

Independent Community Policing Review Board
January 7, 2025, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Charles Houston Recreation Center – Senior Room

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Christopher Lewis started the meeting at 7:08 PM.

Board members present:

Suzanne Berkey
Christopher Lewis, Chair
Lawrence Lewis
Deborah Porter, Secretary
Alexis Stackhouse, Vice Chair

Board members absent:

Darrlynn Franklin¹
Jeanne O’Toole³

Board members participating virtually:

Jules Tamegue

WHEREUPON, on motion by Vice Chair Stackhouse, seconded by member Berkey, the Board unanimously approved allowing Jules Tamegue to participate in the meeting electronically due to illness. Opposed, none.

City Staff present:

Ameratu Kamara, Independent Policing Auditor/Director
Ashley Kollmorgen, Management Analyst
Meghan Roberts, Deputy City Attorney
Robert Porter, Assistant City Attorney

2. Introduction (Read by Chair, Christopher Lewis)

The Independent Community Policing Review Board (ICPRB) was established by the Alexandria City Council via unanimously adopted Resolution 2950 on June 9, 2020, which condemned police brutality and systemic racism; reaffirmed that Black Lives Matter; and stated Council’s intent to establish a community policing review board in our City. The resolution also affirmed that the City of Alexandria and all government officials have a duty to ensure the protection of all communities through actions and reform, including in the justice system. After careful consideration, at its public hearing on April 17, 2021, the City Council voted unanimously to adopt an ordinance establishing the structure of a new Independent

¹ Board member’s absence was excused

³ Board member’s absence was excused

Community Policing Review Board, to be effective as of July 1, 2021, along with its authorizing state law. The City Council also established the Office of the Alexandria Independent Policing Auditor (AIPA).

3. Board's Purpose (Read by Chair, Christopher Lewis)

The Independent Community Policing Review Board is an eight-member board whose purpose is to enhance policing legitimacy and to increase and maintain trust between and among the police department, city council, city manager and the public. The board shall provide timely, fair and objective review of administrative investigations conducted by the Independent Policing Auditor and Alexandria Police Department (APD) as well as the Independent Policing Auditor's evaluation of policing policies, practices, procedures, and outcomes in Alexandria. The Board shall also recommend meaningful assessments and corrective recommendations intended to remedy discriminatory practices, including racial and social inequities; ensure the protection of all communities through recommended actions and reform, including in the criminal justice system; and recommend strategies for effectively implementing these reforms in our community.

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

WHEREUPON, on motion by Vice Chair Stackhouse, seconded by Secretary Porter, the Board unanimously approved the agenda. Opposed, none.

5. Approval of Minutes from December 3rd, 2025.

WHEREUPON, on motion by member Berkey, seconded by Secretary Porter, the Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes from December 3rd, 2025, with corrections. Opposed, none.

6. Public Comments

No online public comment(s) were noted at the time of the public comment period, however, a participant later joined and the newly appointed Chair, Deborah Porter and the Auditor advised that unfortunately the public comment period had passed and the individual could reach out to the auditor's office or the ICPRB directly.

Fatima Alexander, a family member of Mr. Alan Tucker II, addressed the ICPRB regarding the delay in scheduling the hearing related to the in-custody death investigation. Chair Christopher Lewis Chair Christopher Lewis shared that we must wait as a Board for the Police Department or the Auditor's office is complete and then it is provided to us. The Board would then review and hold public hearings. The Board has not yet received information. Ms. Alexander also shared additional remarks expressing the family's concerns and emotions surrounding the prolonged timeline and perceived lack of transparency as they have not received timely updates. She further stated that portraying Mr. Tucker's death solely as a drug overdose and not as a "possible drug overdose" diminishes his dignity and worth as an individual. The family is seeking answers, transparency, and accountability, and requested that the process reflect the truth and honor that Mr. Tucker's life mattered.

7. New Board Business

✓ Board Elections

Nominated Slate for Officers in 2026:

Alexis Stackhouse nominated Deborah Porter for Chair of the ICPRB.

Deborah Porter nominated Alexis Stackhouse for Vice Chair of the ICPRB

Alexis Stackhouse nominated Suzanne Berkey for Secretary of the ICPRB.

WHEREUPON, on motion by Secretary Porter, seconded by Vice Chair Stackhouse, the Board unanimously approved the nominated slate for officers in 2026. Opposed, none.

✓ Engagement with ACHS – PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) – Suzanne Berkey

Suzanne Berkey met with the President of the PTSA, who expressed openness to engagement and collaboration. It was recommended that the ICPRB attend an upcoming PTSA meeting, with February 23 suggested for two ICPRB members and the Auditor to participate; an alternative date of March 16 was also proposed. The PTSA is hosting a career fair on January 12th and offered to display ICPRB business cards or other informational materials. Additionally, it was suggested that the ICPRB webpage be linked on the PTSA website. The possibility of featuring information about the ICPRB in the high school newspaper was also discussed, with Suzanne agreeing to take the lead on this effort.

8. Auditor Update

Mr. Alan Tucker II Update:

The CIRT (critical incident response team) investigation was completed on December 27, 2025, and a 20-slide presentation was provided with the team's recommendations. The APD Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) subsequently requested a formal written report, which is currently pending. Once OPR receives the official report and completes its review, the materials will be forwarded to AIPA. Upon receipt, the Auditor will be able to finalize her report and then submit it to the ICPRB for their review. It will also be sent to the Chief of Police, OPR, the City Attorney's Office, City Council and the City Manager's Office. Also, under the Ordinance it will be made available to the public on the AIPA and ICPRB websites as well.

The Auditor recommended that the ICPRB consider selecting a date for the public hearing that allows Board members sufficient time to review the final report outside of the regular monthly meeting schedule, while also providing adequate public notice. She further advised that when the final report is submitted to the ICPRB, it will include all materials received from CIRT, including the slide presentation. The Auditor emphasized that both the review period and the public notice requirements should be taken into consideration when scheduling the public hearing.

Public Hearing:

The Auditor reviewed common practices related to public hearings and noted that she is

currently coordinating with City officials to better understand how City Council public hearings are typically conducted. Once those details are finalized, she will connect with Board leadership to coordinate next steps and share relevant information. Vice Chair Stackhouse also suggested contacting NACOLE to determine whether they have resources or guidance available regarding best practices or examples from other jurisdictions for conducting public hearings.

Conflict of Interest:

AIPA, APD, and potentially the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office (COA) have received FOIA requests from a law firm representing the family of Mr. Alan Tucker II, indicating a potential for future litigation. Under the applicable ordinance, the COA is authorized to determine whether a conflict of interest exists; once such a conflict is identified, the Board is permitted to retain outside legal counsel.

The COA's office has provided a list of attorneys for consideration. The Auditor indicated that she will first contact the individuals on the list to assess their interest. Upon confirmation, she will request resumes and background information and then present those materials to the Board for review and consideration.

Board members asked whether additional attorneys could be added to the provided list. Deputy City Attorney Meghan Roberts clarified that, pursuant to statute § 2-4-225(a)(2), the list of attorneys is submitted at the recommendation of the City Attorney. While Board members may suggest names for consideration, those recommendations must be submitted to the City Attorney's office and inclusion on the list is not guaranteed.

9. Agenda Items and Next Meeting Scheduling

- ✓ Confirm future meeting dates:
 - February 4th, 2026 – Monthly Board Mtg – NACOLE Training – Part I (FY26 training)
 - February 28th - APD Training (8 hours)
 - March 4th, 2026 – Monthly Board Mtg
 - April 1st, 2026 – Monthly Board Mtg – NACOLE Training – Part II (FY26 Training)
 - May 6th, 2026 – Monthly Board Mtg – NACOLE Training – Part III (FY26 Training)

10. Announcements.

- ✓ Reminders:
 - If any Board member cannot attend a scheduled meeting, please alert all parties to ensure staff can take the necessary action as needed **no less than 2 days prior** to the scheduled meeting.
 - You MUST maintain a current status for ALL city security training assigned. Failure to comply could result in the loss of access to your city email address by ITS. Board business cannot be sent to your personal email address.

Check your city MS Outlook email and calendar regularly for updates regarding upcoming related community engagement activities as well as other important information shared by AIPA staff.

11. Motion to Adjourn the meeting.

WHEREUPON, on motion by member C. Lewis, seconded by Vice Chair Stackhouse, the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. Opposed, none.

The meeting concluded at 7:58 PM.

Thank you for viewing and attending the Independent Community Policing Review Board's meeting today. Remember, the Board is here to help you address any concerns you have regarding interaction with an Alexandria Police Department employee. While our primary purpose is to review investigations of misconduct by APD, even if your concern does not fall within our purview, the Independent Community Policing Review Board will collaborate with the Independent Policing Auditor to address your concerns or commendations with APD.

Our Board meetings are open to the public, and all are encouraged to attend.