:**

- ACRB Case 15-104 – False Arrest  
Complainant alleges that she was falsely arrested by APD for disorderly conduct. Staff is awaiting the signed complaint.
- ACRB Case 15-110 – False Arrest and Excessive Force  
Complainant alleges that on September 16, 2015, and APD officer falsely arrested and charged his girlfriend (*five months pregnant*) with terroristic threats. He further alleged that the officer engaged in excessive force when he dragged her down the steps. Staff is awaiting signed complaint.
- ACRB Case 15-111 – False Arrest  
Complainant alleges that on July 26, 2015, he was falsely arrested by an APD officer. Staff is awaiting signed complaint.
- ACRB Case 15-115 – False Imprisonment  
*The Complainant alleges that on March 31, 2015, he was falsely imprisoned by an APD officer when he was improperly detained and placed in a patrol car for several hours. He further stated that the officer put false information on the incident report.*

*Discussion & Comments...*

1. *(Bozarth) Speaking of DeKalb County, has there been any dialogue between us and anyone over there in that jurisdiction about...they know what's up?*
2. *(Reid) A few months ago, maybe late spring, I met with an organization called ABLE (Atlantas Building Leadership Empowerment). We talked for about an hour and a half, pretty much the same like the discussion with Cobb County. There is some interest there but, I have not heard from them in a while. Actually, last week after meeting with Cobb County, one of their members was at that meeting and asked how they could assist us with ordinance changes that we are trying to move forward.*

**B. BOARD VOTES ON INTAKE REPORT**

The *Chair* opened the floor for a motion. *Bartels* moved to accept staff's recommendation. *S. Williams* seconded. *Chair* moved to second to accept the intake report as presented. Hearing no discussing, the motion is approved.

**COMPLAINTS REVIEW:**

**ACRB CASE NO. 13-111, DEANGLE RIVERS**

A. ALLEGATION SUMMARY

Ms. Deangle Rivers alleged that on October 18, 2013, Atlanta Police Officer Phyllis White engaged in excessive force when she approached her with her hand on her firearm and threatened to shoot her. Ms. Rivers further alleged that during the same incident, Officer White engaged in abusive language when she called her a “ratchet ass ho” and when Officer White told her that she was going to “light your ass up with my weapon “and “beat your ass.”

B. STAFF RECOMMENDATION - Excessive Force

Based on the evidence obtained during the course of the investigation, the ACRB staff recommends that the allegation of Excessive Force against Officer Phyllis White be assigned a finding of “**Not Sustain**” The investigation established that there is insufficient evidence to conclude that the officers committed the alleged acts of misconduct.

*Discussion...*

1. *(Bozarth) 13-111 and 13-112 are related in the sense; the same family; same neighborhood and the complaint is against the same officer. One question that I had and this really goes across both of these situations. There is something in one of these that said that she left the neighborhood two years ago; and if that is inconsistent almost with the timing that it would have taken for her to been there on the incident in October.*
2. *(Robertson) No, she was there during those incidents when they occurred. She moved shortly after that. She left because of what was going on...*
3. *(Bozarth) So the 2 years was an approximate figure...*
4. *(Bartels) It's like there has been a long history of conflict.*
5. *(Bozarth) Did you get testimonies from other neighbors that can substantiate some of the implications of who was really causing the problems here? Obviously, the complainant believes that Officer White was part of the problem and Officer White is basically reacting to what she was faced with on her own street.*
6. *(Robertson) No, the focuses were on those three incidents that occurred. The first one was Ms. Rivers claimed that Officer White had someone to call 911 to say that her house was broken into. There is nothing to substantiate that. The other incident involved her neighbor's children and her son, and the police was called for that. The allegation is that she felt that the officer who responded was there to help Officer White; which was not the case because she didn't know Officer White. The third one involves the arrest with her daughter.*
7. *(Bozarth) As far as you know is the Rivers family still living on the street?*
8. *(Robertson) As far as I know.*
9. *(Bozarth) But the officer in both complaints has been gone for 2 years. Why are we...all these things occurred in 2013, why are we handling it at the end of 2015?*
10. *(Robertson) Because of the arrest of her daughter. We had to wait for the resolution of the case.*
11. *(Bartels) Because of the terroristic threats.*
12. *(Bozarth) Does it take that long?*
13. *(Bartels) It takes longer than that...it takes years sometimes.*
14. *(Bozarth) Are we bound by our procedure guidelines to not take actions until...?*
15. *(Robertson) Right now, because the only allegation that this would fall under for that particular case is false arrest. If we get the ordinance change, then we will be able to look at it differently; but for now, it's false arrest.*
16. *(Bozarth) So, if this were to come before us under the proposed ordinance, you would have more flexibility to file a complaint which could be investigated quickly opposed to waiting?*
17. *(Robertson) We would have a few broader categories that we would have been able to look at it and/or investigate.*
18. *(Bozarth) I'm sure you are frustrated like I'm expressing; two years later it is awfully hard to piece together what might have happened.*

C. DETERMINATION OF EXCESSIVE FORCE ALLEGATION

**Bozarth** moved to accept staff's recommendation to **Not Sustain** the allegation of Excessive Force against Officer White. **S. Williams** second. Hearing no further discussion, the vote was called and the motion was approved by all.

D. DETERMINATION OF ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

The ACRB staff recommends assigning a finding of **Sustain**.

*Discussion...*

*(Bartels) I think that the officer did acknowledge using that language. It can be understandable and I am sure it was a difficult situation but, like the staff said, police officers should be held to that standard even if people are abusive towards them. They still have to remain professionals.*

**Bartels** moved to accept staff's recommendation to **sustain** the allegations against Officer Phyllis White. **Morris** seconded.

Hearing no further discussion, the vote was called and the motion was approved by all.

E. DISCIPLINE RECOMMENDATIONS

*...Discussion...*

1. *(Robertson) This will be a category "A" and she has been with the department for over 5 years since 2010; she has had 5 complaints against her. Two of them involve vehicles accidents; one for failure to appear in court; one is actually this case that you are looking at today and she was disciplined. It was sustained on the courtesy but not for abusive language, it was for giving the middle finger. When I reviewed the file, she did not admit to saying "those ratchet"; she just said "ratchet."*
2. *(Bartels) Did she say "ho" at that time?*
3. *(Robertson) No. In their file, she said "ratchet", "being ratcheted."*
4. *(Souder) When did that happen?*
5. *(Robertson) She got that in March of 2014.*
6. *(Harrison) Was it OPS?*
7. *(Robertson) Yes.*
8. *(Bozarth) What was the fifth thing?*
9. *(Robertson) It was a domestic violence situation involving her and her husband, and she was exonerated. When I interviewed her, she was very emotional. This situation has taken a toll on her. I found her to be very credible. She left because she has small children and it was causing problems with her family. She actually owned the house that she was living in but she had to actually sell her house, move an hour away and rented a home because the stress was too much.*
10. *(Williams) Isn't oral reprimand one of the options? I'm sorry...written? Oral and written?*
11. *(Robertson) That was for a category "A" or written...Yes.*
12. *(Brogdon) Are oral reprimands recorded at all? Is that in their file anywhere?*
13. *(Robertson) It is noted on her disciplinary history that she received the oral reprimand in her records; but, whether or not there is something in the personnel file, I'm not sure.*
14. *(Brogdon) I don't think that it should be in their personnel file. I just have concerns because it seems there were multiples incidents with these one people and if there is a police officer holding to a different standard in general, so that would also be; maybe not written to avoid conflict and to try to resolve things amicably. You would expect that from a*

*police officer. I'm not sure if there is an indication that she did something wrong; because these could have been tough people to deal with. It seems like a lot for one officer to kind of be going back and forth with regular citizens.*

**Price** moved to recommend a written reprimand for the **Sustain** allegation of Abusive Language against Officer Phyllis White. **Bartels** seconded. Hearing no further discussion, the vote was called and the motion was approved.

## **ACRB CASE NO. 13-112, ISALAH RIVERS**

### A. ALLEGATION SUMMARY

The complainant Isralah Rivers alleged that Atlanta Police Officer Phyllis White harassed her on May 19, 2013, September 14, 2013 & October 18, 2013.

### B. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the obtained facts, the ACRB staff recommends that the allegation of Harassment against Officer Phyllis White be assigned a finding of **Not Sustain**.

*...Discussion...*

1. **(Bozarth)**– *This lady is the mother of the other complainant?*
2. **(Robertson)** *Yes.*
3. **(Bozarth)** *If you look at the inside sheet of this; I just want to clarify the day of the incident, May 19, 2013. I believe that it is 2014 because if you go over to the previous scripts in the back of the materials; the 911 calls were back in May 2014.*
4. **(Williams)** *That must be a typo, all of these incidents for what I can tell happened in 2013; then Officer White later moved in 2013. She actually has been gone probably shy of two years.*
5. **(Bozarth)** *So the error is the 911 call.*
6. **(Robertson)** *That's an error.*
7. **(Bozarth)** *This fight preceded the date that she drove by and flipped her the bird?*
8. **(Robertson)** *Yes.*
9. **(Robertson)** *The arrest was in October when she flipped the bird.*
10. **(Bozarth)** *This is a single complaint of harassment; if we conclude that on a previous case if the problem is not Officer White, but the Rivers family, then I think that you are correct in advising us to not sustain it. This is confusing. I had to read it a lot. There are all kinds of players. There's this Ms. Franklin who made one of the 911 calls and another woman called DeDe an hour later. They both seem to live on the same street and they both seem to be talking about the same altercation. Apparently, the alternation was between the Rivers Family and the woman name Tameka, who is unidentified. It was basically a civil disagreement. There was no violence and the police really had no role in sorting it out at that point. I don't see the pattern of harassment on the part of the officer as alleged.*
11. **(Robertson)** *One of the things that Rivers said was that the officer did not do an incident report and she did.*
12. **(Williams)** *And somebody said that she did a request to get the 911 records...and it wasn't and it was. Her credibility kind of lost it with me on that one. Those were two incidents that were not true.*

**Bozarth** moved to accept staff recommendation to **Not Sustain** the harassment allegation against Officer Phyllis White. **Williams** seconded. Hearing no further discussion, the vote was called and the motion was approved.

## **ACRB CASE NO. 15-016, DANIEL RODRIQUEZ**

A. ALLEGATION SUMMARY

The Complainant Daniel Rolon-Rodriguez alleged that on January 23, 2015, Correction Officer Marquis Calhoun of the Atlanta Detention Center (ADC), made the alleged statement to inmates, “You fucking Puerto Ricans.”

B. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the evidence obtained during the course of the investigation, the ACRB staff recommends that the allegation of Abusive Language against Officer Marquis Calhoun be assigned a finding of **Not Sustain** due to insufficient evidence to conclude that the officer committed the alleged act of misconduct.

*Discussion...*

1. *(Williams) Something like this is kind of hard when by the time you get to investigate it the prisoner is not there anymore. It was a conflict, I don't know if they keep accurate records or where the correction officer wasn't assigned to the section where the complainant said he was. I don't know if that is poor record keep or the wrong day or something. That made it a little bit confusing; the fact the people get shifted around; they are not there long enough sometimes to get access to them to get the details that you need. Then what did they say, they told you that you had to go through the U.S. Marshals to get access?*
2. *(Lolar) They just housed him temporarily, pending his court case. ADC has to go through the Marshals; but, he filed the complaint on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February and I made the request on the 13<sup>th</sup>. When they got back to me, he was gone.*
3. *(Bozarth) There was a period of time that had lapsed between your requesting.*
4. *(Lolar) I had to make a second follow-up request.*
5. *(Bozarth) I'm somewhat uncomfortable with; one of the ways that; in fact if they did do something improper; one of the ways that they can avoid having to account for it, is simply waiting because their stay there is a transient thing. Why were the marshals taking this set of Hispanic prisoners to Puerto Rico? I don't understand...*
6. *(Lolar) They were just here for trial. It was just temporary. They have a contract with ADC to house them, while cases are pending.*
7. *(Bozarth) The complainant was actually a native of Puerto Rico who committed his alleged crime in Puerto Rico?*
8. *(Lolar) That is correct.*
9. *(Bozarth) Where else could we house prisoners from outside of Atlanta? I didn't know that we could do that.*
10. *(Williams) Prisoner transporting is a huge business.*
11. *(Brodgon) In a case like this...this is a question for the older or more experienced board members. What would be the scenario with circumstances like this, what changes and facts would make this a more sustainable complaint? I kind of see finger pointing. He says one thing that is the allegation “you f-ing Puerto Ricans”, so, I'm wondering what other facts would make this, even if he was still in jail right now and you were able to interview him right now, what would make this more sustainable?*
12. *(Bartels) I think that this is like a lot of cases we review in that it's a ‘he said, he said or she said, she said’ type of thing; one person saying one thing; the other person saying the other. Usually, what we look for is either a third-party witness that can corroborate or any kind of recording, video or if there are real problems with one person's credibility.*
13. *(Robertson) We also look at their disciplinary history.*
14. *(Brodgon) You said that you can look at the pattern of behavior? Is that the officer's?*
15. *(Robertson) Yes.*
16. *(Souder) I also would say that to your point what convinced me beside the fact that there is ‘he said, he said’; the report shows that the officer wasn't even assigned to that section on that day of the incident.*



17. *(Williams)* Well, like I said, that could be poor record keeping or maybe the day wrong.
18. *(Robertson)* Or the name wrong.
19. *(Bozarth)* One of the things that made the complaint credible to me was the way it was written; the man who made the complaint took the time to write very clearly, even though his English was a little challenged. I thought he expressed the situation very clearly. Robin, you and I didn't have the chance to talk about this earlier because we had sat through a similar discussion at NACOLE; talking about accessing witness's credibility and even though we don't have clear and convincing evidence, I'm personally inclined as we have some of these situations to use some sort of metric like that to perhaps to give us something else to judge from which is: who is really the most credible story teller, and one question that I have, you did interview the officer and it was like a lot of time the officer would say, "oh, I don't remember"; which is a way if somebody in fact is guilty of something, it's a way of not having to lie under oath without admitting to anything. I get a little suspicious when I see that. I will ask you subjectively; did the officer seem credible when you interviewed him?
20. *(Lolar)* Yes he did, but the reason why I acted promptly trying to get the statement from the complainant is to...because I felt the same when I read his complaint. It grabbed credibility there, but I really needed to get a statement from him in order to solidify that and if I had been able to get a statement even if it was a "he says, she say, then one word against the other one, then it would have been based on those facts.
21. *(Williams)* I have a quick question. If there was a law or ordinance that said that when someone in corrections, because they also transit, that when they got a request from us that they had a certain amount of time to respond to it, verses just sitting on it? You know, we are asking city council for...
22. *(Lolar)* That situation was a little different because they were under the U.S. Marshals and there were some sensitive inmates that were also in there and they were really cautious about letting anyone speak to them because they may have been possible witnesses.

The **Chair** opened the floor for a motion. **Bartels** moved to accept staff's recommendation to assign a finding of **Not Sustain**. **Price** seconded. Hearing no further discussion, the vote was called and the motion was approved with one nay vote. **Bozarth** voted against.

## OLD BUSINESS

### A. ACRB ORDINANCE UPDATE

**Director Reid** provided the following update on the proposed ordinance changes:

- ✓ Met with several city council members to become sponsors for the ordinance changes.
- ✓ Met with Council Martin and Council Young earlier this week. A meeting with another council member is scheduled for next week. "I believe that things look favorable to move forward."
- ✓ One councilmember is recommending that we do a one page summary of the ordinance changes to provide to the Councilmembers to make it more digestible.
- ✓ The council members have been made aware that the goal is to have the ordinance in place by the end of the year.

*Discussion...*

- 1.) *(Williams)* Is it possible to reduce to one page? We don't want to lose language.
- 2.) *(Reid)* It really is a summary of the legislation. I am toying with it now and hope to have it completed before 5p.m. tomorrow.
- 3.) *(Bartels)* Can we get a copy of that?
- 4.) *(Reid)* Yes.

## B. ACRB RESPONSE TO APD BODY WORN CAMERA (BWC) INFORMATION SESSION

Executive **Director Reid** and **Sheena Robertson** met with the APD to discuss the BWCs and Reid indicated that APD appears to be moving somewhat, towards some of ACRB's views that focused on the following:

- *The viewing of the cameras*
- *The viewing of the recordings looks promising.*
- *APD is still looking at the time-retention periods.*
- *They would like to provide ACRB with policies from New Orleans and San Diego to review to promote more conversation.*
- *APD is still moving forward with their BWC plans as a pilot program. The policies for this program will not be their final policies. They will continue to research, talk and discuss before they get to the final stages.*
- *A few weeks ago, APD had its first BWC Information Session. The information was not put out in a timely fashion, so there were only five citizens in attendance at the Adamsville Recreation Center. Another session will be scheduled because they recognized that the Adamsville session was a problem because so few citizens attended the session. However, they have said they plan to schedule another session and others throughout the city within a timely manner.*

*Discussion...*

1. *(Reid) The location for the pilot will be the airport. Sheena correct me if I am wrong, the frequency of contact they have out at the airport, make them believe that the airport will be a good place to have them.*
2. *(Lolar) Maybe they are using it because of the frequency of contacts; they can use it as a learning tool.*
3. *(Reid) And these are not calls that they are going on. I think that it is more of courtesy/customer service type of thing.*
4. *(Harrison) Is there a roll-out date?*
5. *(Reid) November. They keep saying that as soon as procurement wraps up the contract they will roll out, but we don't have an exact date. Another good thing that came out of the meeting is that we talked about the external audit and ending with us having representation on the audit board. So that is a good idea.*
6. *(Brogdon) I don't think there's a point to the cameras if the people who are holding the recordings and distributing the recorders don't have any accountability.*
7. *(Williams) And that is one of the big issues in all of the sessions that we went to there; as well as all the stuff that you read across the country. They are talking about the people that actually store it and have access. The fox watching the hen house.*
8. *(Reid) That is why it is so important that every at opportunity; we, as an agency and as individuals, are able to weigh in on the BWC policies, we have to. Once the policies are set, it's hard to try and go back to change it. Everywhere I go, that is one of the main things I talk about with every individual. We need to make sure when they are discussing this BWC policy, they need to go in front of officials and talk about it. That they understand the implications of this policy and what it is going to mean to the citizens of Atlanta.*
9. *(Price) Last Friday, I attended the Police Retiree event; they say that you are doing a wonderful job. The assistant chief was there, not Chief Turner. Everybody think that you are doing a good job. I think that they respect the work that you are doing.*
10. *(Souder) Last month when we did the case on Anthony Brown, there was question to ask Council Carla Smith; whether she did hire him. I went ahead and checked on it. Council Smith said that she knows Mr. Brown; she did not hire him. She did advise him that if he has issues to call 911 because he said that he could not call anyone else.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### NACOLE Conference Attendees Post Conference Briefing

#### William Bozarth Report

*I did not want to take a lot of time tonight. Robin and Charles were there; Bill Harrison, Sherry Williams and I were all there. What this sheet does; I was at least trying to break it down into several categories where if we want to come back and try to deliver some of the benefits of this attendance in a structured way; maybe, look at this and decide what the priorities are and how to do that. Some of this stuff, some of you already knew; we talk from time to time about the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment. There was a session made very clear; when an officer has the right to stop and talk to somebody suspicious and probable cause. I have a new handout sort of complement the ones gave before. There was also a set of guidelines about the checklist for credibility. I like for us to evaluate something like as part of what we sometimes do when you have a question of one person saying one thing and one the other. That just might help us through it. I divided it into three areas. I think that there is a lot to be said. I put two main sub-titles on it; building community trust and ways to engage the community in a better way for oversight agencies. There are some things to be brought back; I don't know how you want to distribute that but, if you be willing to write a synopsis of some of the things with key points.*

#### *Discussion and comments...*

1. **(Harrison)** Normally what we do is give thumb drive to Lee. Let Lee produce a thumb drive. Has that been done?
2. **(Reid)** No.
3. **(Bozarth)** What I found in previous years when somebody handed me that; it was sort of an overwhelming thing to look at. I'm looking for a way to supplement us knowing about that; some delivery within our discussions of the key points. The other two, I have divided into strategic and tactical. You can read them. The tactical stuff includes the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment. There was some good information on policing and homeless and a lot of stuff on BWCs that compliments what you are already talking about. Maybe we can schedule a time on some of these. This is my summary of the key areas where I believe where we can take something back and try to broadcast it across the organization. This session was very enlightening. I think that my job is a lot better.
4. **(Reid)** I have a question for you. If there was one thing that you could say, I think that we can implement this in our agency, what would it be? Just off the top of your head.
5. **(Bozarth)** There are some things that are long term and short term that we should be doing here; we can't do quickly. We already had training on the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment; search and seizure and having everybody absolutely solid on that. That's an easy one. I would have to put more thought into it.
6. **(Price)** Right now, I think that the APD and all agencies are wondering how can we bring the community and police together. How do we build trust?
7. **(Harrison)** I want you to ask Mr. Curry to put those Town Hall meetings on the agenda because at this most recent one, the discussion was all about the youth. Apparently in midtown, a lot of the youth that they're arresting, end up back on the streets within 24 hours. There were a number of people that offer programs for the youth and they advised the mayor and one of the Deputy Chief Information Officer about a number of programs; at least seven or eight programs. There is something afoot within the police department right now that should be going on next month. If I find out more about it, then I will share it with you. Is there a way to...one of the reasons that I like to thumb drive is that there is a lot of cases on the thumb drive that actually coincide with some of the cases we discuss. Is there a way that you can make it available to the public? Is that too much information?
8. **(Reid)** No, that can be arranged.
9. **(Harrison)** You got a section call Legal Updates and that has all the cases in there but to the extent that...the way the thumb drive is broken down into sessions and as the session relates to

*what we are doing, is there a way of putting that session out on the website so the citizens can see it and review it? Is that possible?*

10. **(Reid)** *I don't see an issue with that. I don't know if NACOLE will have an issue with it.*

11. **(Williams)** *Why don't we put a link to "for more information, link to NACOLE website?" At some point, some things become labor intensive.*

12. **(Harrison)** *Just take a look into it.*

## **FINAL COMMENTS FROM ALAN MORRIS**

Long term member of the ACRB, **Alan Morris** announced that the October meeting will be his last board meeting. **Morris** represents the League of Women Voters. Highlights from his announcement:

"I want to let you know that this is my last board meeting with the Citizen Review Board. I severed two-three years terms and it is time for me to go. Don't ask me how I became the representative for the League of Women Voters. I got called on my cell phone one day; they said will you do this? I said sure. One of the requirements was that I join the league; I did and here I am. A new person, the President of The Fulton County Legal Women Voters, Cecilia Houston-Torrence; to my understanding will be taking my place on board; hopefully, that will occur in time for her to be at the November board meeting. I leave with only 2 regrets and I want them to be part of the public records. I can go out having at least said it out loud. One is that I think that our Mayor has allowed the representative from his office to remain unfilled for 2 years and 2 months. I believe that this is a sign of disrespect to the ACRB."

"The second one is that our chief of police routinely agrees with the decisions of our board when we exonerate police officers for the grievances made against them but the chief disagrees with the board when we sustain the charges when charges are filed against them. I believe that this is disrespectful not only to the ACRB but to the citizens of Atlanta."

"On a positive note, I believe that we have a fine staff; we have an excellent executive director; we have a dedicated group of board members and all are diligent and work hard for the citizens of Atlanta and they value the role of monitoring the police activities. To Lee, the board members and to the staff, I wish you a fun farewell and wish you the best."

**Chair Harrison** acknowledged **Morris'** for his time served on the board, and the valuable role he has played in the overall development and credibility of the ACRB. "We certainly thank you, all the time that you have spent on the board; and your hard work. I know that you have held a couple of offices since you have been here and I personally recalled how you helped me when I came on to the board. I appreciate that and WE definitely appreciate you. We are sad to see you go; but we understand. You will be missed."

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Blocker was invited to come back to speak to the board due to the emergency evacuation at the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Blocker previously filed a complaint with ACRB for false arrest. He is requesting ACRB to re-review his case file for the following reasons:

- ✓ Stated that this case was actually dismissed by the prosecutor; no probable cause to the allegations.
- ✓ Found not guilty in a jury trial.
- ✓ Stated that the police officer admitted to making the report up.
- ✓ Believe that the arrest was illegal.

By not reconsidering the case and not voting to sustain the allegation, Mr. Blocker indicated that he felt that the ACRB supports and assist officer bad behavior. He said, "I think there is enough information and enough experience in this room to be able to decipher between truth and friction. Because what you all do is end up assisting an officer who is willing to lie on a police report, and destroy somebody's life and abuse their authority and change their course of life just because he is a police officer and you put that criminal back on the street. Now we have people talking about Black lives matter, I want somebody to prove that to me while I'm alive and not when I get shot in the back."

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no further business, the **Chair** entertained a motion to adjourn. **Bartels** moved to adjourn. **Priced** seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

*Minutes for October 15, 2015 were approved: November 12, 2015*  
***Paul Bartels, Board Secretary***

*Transcribed: LG*