

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-73

INITIAL APPOINTMENTS OF THE SEVEN MEMBERS TO THE CIVILIAN
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, under Article VI, Section 4 of the Bylaws of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority ("Authority"), the Board of Trustees is authorized to establish special advisory committees; and

WHEREAS, in its efforts to provide greater transparency, to seek community input, and to improve relationships between the community and the Authority in the modern policing environment, on August 23, 2022, the Board of Trustees adopted Resolution 2022-82, creating an independent Civilian Oversight Committee ("COC"); and

WHEREAS, the COC's purpose is to review public complaints filed against the Authority's Transit Police Department employees; and

WHEREAS, the COC will receive, investigate, and make recommendations for the resolution of public complaints regarding alleged misconduct by Transit Police employees; and

WHEREAS, under Section 222.05(b)(1) of the Codified Rules and Regulations of the Authority, the Board of Trustees is required to appoint seven (7) members to serve on the COC; and

WHEREAS, under Section 222.05(b)(2)(E) of the Codified Rules and Regulations of the Authority, at least one member of the COC shall be a retired police officer with Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy experience; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees created an Ad Hoc Selection Committee for interviewing applicants to the COC and recommending seven (7) candidates for appointment; and

WHEREAS, under Section 222.05(b)(3)(C) of the Codified Rules and Regulations of the Authority, to ensure that the COC member terms will be staggered, two COC members' initial appointments shall be for one (1) year, two COC members' initial appointments shall be for two (2) years, and three COC members' initial appointments shall be for the full three (3) years; and

WHEREAS, Members of the COC will receive unlimited transit privileges during their service and will be compensated in the amount of one thousand, eight hundred dollars (\$1,800.00) per year, paid at a rate of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month; and

WHEREAS, the Ad Hoc Selection Committee interviewed applicants for the COC and recommended appointment of the following seven (7) candidates to the Board of Trustees:

Auvil, Elise: Elise has served as an assistant public defender in both Philadelphia and Cleveland and served as an associate counsel for GCRTA from 1997 to 2003. Elise was also the former Chief of Staff for Mayor Justin Bibb. Elise is currently the Human Resources Consultant for EHA Solutions, Ltd. and has held that role for 8 years.

Clary, Timothy: Timothy has experience working as an attorney in a private firm handling litigation as well as serving as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Cuyahoga County. Presently, Timothy is working as an assistant public defender in the Cuyahoga County Public Defender's Office.

Gordon, Jakolya: Jakolya has been a member of various community organizations including the Cuyahoga County Child Fatality Review Committee, Alliance for HOPE International, and the Alcohol, Drug, Addiction, & Mental Health Services Board. Jakolya currently works as a program specialist for the Cuyahoga County Public Safety & Justice Services and has held that role for 13 years.

Morris, David: David has 20+ years of HR experience, with job duties and responsibilities including handling investigations of employee misconduct and citizen complaints. David presently works as the Human Resources Manager for the City of Bedford Heights.

Sims, Steven: Steven has engaged in public service throughout Cuyahoga County and Cleveland in various roles, including at GCRTA as the Director of the Office of Business Development. Steven currently serves as the President/CEO of the Greater Cleveland Community Credit Union, a financial institution focused on serving the unbanked and underserved communities of Cuyahoga County.

Taylor, George (OPOTA trained, retired police officer): George is a retired uniformed police officer who served the Toledo Police Department for more than 30 years. After retiring from service as a police officer, George continued to serve the community in various roles such as the Director of Public Safety and Justice Services for Cuyahoga County and the Chief Deputy of the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department.

Wharton, Rebecca: Rebecca presently works as the HR manager for Malachite Innovations, L.L.C. and has responsibility and oversight of over 60 company clients. Rebecca has a history working in a multitude of HR-related positions including the management of all aspects of HR duties and responsibilities. Rebecca also worked as a constituent liaison for the State of Ohio's Department of Public Safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cuyahoga County, Ohio:

Section 1. That candidates Elise Auvil, Jakolya Gordon, and George Taylor shall be appointed as members of the Civilian Oversight Committee for an initial appointment term of three (3) years.

Section 2. That candidates Timothy Clary and Steven Sims shall be appointed as members of the Civilian Oversight Committee for an initial appointment term of two (2) years.

Section 3. That candidates David Morris and Rebecca Wharton shall be appointed as members of the Civilian Oversight Committee for an initial appointment term of one (1) year.


Section 4. That the compensation for Civilian Oversight Committee members shall be paid from the Secretary/Treasurer - Board of Trustees department budget.

Section 5. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: September 26, 2023



President

Attest: 

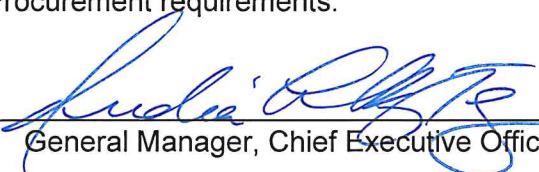
Secretary/Treasurer



TITLE/DESCRIPTION: INITIAL APPOINTMENT OF THE SEVEN MEMBERS TO THE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE	Resolution No.: 2023-73
	Date: September 21, 2023
	Initiator: Board of Trustees
ACTION REQUEST: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Review/Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

- 1.0 PURPOSE/SCOPE: This resolution will appoint seven members to the Civilian Oversight Committee ("COC"), thereby allowing the COC to begin operations and receive complaints. The COC shall have the power to receive, investigate, and make recommendations for the resolution of public complaints regarding alleged misconduct by Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority's Transit Police Department ("TP").
- 2.0 DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION: The COC is intended to give voice to the community and enhance transparency and accountability through an independent review and investigation of complaints of excessive use of force incidents and public complaints regarding TP. Appointment of the seven COC members will allow the COC to begin operating.
- 3.0 PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND: Does not apply.
- 4.0 DBE/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BACKGROUND: Does not apply.
- 5.0 POLICY IMPACT: Under Section 222.05(b)(1) of the Codified Rules and Regulations of the Authority, the Board of Trustees ("Board") shall appoint seven (7) members to the COC who are representative of the diverse communities within Cuyahoga County, Ohio.
- 6.0 ECONOMIC IMPACT: Members of the COC will receive unlimited transit privileges during their service. Members of the COC will also be compensated in the amount of one thousand, eight hundred dollars (\$1,800.00) per year, paid at a rate of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month. Compensation for COC members shall be paid from the Secretary/Treasurer – Board of Trustees department budget.
- 7.0 ALTERNATIVES: Not adopting this resolution. The COC will not be able to begin operation.
- 8.0 RECOMMENDATION: The seven candidates for appointment to the COC were chosen after an extensive application and interview process conducted by an Ad Hoc Selection Committee consisting of three (3) Board members, as well as after review and consideration by the whole Board. It is recommended that this resolution is passed appointing the seven members to the COC.
- 9.0 ATTACHMENTS: None.

Recommended and certified as appropriate to the availability of funds, legal form and conformance with the Procurement requirements.



General Manager, Chief Executive Officer