

HONOLULU POLICE COMMISSION  
City and County of Honolulu  
State of Hawaii  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
January 18, 2017

CALL TO ORDER Chair Sword called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, in Conference Room A at the Honolulu Police Department Alapai Headquarters

PRESENT Max J. Sword, Chair  
Cha Thompson, Vice-Chair  
Luella T. Costales, Member  
Steven H. Levinson, Member  
Loretta A. Sheehan, Member  
Marc C. Tilker, Member

EXCUSED Eddie Flores, Member

Daniel W. S. Lawrence, Executive Officer  
Krishna F. Jayaram, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
Erin Marie Yamashita, Secretary

ALSO PRESENT Cary N. Okimoto, Acting Chief of Police  
Jerry J. Inouye, Deputy Chief  
William R. Axt, Acting Deputy Chief  
Alan K. Bluemke, Assistant Chief  
Janet E. Crotteau, Assistant Chief  
Clayton G. Kau, Assistant Chief  
Ryan T. Nishibun, Major  
Calvin J. K. Tong, Major  
Lynne Uyema, Legal Advisor

ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM Counsel Jayaram ascertained that a quorum was present

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

Acting Chief Okimoto reported the first vehicle fatality of this year has occurred in Waianae and involved a pedestrian.

Presentation on Rape Test Kits

Chair Sword deferred this item to the February 1, 2017, meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Tilker made a motion to approve the December 7, 2016, meeting minutes. Vice-Chair Thompson seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Findings

Vice-Chair Thompson reviewed the Commission's report on actions taken on public complaints at the executive session of December 7, 2016, and informed those in attendance that the November 2, 2016, executive session minutes were also approved. Vice-Chair Thompson then made a motion to accept the report. Commissioner Costales seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Cases Reviewed on December 7, 2016

Total Cases Reviewed :	4	Total Officers Involved:	6
Sustained	1	Sustained	1
Not Sustained	3	Not Sustained	5
Exonerated	0	Exonerated	0
Unfounded	0	Unfounded	0

Requests for Legal Counsel

Commissioner Costales made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Department of the Corporation Counsel and schedule a contested case hearing for former reserve officer Joseph A. Becera for USDC Civil No. CV16-00096 DKW-KSC. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion carried. Mr. Becera will be informed, in writing, of the Commission's decision.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Mr. Tenari Maafala, SHOPO President, attended the meeting and provided oral testimony on behalf of SHOPO concerning Chief Kealoha. He shared that Chief Kealoha is more than just a chief to him, as a police officer.

Other than what has been reported in the news, he has no other information on the situation, and that Chief Kealoha has decided to retire. Mr. Maafala shared that he has spoken with him and let him know that he respects his decision, even though he doesn't want to see him leave, and he is doing the most honorable thing for himself, for his family, and for HPD as a whole.

Mr. Maafala expressed his confidence in Acting Chief Okimoto, Deputy Chief Inouye, Acting Deputy Chief Axt and the command staff and shared his pride in being a member of HPD and that officers continue to work hard despite what is going on to make our city a better place and briefly discussed the current incidents at Maelaekahana Beach Park and in Kahaluu.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:08 p.m. Commissioner Sheehan made a motion to enter into executive session to review agenda items pursuant to HRS 92-5(a), subsections (2), (4), (5), (6) and (8): to consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer or employee or of charges brought against the officer or employee, where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved; to consult with its attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities; to investigate proceedings regarding criminal misconduct; to consider sensitive matters related to public safety or security; to deliberate or make a decision upon a matter that requires the consideration of information that must be kept confidential pursuant to state or federal law, or a court order. Vice-Chair Thompson seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Commission returned to the open session at 5:50 p.m.

STATUS OF CHIEF OF POLICE

Chair Sword announced the Commission met in executive session and stated the Commission voted five to one to enter into a retirement agreement with Chief Kealoha. The Commission also voted unanimously to make the retirement agreement public. Should anyone wish to have a copy of the retirement agreement he asked they send a written request through Executive Officer Daniel Lawrence.

Chair Sword then stated commissioners not only have the duty to hire and fire the police chief, they also have a duty to the City and County of Honolulu. The Commission feels the police department needs to move on for the morale and welfare of the Honolulu Police Department and the community. He then read the media release which provided information on the retirement agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:12 p.m. Vice-Chair Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Tilker seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.