

CITY OF COLUMBIA

CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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2015 CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS
(as of December 31, 2015)

Dr. James C. Martin, Chair

(appointed November 2009, Chair – August 2011 to present)

Andrew Fisher, Vice Chair

(appointed September 2013, Vice Chair - November 2, 2015 to present)

Gabriel Scott Dean

(appointed September 2010 to present, Vice Chair - January 1, 2015 to November 1, 2015)

Stephen Sheltmire

(appointed February 2011)

Jayne Woods

(appointed October 2014)

Alan Meyer

(appointed March 2015)

Darryl Smith

(appointed March 2015)

Val R. DeBrunce

(appointed November 2015)

Renee Henson

(appointed December 2015)

Members who resigned or had their term expire during the year:

Jeffrey Shelton (November 2014 to February 2015, resigned)

Dr. Jerry Kennett (November 2011 to February 2015, resigned)

Jordon Hargrove (September 2012 to November 2015, term expired)

Kathryn Busch (November 2014 to November 2015, resigned)

Subcommittee Membership:

Mediation Task Force Subcommittee:

1. Gabriel Scott Dean
2. Andrew Fisher (appointed March 2015)

Also serving on the subcommittee during the year were: Kathryn Busch (resigned November 2015) and Dr. Jerry Kennett (resigned February 2015).

Outreach Subcommittee:

1. Andrew Fisher
2. Dr. James C. Martin
3. Stephen Sheltmire
4. Jayne Woods

Also serving on the subcommittee during the year was Scott Shelton (resigned February 2015).

HISTORY OF THE FORMATION OF THE CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD

In 2007, a coalition of citizens and groups proposed the idea of creating a civilian review board to the City Council. The City Council appointed a fourteen member committee to study whether or not a review board was needed and to consider how such a board would be structured. The committee reviewed all complaints that existed before the professional standards unit was established. In addition, they studied and considered different models used by different cities, and hosted public events to gather input from the citizens. After extensive study and public input, the committee unanimously agreed to recommend that the City of Columbia establish a citizens police review board.

In July of 2009, the City Council of the City of Columbia, by adopting Ordinance No. 020331, created a nine member Citizens Police Review Board. The ordinance outlined the duties of the Citizens Police Review Board as follows:

The Citizens Police Review Board shall have the following duties:

- (1) Review appeals from the police chief's decisions on alleged police misconduct as provided for in this article.
- (2) Host public meetings and educational programs for Columbia residents and police officers.
- (3) Review and make recommendations to the police chief and city manager on police policies, procedures and training.
- (4) Prepare and submit to the city council annual reports that analyze citizen and police complaints including demographic data on complainants, complaint disposition, investigative findings and disciplinary actions. The reports should also describe the Board's community outreach and educational programs. The reports should also set forth any recommendations made on police policies, procedures and training. The reports shall be submitted no later than March 1 for the previous calendar year.

The City Council initially appointed the first eight members of the Citizens Police Review Board in November of 2009. Also in November of 2009, the Human Rights Commission appointed its first member to the Board. The Board met for the first time on November 18, 2009.

In 2014, the City Council, at the request of the Citizens Police Review Board, amended Section 21-49, to add additional duties. Under the most recent amendments to the ordinance, the Board is also to conduct a jurisdictional review from the decision by the police chief that a person's allegations do not fall within the requirements set forth in the article related to complaints. The Board is also to conduct audits or reviews of the

records of the police department for compliance with the requirements of the ordinances.

In 2015, the City Council, at the request of the Citizens Police Review Board, amended Section 21-46 (d) to remove term limits.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This annual report includes information on the Citizens Police Review Board's work from January 2015 through the end of December 2015.

Pursuant to its mandate, the Citizens Police Review Board's accomplishments include:

- (1) The Board reviewed appeals from the police chief's decision on alleged police misconduct. The Board also conducted a jurisdictional review of the police chief's decision.

During this reporting period, the Board received five (5) appeals.

- (2) The Board hosted monthly public meetings with an opportunity for public comment at each regular monthly meeting, provided public educational programs on a variety of topics, and participated in community outreach.
- (3) The Board met with the police chief on two occasions (May 13, 2015 and November 11, 2015).
- (4) The Board is submitting to the City Council the following annual report which outlines the Board's actions from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.
- (5) The Board has trained volunteer advocates to assist complainants and police officers with the complaint and appeal process.
- (6) For the Board's mediation pilot program, the City of Columbia has a contract with local attorney and mediator Lorri Kline to provide mediation services.
- (7) Three Board members Dr. Martin, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Smith were sent to the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) national conference. Dr. Martin served as the City's voting member in the national organization.
- (8) Mr. Dean is a Certified Practitioner of Oversight through NACOLE. Mr. Dean continues to serve on NACOLE's Website Committee.

- (9) The Board continues to review educational, complaint, and supplemental material(s) and make changes where necessary, including creating additional resources when needed.

SUMMARY OF APPEALS REVIEWED BY THE CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD

During this reporting period, the Board received five (5) appeals filed in 2015.

The dispositions of the cases are summarized below.

CPRB Case Number	Summary and Board's Action
2015-0001	A person filed an appeal on February 9, 2015. After its jurisdictional review, the Board determined that the complaint contained an allegation of police misconduct and that the complaint should be referred back to the police chief for investigation or referral to mediation.
2015-0002	A person filed an appeal on March 11, 2015. The Board agreed with the police chief's decision on the complaint.
2015-0003	A person filed an appeal on August 17, 2015. The Board agreed with the police chief's decision on the complaint.
2015-0004	A person filed an appeal on September 10, 2015. The Board agreed with the police chief's decision on the complaint.
2015-0005	A person filed an appeal on September 14, 2015. The Board determined that the appeal was not timely filed.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON COMPLAINANTS WHO APPEALED TO THE CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD

CPRB Case Number	Demographic Information on Complainant
2015-0001	b/m
2015-0002	w/m
2015-0003	b/m
2015-0004	w/m
2015-0005	b/f

ANALYSIS OF CITIZEN AND POLICE COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS

At the time this report was prepared, the Board had not received a copy of the City of Columbia Police Department's 2015 Annual Report of the Internal Affairs Unit or its analysis of police and citizen complaints and compliments. When the Police Department provides the information and analysis of police and citizen's complaints and compliments to the Board, the Board will provide a supplemental report to the City Council.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS BY THE CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD

Section 21-49 of the City Code of Ordinances provides that the Citizens Police Review Board shall host public meetings and educational programs for Columbia residents and police officers. The Board regularly met with police recruits to provide the new recruits with information about civilian oversight. The Board also used other avenues to increase community awareness and hosted speakers on civilian review topics at public meetings.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
January 14, 2015	Dr. Campbell gave a presentation on the History of Civilian Oversight in Columbia.
February 11, 2015	Sgt. Paul Dickinson gave a presentation on the Internal Affairs process.
February 16, 2015	Article in the Columbia Tribune regarding the complainant in CPRB 2015-0001. The CPRB is mentioned at the end of the article.
February 22, 2015	Article in the Columbia Tribune regarding the use of body cameras by police. The CPRB is mentioned in the article. http://m.columbiatribune.com/news/perspectives/unblinking-eyes-body-cameras-clarify-disputes-add-extra-costs-for/article_c3a97041-d48a-5acb-9a2d-dd7f9e51ad04.html
March 4, 2015	Dr. James Martin was interviewed by KOMU 8 News in a story about fostering better relationships between citizens and law enforcement. http://www.komu.com/news/fostering-better-relationships-between-citizens-and-law-enforcement/

- March 5, 2015 Mr. G. Scott Dean was interviewed by the Columbia Missourian in an article regarding the use of body cameras by police officers.
http://www.columbiamissourian.com/news/body-cameras-to-capture-conversations-conflicts-between-police-and-citizens/article_ebd8d7f2-7b3e-583c-aa01-7516a28c2022.html.
- March 5, 2015 Mr. Jordon Hargrove was interviewed by ABC 17 news regarding the CPRB and communication between the community and police.
<http://www.abc17news.com/news/citizens-police-review-board-improves-communication-between-community-and-police/31641732>.
<http://www.abc17news.com/citizens-police-review-board-improves-communication/31641802>.
- March 11, 2015 Dr. James Martin was interviewed by KOMU 8 news regarding the resignation of the police chief in Ferguson, MO.
<http://www.komu.com/news/citizens-police-review-board-discusses-ferguson-chief-resignation/>.
- March 20, 2015 Mr. Andrew Fisher, Dr. James Martin and Mr. G. Scott Dean met with members of C.A.R.E. from Camdenton, MO. They are interested in starting a similar type of board to the CPRB in their community.
- March 23, 2015 ABC 17 news – “Mayor: State oversight not needed for Columbia Police.”
<http://m.abc17news.com/news/mayor-state-oversight-not-needed-for-columbia-police/31971944>
- April 20, 2015 KOMU 8 – “Columbia Citizens Police Review Board to release report on police.”
<http://www.komu.com/news/columbia-citizens-police-review-board-to-release-report-on-police/>
- April 29, 2015 Mr. Steve Sheltmire, Mr. G. Scott Dean, Mr. Darryl Smith and Mr. Alan Meyer met with new recruits during the Police Department recruit training/orientation.

June 30, 2015	Dr. James Martin and Mr. Steve Sheltmire met with new recruits during the Police Department recruit training/orientation.
July 8, 2015	Mr. Jerry East with the Columbia Police Department gave a presentation on Vehicle Stop Statistics.
August 10, 2015	Mr. Steve Sheltmire and Mr. G. Scott Dean talked with the Neighborhood Watch Association.
August 11, 2015	Mr. Steve Sheltmire and Mr. G. Scott Dean met with the North Central Neighborhood Association.
August 12, 2015	Dr. David Mitchell presented on the Deconstruction of Police-Citizen Interactions and the Salience of Race and Ethnicity.
September 9, 2015	Dr. Chuck Henson gave a presentation entitled "What If You Were Black?"
September 26, 2015	Mr. G. Scott Dean spoke to a group of Boy Scouts on September 26, 2015.
October 8, 2015	Ms. Busch presented on the MU Campus for a civics education course called "Columbia Government: Learn How Your Voice Matters" for students and community members who wish to learn more about local government.
October 14, 2015	Mr. G. Scott Dean and Ms. Rose Wibbenmeyer met with a social work and law class at the University of Missouri.
October 21, 2015	Ms. Karen Aroesty, Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League gave a presentation entitled "What is Structural Racism?"
December 8, 2015	Mr. Steve Sheltmire and Mr. G. Scott Dean met with the Benton-Stephens Neighborhood Association.
December 16, 2015	Mr. Steve Sheltmire and Mr. Val R. DeBrunce met with new recruits during the Police Department recruit training/orientation.

CONCLUSION

The Board continues to value the importance of training and education in the civilian oversight process. Three board members attended the NACOLE National Conference in 2015. With the Council's continued support, the Board hopes to send more members in the future -- members which will either maintain or achieve professional designation as Certified Practitioners of Oversight. During 2015, the Board hosted six public presentations on topics related to civilian oversight, and already has plans for future presentations in 2016. The Board also appreciates the open dialogue with Chief Burton and the police department's willingness to allow board members to meet with new recruits.

We look forward to continuing to provide the City with an external and independent process for the review of actual or perceived misconduct by police officers and community service aides of the City of Columbia's police department. It is our firm belief that increased police accountability to the community will foster community trust in the police department and as a result a safer and healthier community for all the citizens of Columbia. It is our honor to continue with this work.