

**CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA
JANUARY 21, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

The Civilian Police Review Board held an in-person meeting on the above date and time.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Cassandra Johnson, Vice-Chair Kendra Pressley, and Board Members Sean Allen, Michael Sstrom, and Alexander Williams.

ALSO PRESENT: Deputy City Manager Keith Chadwell (City Manager's Staff Liaison), Assistant City Clerk Mary Bryant (Secretary to the Board), and Management Analyst Justin Rose (City Manager's Staff Liaison)

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The Secretary to the Board performed a roll call.

Subject: Action on Agenda

Member Sstrom suggested adding a discussion on broadening the CPRB's scope to include performance-of-duty considerations. The Chair accepted the addition.

MOTION to approve the agenda with the suggested updates. (Williams/Sstrom 5/0)

Subject: Action on Minutes

Chair Johnson noted an error on the agenda and suggested substituting the October 15, 2025 minutes with the correct August 20, 2025 closed session minutes.

MOTION to approve the November 19, 2025, Civilian Police Review Board Regular Meeting Minutes with the suggested correction. (Williams/Allen 5/0)

Public Comments

- Chair Johnson opened the floor for public comments.

Liaison Update (City Manager's Office)

Deputy City Manager Keith Chadwell provided the following administrative updates:

- Mr. Chadwell announced his departure as liaison to avoid the appearance of conflict, as the Durham Police Department falls under his portfolio.
- Justin Rose, Management Analyst, was introduced as the new Board liaison.
- Members were instructed to copy Administrative Coordinator Suzy Grandgent on communications with Mr. Rose to ensure document flow and continuity.

- Mr. Chadwell confirmed that Associate Attorney Kendall Carter remains assigned to support the Board and will attend meetings as necessary.

Chair Johnson closed the floor for public comments.

Subject: Closed Session

Chair Johnson moved that the Board enter closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(1) in order to protect information that is confidential pursuant to G.S. 160A-168. The motion was seconded by Member Williams and carried (5/0).

Time Entered: 6:22 p.m.

The board moved back into open session at 6:28 p.m.

Chair Johnson reported that during the closed session, the Board reviewed and approved the closed session minutes from the August 20, 2025, and November 19, 2025 meetings.

Subject: Old Business

- Community Events

Alexander Williams reported no responses yet to outreach efforts.

Member Pressley indicated that her community/neighborhood association may be open to another presentation, noting a prior positive response.

A tentative plan was discussed to coordinate a community presentation in May.

Member Siström reported that he is reaching out to the Durham Housing Authority about CPRB giving a presentation.

Subject: New Business

- Report on Community Presentation:

Member Siström reported on his presentation to Durham CAN (Congregations, Associations and Neighborhoods).

He stated that approximately 40 people were in attendance.

He highlighted community questions regarding the "Performance of Duty" exclusion and the process for granting hearings.

The Board discussed the feedback and clarified the difference between standard outreach presentations and the Community Forum.

- Discussion regarding scope expansion and process improvements:

Possible review of Performance of Duty exclusions.

Clarification of approval authority for scope changes (City Manager and/or Council).

Need for updates to the Board manual, website, and public materials if changes occur.

Possible improvements to the online intake form to reduce out-of-scope submissions.

Review of comparable models from Charlotte, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, and Baltimore.

It was agreed that further information and legal guidance would be requested before proceeding.

- Community Forum Planning

The Board discussed planning the annual Community Forum.

- Alternative venues (including the Durham Main Library auditorium).
- Hosting the forum on a Saturday afternoon in April to increase participation.
- Providing informational materials about available community resources.
- Potential attendance by police leadership and community affairs representatives.
- Ensuring the discussion remains structured and within scope.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Bryant
Assistant City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk