



City of Virginia Beach

INVESTIGATION REVIEW PANEL
(757) 385-8374
(757) 427-2731 FAX
VIRGINIA RELAY TTY: 711

VBgov.com
MUNICIPAL CENTER
BUILDING 18
2424 COURTHOUSE DRIVE
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23456-9056

MINUTES INVESTIGATION REVIEW PANEL

AUGUST 28, 2018

Municipal Center, Building 18 – Room 228, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Call to Order

Chair Susan T. Mayo called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Susan Mayo (Chair), Barbara Booker-Williams, William Hearst, and Robert Beasley

Absent: Nony Abrajano and Brian Dewan

Staff: Director of Human Resources Regina Hilliard, Deputy City Attorney Roderick Ingram, Executive Assistant Shelley Johnson, Administrative Specialist Kathryn Hinson, Captain John Orr, and Deputy Chief William T. Dean.

REVIEW HEARING

1. Case No. 2018-053 CC – Amber Guglielmini

Chair Mayo called for a review of the information in the case of Ms. Guglielmini at 3:05 p.m. Ms. Guglielmini was present for the hearing. Members from the IRP Panel and the staff of the Department of Human Resources, City Attorney's office, and the Virginia Beach Police Department introduced themselves to everyone in attendance.

- **Complainant Statement:** The complainant provided a statement that on the afternoon of March 16, Officer Smith was rude and uncaring after her dog, Archer, was shot and killed by a neighbor on March 16, 2018. Ms. Guglielmini alleged that VBPD failed to obtain witness statements and conduct a thorough investigation.
- **Internal Affairs Statement:** Both Captain John Orr and Deputy Chief Smith provided a brief update of the case and discussed the department's recommendations related to the complaint. On the first complaint of unsatisfactory performance in the handling of the case, the complaint was unfounded and no actions were taken against the officer. On the second complaint of the Officer being discourteous, the complaint was not sustained meaning the level of proof was not met and not enough information/evidence was provided to confirm or reject the complaint.

- **Vote:** 4-0 (Mayo, Booker-Williams, Beasley, and Hearst) to advise the City Manager that in its judgment the investigation is incomplete and found that the Police Department should have conducted witness interviews. Additionally, the Panel felt that Officer Smith could have been more compassionate towards Ms. Guglielmini that day and should have provided his business card to her in case she had any questions or concerns regarding the investigation. The panel also suggested that Officer Smith complete a sensitivity course and obtain additional customer service training.
- **Discussion:** The Panel met with Ms. Guglielmini and both Captain Orr and Deputy Chief Smith and notified them of the panel's findings. The hearing concluded at 3:50 p.m.

2. Request for Review – Sybil Seth Case No. 2018-097 CC

The panel did not make a determination and will reconvene to further discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Mayo at 4:09 p.m.