

Police Accountability Board (Thursday, May 15, 2025)
Generated by LEGAL ACCPAB on Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Members present

Nickolas Cromwell
Michelle Dowleyne
Leslie Everett
John Lydon
Dr Linda Lymas
Thomas Phelan
Charles Shilling

John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney
Gillian Bacon, Legal Assistant, II
Lt. Joshua Krum, SMCSO Representative

Via Zoom

Jenna Aubert

Absent

Buren Kidd

Meeting called to order at 6:37 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order: A. Call to Order

Nickolas Cromwell, Chair, called the May 15, 2025, meeting of the Police Accountability Board to order at 6:37pm Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

2. ROLL CALL

Action: A. Approval of Agenda

I move to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion by Leslie Everett, second by Thomas Phelan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nickolas Cromwell, Michelle Dowleyne, Leslie Everett, John Lydon, Dr Linda Lymas, Thomas Phelan, Charles Shilling, Jenna Aubert

Minutes, Action: B. Approval of Minutes

I move to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2025, meeting of the Police Accountability Board, with the exception that under new business, we add the discussion of case determinations for the following ACC case files: OPR2024-1197, OPR2024-0722, OPR2024-1800, and OPR2024-1700.

Motion by Nickolas Cromwell, second by Michelle Dowleyne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nickolas Cromwell, Michelle Dowleyne, Leslie Everett, John Lydon, Dr Linda Lymas, Thomas Phelan, Charles Shilling, Jenna Aubert

3. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion: A. ACC Membership Stipend

The Board reviewed compensation data for PAB and ACC members across all Maryland counties in an effort to assess whether the stipend provided to St. Mary's County ACC members is commensurate with their workload. The Chairman intends to present this information to the ACC at their next meeting to gather member feedback.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion, Information: A. Legislative Update

John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney, provided the Board a brief update on legislation from the 2025 General Assembly Session that would affect the operations of the Police Accountability Boards and Administrative Charging Committees. One bill of note was Senate Bill 533, which is currently awaiting the Governor's signature. The bill would require the ACC to issue its disposition within 395 days from the date a complaint is filed by the public, and that a law enforcement agency must have its investigation forwarded to an ACC no later than 334 days after the complaint is filed.

Discussion: B. Police Executive Research Forum Report - Implementation of the Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021

PAB member Charles Shilling and Deputy County Attorney John Sterling Houser attended a presentation by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), which offered insight into the upcoming second phase of the Maryland Police Accountability Act of 2021 ("MPAA") study. This next phase will focus on analyzing the differences in the types of cases reported under the MPAA compared to Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights ("LEOBR"), including comparison of their respective outcomes.

Discussion: C. 2024 Maryland PAB Annual Reports

The Board reviewed publicly posted 2024 Police Accountability Board (PAB) Annual Reports from various Maryland Counties. The Board agreed to revisit this topic as necessary, and to continue collecting information on the other 2024 PAB Annual Reports from across Maryland, which may not have been posted at the time of this meeting.

Discussion: D. Review of ACC Dispositions

Nickolas Cromwell, Chairman, provided a brief summary of the dispositions for Administrative Charging Committee investigatory files OPR2024-5306 and OPR2024-3743.

5. ADJOURN

Action: A. Motion to Adjourn

I move to adjourn the May 15, 2025, meeting of the Police Accountability Board.

Motion by Nickolas Cromwell, second by Charles Shilling.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Nickolas Cromwell, Michelle Dowleyne, Leslie Everett, John Lydon, Dr Linda Lymas, Thomas Phelan, Charles Shilling, Jenna Aubert

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.