

CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD



FY 2017 - 2018 Annual Report

101 City Hall Plaza
Durham, NC 27701

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Civilian Police Review Board for the City of Durham (CPRB) would like to express thanks to the following members for their time, commitment and service to impartially review requests to determine whether to hold a hearing, develop recommendations and work to improve community-police relations:

- David Harris served from August 27, 2008 until June 30, 2018 equating to 9 years and 9 months of service. Mr. Harris served as Chairman from September 30, 2009 until August 24, 2011.
- Rev. Rachel Green served from September 28, 2010 until June 30, 2018 equating to 7 years and 9 months of service. Rev. Green served as Vice Chair from March 25, 2015 until June 30, 2018.
- Susan Veasey served March 16, 2015 until June 30, 2018 equating to 2 years and 2 months of service.

The CPRB also express sincere appreciation and thanks:

- Secretary to the Board, Tonette Amos, Senior Executive Assistant for the Office of the City Clerk, for keeping minutes of meetings and maintaining all records pertaining to the business of the CPRB;
- Counsel to the Board, Kimberly Rehberg, Senior Attorney for the Office of the City Attorney, for providing legal guidance to the CPRB by offering information about and interpretations of relevant federal, state and local laws, statutes regulations and policies; and
- Office of the City Manager Liaison to the Board, Karmisha Wallace, Senior Assistant to the City Manager for the Office of the City Manager, for administrative support, facilitating communication with the Office of the City Manager, and assisting in the work of the CPRB.

The effective and efficient assistance, availability, and accommodations of Ms. Amos, Attorney Rehberg and Ms. Wallace were invaluable in aiding the members of the CPRB in performing our duties.

The CPRB also thanks Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager for the City of Durham, for the opportunity to serve and to consider of recommendations offered by the Board.

Lastly, the CPRB is appreciative of freelance graphic designer, Naquee White, for designing the flyer for the Community-Police Relations Forum. He is a junior earning a Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Communication Systems & Graphic Design at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University.

MEMBERSHIP

The CPRB consists of nine residents of the City of Durham, all of whom are appointed by City Manager Thomas Bonfield and confirmed by the Durham City Council. Members serve staggered four-year terms and are eligible for reappointment.

The members of the CPRB were as follows:

Name	Original Appointment	Term Expiration
Jeffrey Clark	June 24, 2015	June 30, 2019
Kelli Dugan	March 16, 2015	June 30, 2018
Rev. Rachel H. Green	September 28, 2010	June 30, 2018
David Harris	August 27, 2008	June 30, 2018
Cassandra R. Johnson	June 20, 2016	June 30, 2019
DeWarren K. Langley	October 27, 2009	June 30, 2019
David A. Smith	January 19, 2010	June 30, 2018
Susan Veasey	March 16, 2015	June 30, 2018
Dr. Cynthia Wells	March 14, 2012	June 30, 2019

DeWarren K. Langley served as Chairman and Rev. Rachel H. Green served as Vice Chairman.

There were no vacancies during FY 2017-2018; however, there were five term expirations.

NUMBER OF MEETINGS

The CPRB holds meetings when necessary for the purpose of conducting business, training, work sessions, hearings and forums. The CPRB is required to meet at least once per quarter. The CPRB had four regular meetings: (1) September 27, 2018, (2) December 6, 2017, (3) March 28, 2018 and (4) June 27, 2018. The CPRB held the Community-Police Relations Forum on April 25, 2018.

ATTENDANCE

Name	09/27/17	12/06/17	03/28/18	04/25/18*	06/27/18	%
Jeffrey Clarke	P	P	A	EA	P	60%
Kelli Dugan	P	P	P	P	EA	80%
Rev. Rachel H. Green	P	P	P	P	P	100%
David Harris	P	P	P	P	EA	80%
Cassandra R. Johnson	P	P	P	P	P	100%
DeWarren K. Langley	P	P	P	P	P	100%
David A. Smith	P	P	A	A	P	60%
Susan Veasey	P	P	P	P	P	100%
Dr. Cynthia Wells	EA	P	A	P	P	60%

P = Present A = Absent EA = Excused Absence * = Community-Police Relations Forum

NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR APPEAL HEARINGS & SUMMARY OF CASES

The CPRB received and reviewed one Request for Appeal Hearing from a complainant who was not satisfied with the conclusions of a review conducted by the Professional Standards Division of the Police Department. The Request for Appeal Hearing was submitted by the following individual:

1. Heath Dyron Allen (Use of Force)

The CPRB carefully reviewed the materials the complainant provided to the City Clerk's Office as the basis for an appeal, as well as investigative materials submitted by the Professional Standards Division of the Police Department, in the review of the complaint.

The CPRB did not grant a hearing for Mr. Allen.

The jurisdiction of the CPRB is limited to the results of investigations of use of force, unethical conduct and/or conduct unbecoming of Police Department personnel and arrest, search and seizure.

NUMBER OF HEARINGS

In FY 2017-2018, the CPRB did not grant any Requests for Appeal Hearings.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Chairman DeWarren K. Langley participated in the 2018 American Bar Association (ABA) JusticeHack Durham, Unity in the Community: Diminishing Division and Creating Collaboration for Impact, on Saturday, April 7, 2018.

The goals of the 2018 JusticeHack were to:

- Share experiences amongst different stakeholder communities about community policing.
- Identify and prioritize issues and solutions to tension points relating to interactions between law enforcement and pre-designated user groups (youth, bystander, immigrant, individual and persons with disabilities).
- Conceptualize innovative and tech enabled solutions aimed at building alliances between law enforcement and the community at large.

Chairman Langley served as Captain of a team to develop SignalWatch, a proactive app which uses reliable and high-quality bio-signals to conduct simulation training of police applicants and hires and assess bio-signals as it relates to identifying and eliminating implicit racial bias in job performance to better prepare officers for community interaction and decrease adverse and deadly interaction with civilians.

Pursuant to the Civilian Police Review Board Procedure Manual, Section 3.1, Meetings, the Civilian Police Review Board must host one (1) community forum per fiscal year to receive feedback from the public on the Durham Police Department complaint process and community-police relations.

The CPRB held the Community-Police Relations Forum on April 25, 2018 in the 2nd Floor Committee Room at City Hall.

During the Community-Police Relations Forum, Chair Langley presented a power-point presentation entitled “Civilian Police Review Board & Complaint Process”. The following topics were mentioned during the presentation:

- Authority
- Eligibility of Appointment
- Compensation
- Current Members
- Purpose
- Duties & Responsibilities
- Jurisdiction
- Police Department Findings
- Complaint Process
- Appeals Process
- Determination of the Board
- Confidentiality
- Annual Report
- Caseloads
- Additional Information

Citizen feedback comments were:

- “Stop Killing Us” movement established universal standards for police and asked the Board to review those standards and adopt them as well as the City.
- Opposition to the language of membership eligibility which exclude citizens with a felony and misdemeanor conviction.
- The Board needs to meet more frequently.

The Board voted to remove the language from the Civilian Police Review Board Procedures Manual/Section 1.4 Membership Eligibility “all members must not be convicted of a felony or have pled nolo contendere to a felony and not be convicted of a class A1, 1 or 2 misdemeanor within three years prior to appointment of the Board was approved. The recommendation was submitted to the City Manager for action.



Civilian Police Review Board City of Durham

Community-Police Relations Forum



Let your voice be heard. The purpose of the Forum is to receive feedback from the public on the Durham Police Department complaint process and community-police relations.

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 6:00 PM
Second Floor Committee Room - City Hall
101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, North Carolina 27701

For more information, contact
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