



City of Greenville Police Community Relations Committee

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Greenville City Council Chambers
200 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC 27834

Committee Members Present:

Carol Ann Naipaul (Chair)	District 2
Sonny Bass (Vice Chair)	District 5
Diane Kulik	At-Large
Mark Parker	District 1
Sterling Ruffin	District 4

Committee Members Absent:

Vacant	District 3
Vacant	Mayoral

City Staff Members Present:

Community Projects Coordinator, Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison
Lt. Dale Mills
Sgt. William Stokes

Chairperson Carol Naipaul called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Staff Liaison Devinder Culver called the roll call.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Diane Kulik made a motion to approve the agenda. Sonny Bass seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Naipaul then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for October 11, 2022. Sonny Bass made a motion to approve the minutes. Diane Kulik seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She introduced Lt. Dale Mills from the Internal Affairs Unit.

Lt. Mills began his presentation on the Internal Affairs Office (IA) with a brief history of his career which began in 1994 in Grifton. He began his time with Greenville Police Department in 2001. Served in various roles in and began his role as the Internal Affairs Investigator January 1, 2022.

Lt. Mills mentioned that IA is responsible for more than just complaints for example IA investigates:

- all employee crashes
- uses of force
- vehicle pursuits

Lt. Mills explained that when GPD receives complaints, the complaint is acknowledged and a case number is generated. IA then has 60 days to investigate the complaint. The complainant is then sent a letter that the investigation is closed but the letter will not provide any details because according to North Carolina law personnel information cannot be disclosed. This can be frustrating for the complainant.

Lt. Mills shared some statistics for 2021. There were:

111,367 Officer Contacts of which - 38,242 were citizen initiated
- 73,125 were officer initiated of these 16,147 were traffic stops

Lt. Mills said that the traffic stops generated the most complaints. He explained the possible uses of force such as: the use of the baton, pepper spray, Taser, physical, K9 and firearms. He stated that with the use of body-worn cameras the job had become a little easier as there was less of the “he said, she said” because the camera footage could be reviewed. Lt. Mills explained that the complainant according to the law could view all the body-worn camera footage in which the complainant’s voice could be heard or is seen in the video. Once IA completes the investigation it is reviewed by the Majors, Deputy Chief and Chief. The Chief makes the final decision.

As afore-mentioned, traffic stops generate the most complaints. Lt. Mills explained that an officer must have a reason to stop you. So if you do not want to be stopped make sure you have your insurance paid, taxes paid, registration up to date and driver’s license is in order. If you are stopped do not try your case by the side of the road wait until you get to court. Do as the officer tells you, do not resist. If the officer asks for your driver’s license, give it to the officer. The driver’s license does not belong to you, it is an official document, if you have it give it to the officer. If you do not produce it the officer can ask you to get out of your vehicle. If you resist then the officer may apply force to extract you from the vehicle. So comply with the officer’s requests. Lt. Mills mentioned that there is a video on GPD’s website which explains “What to do if you are stopped by the Police” and he shared the brochure on what to do at a traffic stop. He also mentioned the brochure on “Know Your Rights.”

A lively discussion followed about how to educate the public, especially new drivers about the right way to interact with the police at a traffic stop.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul expressed her thanks to Lt. Mills for a most informative presentation. Mrs. Naipaul also thanked the community members, the Committee and Greenville Police Department personnel for coming out this evening. She reminded everyone of the next meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Tuesday December 13, 2022 in City Hall Conference Room 337. Elections, orientation and planning for the upcoming year will be on the agenda. She strongly encouraged everyone to attend. There being no other business Mrs. Naipaul asked for a motion to adjourn. Sonny Bass made a motion to adjourn. Diane Kulik seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Devinder Culver

Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison