

TALLAHASSEE CITIZENS POLICE REVIEW BOARD (CPRB)

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tallahassee Citizens Police Review Board

December 5, 2022

The Tallahassee Citizens Police Review Board Unanimously (9-0) Supports Taylor Biro Remaining on the Board

In Response to Requests for Her Removal

(Tallahassee, FL). At its monthly meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2022, Tallahassee's Citizens Police Review Board voted unanimously (9-0) in support Taylor Biro remaining on the Board. Ms. Biro has been on the Board since its inception in March 2021 and has demonstrated unquestionable professionalism and integrity when providing her input on matters related to recommendations for TPD's policy changes and performing all her duties as a Board member. Further, Ms. Biro has consistently remained neutral when reviewing TPD's closed cases and has never shown bias towards the community or the Tallahassee Police Department.

The most recent public conversations regarding Ms. Biro's removal from CPRB have been based on completely inaccurate information. At the October 12, 2022, City Commission Meeting, Commissioner Diane Williams-Cox stated, "You had a board member who had a cup on the table that said, 'f the police'." Additionally, in its November 16, 2022 press release, the Florida Police Benevolent Association (PBA) Big Bend Chapter called for "the immediate removal of Taylor Biro from the CPRB" because she "brought a coffee mug to a recent CPRB meeting containing a vitriolic anti-police message." Both assertions are factually inaccurate. Further, Ms.

Biro has brought this same mug to every Board meeting for the past (nearly) two years and no Board Member has ever seen a sticker that stated, “F*** the Police.”

The Board respects the hard work that each Tallahassee Police Officer does each day to keep the Tallahassee community safe. The Board also believes there is no place at any of its meetings for any paraphernalia that says “F*** the Police”—from any Board Member or anyone attending the meetings. This language is offensive and completely inappropriate. However, there has not been any evidence to date that shows Ms. Biro had/has a mug with this language.

The Citizens Police Review Board is made up of nine individuals from the Tallahassee community that represent diversity in their backgrounds, experiences, race, gender, and perspectives. And it is important that the Board’s makeup continues to represent different viewpoints in order to continue to positively impact TPD’s policies and procedures. And this is why Ms. Biro must remain on the Board.

The Board continues to encourage each member of the Community, as well as the Mayor and City Commissioners, to attend its monthly meetings. It is an opportunity for everyone to witness CPRB’s process in dealing with various TPD policies and procedures, as well as matters of significant interest to the community. It also gives the public a chance to see firsthand how the Board operates in a neutral and unbiased manner.

Tallahassee Citizen Police Review Board:

Edward Gaines	Patrick O’Bryant	Taylor Biro
Rozetta Bobo	Barry Munroe	Niya Hubbard
Suzanne Van Wyk	Rashad Mujahid	Malik Gary

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About Tallahassee Citizens Police Review Board:

Tallahassee CPRB is a nine-member volunteer board of citizens with five members appointed by each member of the City Commission. Four members are appointed by the City Commission from nominations from community-based civic and social service organizations. The purpose of the CPRB is to foster transparency, enhance communication, and ensure a relationship of trust and respect between the Tallahassee Police Department and the community by creating an unbiased panel of citizens to review completed Tallahassee Police Department internal affairs reports, cases, and issues relating to law enforcement that are of importance or of interest to the community and the city, and to increase and demonstrate police accountability and credibility with the public.

- Tallahassee CPRB is also a member of National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE). NACOLE is a non-profit organization that brings together individuals and agencies working to establish or improve oversight of police officers in the United States. NACOLE is dedicated to promoting greater police accountability through the establishment or improvement of citizen oversight agencies by:
 - Organizing an annual training conference to increase the knowledge and skills of staff members and volunteers who work in oversight
 - Act as a resource to jurisdictions considering the creation or revitalization of oversight bodies
 - Identifying best practices as they emerge from the experiences of members
 - Encouraging networking, communication and information-sharing to counter the isolation inherent in the profession
 - Furnishing information to government officials and community representatives that will support their advocacy of oversight in their states, counties, cities and towns

CPRB meets on the 1st Thursday of each month @ 5:30PM-8:30PM at Smith-Williams Service Center (2295 Pasco Street/Next to Walker-Ford Community Center). Board meetings are publicly noticed

at: <https://www.talgov.com/Main/CityofTallahasseeMasterCalendarEventDetail.aspx?list=y>