



# Police Civilian Review Panel

Public Safety Committee Meeting

Adrian L. Steel, Jr., Chair (2017)

June 26, 2018



# Panel Establishment and Authority

- The Board of Supervisors established the Panel on December 6, 2016
- There are nine Panel members, County residents with diverse backgrounds and experience
- The Panel’s mission is to enhance police legitimacy and to build and maintain trust between the FCPD and the community
- On request, the Panel reviews FCPD investigations of alleged FCPD “abuse of authority” or “serious misconduct” for thoroughness, completeness, accuracy, objectivity, and impartiality



# Bylaws and Code of Ethics

- The Panel drafted and adopted Bylaws to govern its activities and a Code of Ethics in the Spring of 2017
- The Board of Supervisors approved the Bylaws and Code of Ethics on July 11, 2017



# Orientation

- The FCPD conducted workshops for the Panel on FCPD operations and General Orders pertinent to the Panel's work
- Panel members participated in "ride-alongs" and CIT training sessions
- Panel procedures were tested in a "mock review" of a FCPD investigation



# Public Outreach and Public Forums

- Panel members attended and made presentations at various community meetings to inform the public as to the Panel's role and activities
- Two public forums were held jointly with the Independent Police Auditor to describe the roles of the Panel and Auditor and to hear questions from the public, including:
  - Does the Panel have jurisdiction over complaints pertaining to the Sheriff's Office or to ICE?
  - How can minorities be assured that the Panel will be sensitive to concerns of minority populations in the County?
  - Why do the Auditor and the Panel not have the power to investigate alleged FCPD misconduct?
  - Can the Panel make policy recommendations to the FCPD?



# Meeting with the Independent Police Auditor

- The Panel met with the Auditor concerning his findings and conclusions as to the use of force investigations he has monitored and reviewed.



# Panel Processes and Procedures for Complaints

- **Initial Complaints:** The Panel refers the complaint to the FCPD for investigation. The Department is required to complete its investigation of the complaint within 60 days and report back to the Panel.
- **Request for Review of a completed FCPD Investigation:** The Panel conducts a review meeting of the FCPD investigation at which the complainant has an opportunity to state the reasons for filing the review request. The Panel may request that an FCPD representative knowledgeable about the investigation attend the meeting to provide information on the investigation.



# Panel Processes and Procedures for Complaints

- At the Panel's discretion, the Panel may request further investigation by the FCPD, and the FCPD is required to conduct that investigation within a reasonable time and report the results to the Panel.
- Based on its review of investigations, the Panel may recommend to the Chief of Police and the Board of Supervisors revisions to FCPD policies and practices that the Panel concludes are warranted.





# 2017 Complaints and Requests for Review

- The Panel received five Initial Complaints in its first twelve months.
- Two of those pre-dated the December 6, 2016 date for Panel Jurisdiction.
- Two complaints related to an arrest at an October 2017 parade in Annandale.
- The last Initial Complaint was referred to the FCPD for investigation.



# 2017 Complaints and Requests for Review

- The Panel received two Requests for Review of completed FCPD investigations in its first twelve months. The Panel determined that it had jurisdiction to review both investigations, conducted reviews of the investigations, and voted to concur with the Department's findings and determinations in both investigations



# Plans for 2018

- Community Outreach
  - Outreach activities will include conducting meetings with various community groups, inviting police associations to meet with the Panel about its responsibilities and scope of authority, and distributing informational brochures (made available in four languages) across the County
- Refinement of Processes and Protocols
  - Refine procedures for the intake of Initial Complaints and Requests for Review, determining Panel jurisdiction, and the disposition decision-making process
- Strengthen relationships with the Board of Supervisors and FCPD through increased communication and the discussion of concerns and issues