

Police Civilian Review Panel

March 5, 2024

Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 7

Subcommittee Meeting Summary (CRP-23-15)

Subcommittee Members Present:

Todd Cranford, Panel Member

Celeste Peterson, Panel Member

Bryon Garner, Chair of Subcommittee

Others Present:

Sanjida Lisa, PCRCP

Rachelle Ramirez, OIPA

Richard Schott, Independent Police Auditor

The Panel's meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. Mr. Garner welcomed everyone to the Panel's March 5, 2024, Subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Garner described the purpose of the subcommittee and its procedures to conduct an initial review of a complaint. He stated that subcommittee will complete the Initial Review Report, which was included in the meeting materials, and will make its recommendation to the full Panel at its March 7, 2024, meeting.

Mr. Cranford and Ms. Peterson were present in the room. The complainant was also present.

Initial Review of CRP-23-15:

Mr. Garner stated that the subcommittee members reviewed the complainant's statements, the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) disposition letter, and the FCPD's investigative files, which included body-worn camera (BWC) recordings. Mr. Garner provided a summary of the events of the incident that led to the complaint (CRP-23-15) and took comments from Ms. Peterson and Mr. Cranford. He identified the allegations made by the complainant in his correspondence to the Panel:

1. FCPD failed to knock on door to acknowledge their arrival before making entry into his home to serve an arrest warrant
2. FCPD did not have a search warrant at the time of entry, which violates VA state code.

The complainant was present at the subcommittee meeting and was given up to 15 minutes to address the subcommittee panel.

The subcommittee members considered whether each allegation was considered Serious Misconduct or Abuse of Authority, which is required for recommending full Panel review.

Subcommittee members discussed the first allegation and agreed that the police failing to knock on the door to acknowledge their arrival before making entry to serve an arrest warrant was not Serious Misconduct or Abuse of Authority. Mr. Cranford and Mr. Garner provided the distinction between an arrest warrant and a search warrant. Ms. Peterson wanted to ask whether SWAT officers could forego

wearing name tags during an operation and whether the robot that was deployed utilized lethal or non-lethal force.

Subcommittee members discussed the second allegation and agreed that it did not rise to the level of Serious Misconduct or Abuse of Authority.

Mr. Garner moved that the subcommittee does not recommend full Panel review based on the subcommittee voting no on each of the allegations. Mr. Cranford seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. All Panel members agreed they would be raising questions to FCPD regarding procedural policies.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.