



Greater Cleveland  
Regional Transit Authority

1240 West 6th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1302  
Phone: 216-566-5100  
riderta.com

## MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the following meeting of the Civilian Oversight Committee of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will take place on **Tuesday January 28, 2025**, in the Board Room of the Authority, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, OH 44113 for consideration of the listed items and such other items that may properly come before the Committee and be acted upon. Members of the public may attend in person.

The meeting package will be posted on RTA's website at (<https://www.riderta.com/coc>), on RTA's Facebook page, and RTA's Twitter page.

5:00 P.M. Civilian Oversight Committee

Office of Chair

Office of Vice-Chair

Review of Complaint Number C24-006.

Executive Session Requested –

- To enable the COC to conference with GCRTA attorneys for information-gathering, fact-finding, and to receive legal advice.
- To consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'India L. Birdsong Terry', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

India L. Birdsong Terry  
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

IBT: eb  
Attachment

## AGENDA

### CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

5:00 p.m.

Committee Members: Mr. David Morris, Chair  
Ms. Jakolya Gordon, Vice-Chair  
Ms. Elise Hara Auvil  
Mr. Michael Blake  
Mr. Jonathan England  
Mr. George Taylor  
Ms. Rebecca Wharton

Board of Trustees Liaison: Ms. Lauren R. Welch

Transit Police/  
GCRTA Liaison: Commander Orlando Hudson

Executive Assistant/  
COC Secretary: Ms. Emily Bailey

- I. Call to order.
- II. Roll Call.
- III. Certification regarding notice of committee meeting.
- IV. Approval of November 19, 2024, and December 17, 2024, meeting minutes.
- V. Office of Chair – Nominations and election of the Office of Chair.
- VI. Office of Vice-Chair – Nominations and election of the office of Vice-Chair.
- VII. Review of Complaint Number C24-006.
- VIII. Executive Session Requested:
  - To consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual.
  - To enable the COC to conference with GCRTA attorneys for information-gathering, fact-finding, and to receive legal advice.

- IX. New business.
  - Reports and Announcements
  - Review regular meeting schedule for 2025.
    - i. 3/25/25, 5/27/25, 7/29/25, 9/30/25, 11/25/25.
  
- X. Adjourn.

## Minutes

Greater Cleveland RTA Civilian Oversight Committee  
5:04 p.m., Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Civilian Oversight Committee Members:** Elise Auvil, Jonathan England, Jakolya Gordon, George Taylor, Rebecca Wharton

**Not present:** Michael Blake, David Morris

**GCRTA BOT:** Lauren Welch

**Staff:** Bailey, Caver, Darden, Hudson, Sulik, Wilson

**Public:** None

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. There were five (5) Committee members present.

It was advised that notice of this meeting had been posted more than twenty-four hours in advance of the meeting, that the usual notification had been given to the news media and other interested persons, and that all requirements of the Ohio Revised Code and Rules and Bylaws of the Board of Trustees regarding notice of meeting had been complied with.

### Approval of September 24, 2024, COC Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Mr. Taylor. There were five (5) ayes, and none opposed. The minutes were approved.

### Executive Session Requested

5:07 p.m. – it was moved by Ms. Auvil and seconded by Ms. Wharton that the committee enter executive session to enable the COC to conference with GCRTA attorneys for information-gathering, fact-finding, and to receive legal advice, and to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual. A Roll Call Vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Absent, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Absent, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. The motion carries.

5:27 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Auvil and seconded by Mr. Taylor to come out of executive session. A Roll Call Vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Absent, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Absent, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. The motion carries.

### Executive Session Requested

5:29 p.m. It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Mr. Taylor that the members of the committee suspend rules (H)(1) and (H)(2) of the Operating Procedures of the Civilian Oversight Committee to allow the committee to review and investigate Complaint Number C24-005 and Complaint Number C24-006 and to enter executive session to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual. Roll Call Vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Absent, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Absent, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. The motion carries.

7:22 p.m. – It was moved by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Auvil to come out of executive session. A roll call vote was taken; Mr. Morris, Absent; Ms. Gordon, Yes; Ms. Auvil, Yes; Mr. Blake, Absent; Mr. England, Yes; Mr. Taylor, Yes; Ms. Wharton, Yes.

#### Discussion / Action regarding Complaint Number C24-005

For the issue in Complaint Number C24-005; Did Officers Sycz and Wagner refuse to take a report from the complainant. Ms. Auvil made a motion seconded by Mr. Taylor that the committee find the Issue to be Not Sustained.

There were five (5) ayes, and none opposed, the motion carries.

#### Discussion / Action regarding Complaint Number C24-006

For Complaint Number C24-006 Vice-Chair Gordon stated that the Committee has decided to table the discussion for now and they will continue their investigation of Complaint Number C24-006 when the committee reconvenes at the next scheduled meeting.

#### New Business

None

#### Upcoming Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Civilian Oversight Committee Meeting is Tuesday January 28, 2025, at 5pm in the Board Room of the Authority, Root-McBride Building, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113. The public is welcome to attend in person.

#### Adjourn

7:26 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Auvil and seconded by Mr. Taylor that the meeting be adjourned. There were five (5) ayes, and none opposed. The meeting was adjourned.

## Minutes

Greater Cleveland RTA Civilian Oversight Committee

5:01 p.m., Tuesday, December 17, 2024

**Civilian Oversight Committee Members:** Elise Auvil, Michael Blake, Jonathan England, Jakolya Gordon, David Morris, George Taylor, Rebecca Wharton,

**Not present:** None

**GCRTA BOT:** Lauren Welch

**Staff:** Bailey, Caver, Darden, Hudson, Sulik,

**Public:** None

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. There were seven (7) Committee members present.

It was advised that notice of this meeting had been posted more than twenty-four hours in advance of the meeting, that the usual notification had been given the news media and other interested persons, and that all requirements of the Ohio Revised Code and Rules and Bylaws of the Board of Trustees regarding notice of meeting had been complied with.

### Executive Session Requested

5:04 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Gordon that the members of the committee suspend rules (H)(1) and (H)(2) of the Operating Procedures of the Civilian Oversight Committee to allow the committee to review and investigate Complaint Number C24-007 and Complaint Number C24-010. Roll Call Vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – yes, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. The motion carries.

5:05 p.m. – it was moved by Ms. Auvil and seconded by Ms. Gordon that the committee enter executive session to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual. Roll Call Vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – yes, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. The motion carries.

5:54 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Ms. Auvil to come out of executive session. There were seven (7) ayes, and none opposed. The motion carries.

### Discussion/Action regarding Complaint Number C24-007

Mr. Morris stated that there were three issues in complaint number C24-007 and that the Committee would take them one at a time

For issue number 1: Did Acting Lt. Medlong fail to perform his duties regarding the Complainants accusations? Ms. Auvil made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wharton, to say that the committee found Issue number 1 to be Unfounded.

A Roll Call vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Yes, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. There are seven (7) ayes, the motion carries.

For Issue number 2: Was Acting Lt. Medlong unprofessional in his communication with the complainant? Ms. Auvil made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wharton, to say that the committee found Issue number 2 to be Exonerated.

A Roll Call vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Yes, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. There are Seven (7) ayes, the motion carries.

For Issue number 3: Were there any policy violations discovered that were not part of the initial reason for investigation? Ms. Auvil made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wharton, that the committee found issue number 3 to be Exonerated.

A roll call vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Yes, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. There are seven (7) ayes, the motion carries.

#### Discussion/Action regarding Complaint Number C24-010

For the issue in Complaint Number C24-010; Was the Transit Police Dispatcher unprofessional during her interaction with the complainant? Ms. Gordon made a motion seconded by Ms. Wharton that the committee found the Issue to be Exonerated.

A roll call vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Auvil – No, Mr. Blake – Yes, Mr. England – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. There are six (6) ayes, the motion carries.

#### Upcoming Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Civilian Oversight Committee Meeting is Tuesday January 28, 2025, at 5pm in the Board Room of the Authority, Root-McBride Building, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113. The public is welcome to attend in person.

#### Adjourn

5:59 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Ms. Auvil that the meeting be adjourned. There were seven (7) ayes, and none opposed. The meeting was adjourned.



# GCRTA Transit Police Department

## PUBLIC COMPLAINT FORM

Completed forms can be emailed to TPcomplaints@gcrt.org, mailed to the GCRTA Transit Police Department at ATTN: Transit Police; 1240 West 6th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113, or arrangements can be made to deliver the form by calling 216-356-3838. Upon receipt of a completed complaint form, the complaint will be assigned for investigation. Completed investigations will be classified as follows:

- **Sustained**- There is sufficient evidence to establish that the alleged act occurred and constituted misconduct.
- **Sustained in Part**- There is sufficient evidence to establish that one or more, but not all, alleged acts occurred.
- **Sustained for Violation Not Based on the Original Complaint**- There is sufficient evidence to establish that an act of misconduct occurred that was not part of the violations alleged in the Complaint.
- **Unfounded**- The alleged acts did not occur, did not involve Department personnel, or are frivolous.
- **Exonerated**- The alleged acts occurred, but were justified, lawful, and/or proper.
- **Not-sustained**- The facts and circumstances fail to establish if the conduct occurred.
- **Administratively Dismissed**-The complaint is not GCRTA related, does not involve a Transit Police employee, or is related to a service delay that is determined to be unavoidable.

### COMPLAINANT

Name Adacia Howard Douglas

Street Address [REDACTED] Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City [REDACTED] State OH Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address [REDACTED]

### SUBJECT(S) OF COMPLAINT Name(s), Badge Number(s), or Description(s) of accused personnel:

- White Male officer RTP
- White Male officer RTP
- Black Male officer RTP Front Desk worker

### WITNESSES (If necessary, give names/phone numbers of additional witnesses in incident detail below)

- Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



Location WILD SUPERIOR VEH MAIN OFFICE

Please provide details of the incident and the alleged misconduct, describe any sustained injuries and other facts related to the incident. Do not include unsubstantiated information such as gossip or rumor. Attach additional pages as necessary, including other reports or documentation, photographs, medical records, etc.

I was Jump On by 3 male RTA officer Unlawfully handcuffed behind my back, my property Taken Away Cellphone & book bag Then Unlawfully Search, Order to walk into a back room & then locked inside 5-10 minutes in cuffs. The 3 RTA officer fabricated A false Story that I Mr. Douglas had a warrant out for my arrest for the crimes of Carrying a concealed weapon, Out of Cuyahoga County. Eventually they released me admitting I had no Valid active warrant, They allowed me to sit bac in the original waiting lobby to finish makin my criminal complaint against the [REDACTED] for physically assaulting & threatening me. 6-11-24. while siting down A bald head white male [REDACTED] at my property & book bag, he ramage threw it after I demanded ~~the~~ stop & leave me alone. he even swated my hand away so he could continue Ramagin threw my book. He was Trying to snatch & grab my private items like cellphone & wallet. I made my oral complaint with all 3 officers. they told me they would investigate & come back another day & they will give me the warrant Details & case number

Pt 2. On My 2nd day w/o superior i entered told B/M officer I was there to file criminal report with there department about being criminal Assaulted & battered by him & his 2 white male partners. He Refuse & told me NO! he will not take my complaint and go somewhere else eventually Bald head w/male officer appeared to also Refuse to allow me to file me criminal complaint they then threat to arrest me and trespassed me from that location. They even came chargin at me as if to assault me again if I didnt leave. immediately fearin for my safety I left to avoid being assaulted,

These off'cer attacked me on both dates to prevent me from lawfully filling Criminal complaints. Against there friends, and themselves.

Complaint #3 I was assaulted <sup>Page 12</sup> 6-11-24 by a blac male bus driver on [REDACTED] bus stop he ran in my face threatening to Fucker kill my witch ass & he call me a nigger.

I understand that filing a false report of misconduct against a Peace Officer is in violation of section 2921.15 of the Ohio Revised Code, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

Adria H Douglas  
Signature of Complainant

7-17-24  
Date

Complaint received by:



Printed Name and Signature of Representative Accepting Complaint

7/17/24  
Date

1800  
Time

**DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY**

Investigating Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Investigative Actions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Civilian Oversight Committee Recommendation:**

Sustained       Sustained in Part       Sustained for Violation Not Based on Original Complaint  
 Unfounded       Exonerated       Non-sustained       Administratively Dismissed

**Final Determination:**

Sustained       Sustained in Part       Sustained for Violation Not Based on Original Complaint  
 Unfounded       Exonerated       Non-sustained       Administratively Dismissed