November 6, 2024

TO: Daniel Alvarez, Chief of Metro Transit Police Department
600 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001

CC: WMATA Board - 600 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001

SUBJ: 2024 (Q3 & Q4) Case Reviews performed by Metro Transit Police Department Investigations Review Panel

Greetings,

Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD) Investigations Review Panel reviewed five (5) 2023 Q3 cases, and three (3) Q4 cases. We respectfully submit the following findings and recommendations:

1. [redacted] **– Failure to take Necessary Police Action While on Duty**
    a. Background – Complainant was advised that she was assaulted by MTPD Officer.
    b. Findings – The Review Panel reviewed the statements and video. Officer appears to assist the complainant, picks up items and assists her to the Bus Shelter and departs later. The Bus Operator informed Officer of a disorderly person.
    c. Recommendations: None
        i. The Review Panel concurred with the findings in the investigation.
2. [redacted] **– Excessive Force – Force That is Excessive in Scope, Duration, or Severity**
    a. Background – Complainant tried to jump while on the platform and stated he was dragged and assaulted by the Officer. The individual appeared having disorderly conduct while in the station.
    b. Findings – The Review Panel reviewed the statements and also the video of the incident.
    c. Recommendations: None
    i. The Review Panel concurred with the findings in the investigation. There was some discussion among the panel and perhaps the officer while attempting to get the individual away from the platform, clearly had a difficult situation while dealing with someone not in compliance and the officer operating in a safety of the citizen situation. The panel agreed with the findings in the investigation.
3. [redacted] – Rude, Discourteous, or Inappropriate Comments/Behavior or Gestures
    a. Background – Metro card not working.
    b. Findings – The Review Panel could not hear the audio from the video. The initial interaction between the Metro Officer and the individual. The Officer was rude and discourteous with the individual. Each person said things and apologized, even on camera.
    c. Recommendations:
        i. None. The Panel agreed with the investigation and there were questions regarding disciplinary action against the Officer. There was a verbal counseling conducted which was appropriate.

4. [redacted] **– Criminal Violations including Arrestable Traffic Violations**
    a. Background – Complainant states that his genitals and buttocks were groped. Sexual Assault while being searched.
    b. Findings – The panel members reviewed the video. The Officer was not observed groping the individual at any time.
    c. Recommendations:
        i. None. The Panel agreed with the investigation conducted. At no point was the Officer seen groping the complainant.
5. [redacted] **– Rude, Discourteous, or Inappropriate Comments/Behavior or Gestures**
    a. Background – There was notification from the Customer Service Call Center alleging mistreatment from a MTPD Officer. Complainant alleged that the Officer threatened her.
    b. Findings – The Review Panel reviewed the video and agree with the investigation findings of the case being unfounded.
    c. Recommendations: None. The citizen's complaint was not true and definitely not an accurate representation of the facts. There was indication of multiple MTPD personnel attempting to assist the customer.
6. [redacted] **– Mishandling of Prisoner's Property**
    a. Background – Complainant alleged his property was taken and clothes removed when he was arrested.
    b. Findings – Unfounded.
    c. Recommendations: None.
7. [redacted] – **Failure to Submit or File Required Reports**
    a. Background – Complainant's license plate was missing.
    b. Findings – The Review Panel reviewed the information and statements from the investigation's findings.
    c. Recommendations: None.
8. [redacted] **– Unnecessary Force, Force Used When Not Required**
    a. Background – Metro rider jumped over the fare gate and was stopped by an Officer.
    b. Findings – The Panel reviewed the video and saw the interactions. She would not provide her name or other information when asked. She was place in handcuffs and escorted out of the entry/exit area.
    c. Recommendations: None. The force was necessary to protect the complainant and also the officers. The Fair Evasion was indicated and the juvenile was not truthful about the encounter. The student had to cooperate but chose not to. The Review Panel thought this case would be a good one for metro trainees to role play a scenario of this incident to assist in developing their skills when dealing with youth.

The Review Board Panel request that since this was the last group of cases for this panel board, we are not sure if members will be extended another opportunity to continue working as a panel member. Also, after you have had time to review our findings and recommendations, we would appreciate your response to this letter, including what actions were taken.

Sincerely,

Sheila Williams

Chairperson, Metro Transit Police Department Investigation Review Panel