



Greater Cleveland  
Regional Transit Authority

1240 West 6th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1302  
Phone: 216-566-5100  
riderta.com

## MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the following meeting of the Civilian Oversight Committee of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will take place on **Tuesday July 29, 2025**, in the Board Room of the Authority, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, OH 44113 for consideration of the listed items and such other items that may properly come before the Committee and be acted upon. Members of the public may attend in person.

The meeting package will be posted on RTA's website at (<https://www.riderta.com/coc>).

5:00 P.M. Civilian Oversight Committee

Review of Complaint Number C25-003.

Executive Session Requested –

- To consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual.
- To enable the COC to conference with GCRTA attorneys for information-gathering, fact-finding, and to receive legal advice.

India L. Birdsong Terry  
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

IBT: eb  
Attachment

## AGENDA

### CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

5:00 p.m.

Committee Members: Mr. Jonathan England, Chair  
Mr. David Morris, Vice-Chair  
Ms. Elise Hara Auvil  
Mr. Michael Blake  
Ms. Jakolya Gordon  
Mr. George Taylor  
Ms. Rebecca Wharton

Board of Trustees Liaison: Ms. Lauren R. Welch

Transit Police/  
GCRTA Liaison: Commander Orlando Hudson

Executive Assistant/  
COC Secretary: Ms. Emily Bailey

- I. Call to order.
- II. Roll Call.
- III. Certification regarding notice of committee meeting.
- IV. Approval of May 27, 2025, meeting minutes.
- V. Introduction of Complaint Number C25-003.
- VI. Executive Session Requested:
  - To consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual.
  - To enable the COC to conference with GCRTA attorneys for information-gathering, fact-finding, and to receive legal advice.
- VII. Discussion/Action regarding Complaint Number C25-003.

- VIII. New business.
- Reports and Announcements
  - Notice of COC Social
- IX. Old Business
- X. Adjourn.

## Minutes

Greater Cleveland RTA Civilian Oversight Committee  
5:01 p.m., Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Civilian Oversight Committee Members:** Elise Auvil, Michael Blake, Jonathan England, Jakolya Gordon (arrived late), David Morris, George Taylor, Rebecca Wharton

**Not present:** None

**GCRTA BOT:** None

**Staff:** Bailey, Caver, Darden, Degraffinried, Gettings, Hudson, Sulik, Schreiner

**Public:** None

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. There were six (6) Committee members present. Ms. Gordon provided notice that she would be slightly late to the meeting and arrived during executive session.

It was advised that notice of this meeting had been posted more than twenty-four hours in advance of the meeting, that the usual notification had been given to the news media and other interested persons, and that all requirements of the Ohio Revised Code and Rules and Bylaws of the Board of Trustees regarding notice of meeting had been complied with.

### Approval of March 25, 2025, COC Meeting Minutes and May 5, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Mr. Morris for approval. All were in favor, and none opposed. The minutes for both meetings were approved.

### Executive Session Requested

5:02 p.m. – it was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Mr. Morris that the Committee enter executive session to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual. A roll call vote was taken; Mr. England –Yes, Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. There are six (6) ayes, motion carries.

7:41 p.m. – It was moved by Mr. Morris and seconded by Ms. Wharton to come out of executive session. A roll call vote was taken; Mr. England –Yes, Mr. Morris – Yes, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – Yes, Mr. Taylor – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. There are seven (7) ayes, motion carries.

### Discussion / Action regarding Complaint Number C25-001

For Complaint Number C25-001 there were three issues identified, and the COC addressed each issue in turn.

### Issue 1

During the first call for service (incident #25-10947), Did officer Ballah have the legal authority to advise the Complainant that they would be removed from the coach?

Ms. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wharton, that the Committee find Issue One to be "Exonerated." There were seven (7) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

## **Issue 2**

During the second call for service (Incident #10955) did officer Ballah refuse to provide the Complainant with a number to file a complaint against the operator?

Ms. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wharton, that the Committee find Issue Two to be "Unfounded." There were seven (7) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

## **Issue 3**

Did Officer Ballah dismiss the Complainant's claims of the operator being unprofessional and condescending?

Ms. Gordon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wharton, that the Committee find Issue Three to be "Not Sustained." There were seven (7) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Mr. England stated that during the Committee's investigation, the COC determined that there was a fourth issue to be reviewed. Ms. Auvil made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gordon, to frame the issue as: Did Officer Ballah adequately respond to the original complaint?

Mr. Morris made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gordon, that the Committee find Issue Four to be "Sustained." . A roll call vote was taken; Mr. England – No, Mr. Morris – No, Ms. Auvil – Yes, Mr. Blake – No, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Mr. Taylor – No, Ms. Wharton – Yes. There are three (3) ayes and four (4) nays; the motion does not pass.

## **New Business**

Ms. Wharton asked that the COC Chair work with the COC Secretary to plan a social hour for the Committee and their friends and family, to get to know each other better.

Ms. Bailey reminded the Committee that the RTA 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is planned for June 21<sup>st</sup> from 1pm to 5pm, at Settlers Landing. Committee members as well as the community are invited to attend the event.

## **Adjourn**

7:49 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Ms. Auvil that the meeting be adjourned. There were seven (7) ayes, and none opposed. The meeting was adjourned.

The next regularly scheduled Civilian Oversight Committee Meeting is Tuesday July 27, 2025, at 5pm in the Board Room of the Authority, Root-McBride Building, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113. The public is welcome to attend in person.



# GCRTA Transit Police Department

## PUBLIC COMPLAINT FORM

Completed forms can be emailed to [TPcomplaints@gcrt.org](mailto:TPcomplaints@gcrt.org), mailed to the GCRTA Transit Police Department at ATTN: Transit Police; 1240 West 6th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113, or arrangements can be made to deliver the form by calling 216-356-3838. Upon receipt of a completed complaint form, the complaint will be assigned for investigation. Completed investigations will be classified as follows:

- **Sustained-** There is sufficient evidence to establish that the alleged act occurred and constituted misconduct.
- **Sustained in Part-** There is sufficient evidence to establish that one or more, but not all, alleged acts occurred.
- **Sustained for Violation Not Based on the Original Complaint-** There is sufficient evidence to establish that an act of misconduct occurred that was not part of the violations alleged in the Complaint.
- **Unfounded-** The alleged acts did not occur, did not involve Department personnel, or are frivolous.
- **Exonerated-** The alleged acts occurred, but were justified, lawful, and/or proper.
- **Not-sustained-** The facts and circumstances fail to establish if the conduct occurred.
- **Administratively Dismissed-** The complaint is not GCRTA related, does not involve a Transit Police employee, or is related to a service delay that is determined to be unavoidable.

### COMPLAINANT

Name Darrin Brown

Street Address [REDACTED] Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State Ohio Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone [REDACTED] Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT(S) OF COMPLAINT** Name(s), Badge Number(s), or Description(s) of accused personnel:

1. Det. Hans Weekly
2. Det. Alfredo Cuevas
3. Robert Tulevski

**WITNESSES** (If necessary, give names/phone numbers of additional witnesses in incident detail below)

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**INCIDENT:** Date April 25, 2025 Time \_\_\_\_\_ Ticket and/or Report Number 25 - 20267

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide details of the incident and the alleged misconduct, describe any sustained injuries and other facts related to the incident. Do not include unsubstantiated information such as gossip or rumor. Attach additional pages as necessary, including other reports or documentation, photographs, medical records, etc.

See Attached.

**I understand that filing a false report of misconduct against a Peace Officer is in violation of section 2921.15 of the Ohio Revised Code, a misdemeanor of the first degree.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Complainant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Complaint received by:

Printed Name and Signature of Representative Accepting Complaint \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

## DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

Investigating Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Investigative Actions: \_\_\_\_\_

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Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Civilian Oversight Committee Recommendation:**

| Sustained | Sustained in Part | Sustained for Violation Not Based on Original Complaint |
|-----------|-------------------|---|
|-----------|-------------------|---|

[illegible]

### Final Determination:

           **Sustained**                                 **Sustained in Part**                                 **Sustained for Violation Not Based on Original Complaint**

|                  |                   |                      |                                   |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Unfounded</b> | <b>Exonerated</b> | <b>Non-sustained</b> | <b>Administratively Dismissed</b> |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|





# GREATER CLEVELAND TRANSIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

## PCCP-1: INITIAL COMPLAINT REPORT

Name of Complainant: Darrin Brown

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Cleve

State: OH

Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

D.O.B.: [REDACTED]

S.S.N.:

Name of Victim (if different from complainant): unk

Address of Victim (if different from complainant): unk

Telephone Number of Victim (if different from complainant): unk

Date and Time Complaint Received: 4/25/2025 Complaint taken by whom: Sgt. Farr

How received: \_\_\_ In Person ☒ \_\_\_ Via Telephone \_\_\_ Other (Explain): Dept. (See attachment A)

Email

Location of Alleged Incident: W. 154 Puritas

Date and Time of Occurrence: 4/25/25

Involved Employee Description: Det. Cuevas, Det. Weekley, Sgt. Tulevski

Alleged Employee Misconduct: Excessive force

Witnesses: Name: N/A

Address:

Telephone #:

S.S.N.:

D.O.B.:

Name:

Address:

Telephone #:

S.S.N.:

D.O.B.:

Was the complaint adjudicated at the time of receipt? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO ☒

Remarks

Signature of Complainant

*Darrin Brown*

COMPLAINANT'S RECEIPT

Supervisor receiving complaint: Ronald Darden #908

Date and Time received:

Nature of Complaint:

**ATTENTION COMPLAINANT** – Making a false report/complaint can result in criminal and/or civil action against you.

TRANSIT POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: (216) 356-3850

①

He had a hard time getting out the vehicle with his gun in his hand.

he ~~approached~~ Approached me with his hands on the trigger.

I told him to put down the gun I'm in no ~~hostile~~ <sup>no</sup> hostile manner

He was yelling his demands,

I <sup>ask</sup> ~~then ask~~ 'who was in charge to another person, it was 3 of them' The guy I ask ~~he~~ said the one with the gun. I then said what you want me to do? He ask where is the knife. I said i do carpentry work its in my Bag

(He yell with the gun in his hand looking mad)

He said tell the Boys.

(2)<sub>r</sub>

Now I'm Being

~~Then, I got~~ handcuffed,  
while ~~the~~ he was handcuffing,  
me (he said is this to tight  
I said you good, ~~he~~ he then  
proceed ~~squ~~ ~~eezi~~ squeeze the  
handcuff in to my wrist.

I then said he's squeezing the  
handcuff to get reaction out  
of me. I was ~~said~~ saying this to the  
Bodycam,

In 10 minutes The supervisor came,  
the guy that handcuff me was  
squeezing my left ~~arm~~ arm as  
we was walking trying to get a ~~test~~  
reaction out of me!!

After

↓  
An officer came and saw the imprint  
when the handcuff came off my  
wrist!! I then complain to the  
on site supervisor and said I want  
to press charges against them

3.

I was so mad!! About my wrist.  
I couldn't feel pain, I went to work  
They gave me a ride, I still ~~can't~~ <sup>can</sup> complain about my wrist.

I ~~couldn't~~ couldn't leave work  
cause we ~~is~~ was short in the middle  
of my shift. I saw my hand swell up,  
I ~~noticed~~ ~~not~~ noticed my hand  
swelling up. I took pics of my wrist  
Put ice on my wrist. on my (Break time)  
I told my Boss what happened to  
me. I was ~~to~~ relieved of my work  
duties to go to the hospital.



let me say first, You can bring <sup>anything</sup> ~~anything~~  
on the RTA? You can't bring Food Drink  
on the RTA!

1.) officer came in a Black SUV... one  
of them came out holding a gun!!  
his hand on the trigger telling something  
for away? I was standing at the end  
of the Bus.. I ask him to lower his  
gun.. telling at me, with his hand  
on the trigger, (ON video) ~~please~~ please  
look at the video..

one of the officer put handcuff on me  
he the squeeze the handcuff I  
said to the (body cam) he's ~~training~~ <sup>tr.</sup>  
to get a reaction out of me. the handcuff  
he ~~put~~ put on left a mark  
plus (in print)

All 4 officer on site saw what he  
did in short amount of time.

I told my Boss i was feeling pain..  
My wrist was swelling up.  
I went to the doctor, after i work. He

RTA  
I got on the RTA, Bus on will 17  
I paid my fare started walking to the  
Back of the Bus, I look down for  
a second when I look up. I assume  
a person was taking my picture,  
(I said did you just take my  
(pic) he said Naw, I then said  
if you did Don't do it? He look  
at me, He stare me Down, I then  
said I have a Nife Bro ~~just~~ ~~than~~  
~~he took away walking it side to~~  
~~then said I'll cut that ass~~

(me and him wasn't talking)  
loud

So he walk to the Front of  
the RTA, sat down Behind  
the Bus Driver.

in five ~~min~~ minutes he stood  
up, went to the Bus Driver told her  
in his word what happen then <sup>he</sup> got off  
(he told her in a calm matter.)

The first thing I saw standing ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> the back of the RTA Bus, with my hands folded, Book Bag on my shoulders.

The RTA Bus driver was standing on the other side of the Bus, waiting with the phone in her hand talking to someone.

When a Black <sup>sur</sup> ~~sur~~ pull up to the (corner) she then walks to the vehicle walking away from the Bus (she was standing near the end of the Bus by me.)



The community are not train  
for officer or Gang unit  
tattos. (tactics)

Police officer and Gang units  
are train for handling the  
Community.

EVERY thing the 3 official  
did was aggressive and they  
applied force,;

The continuing ~~back~~ <sup>back</sup> → forth  
action and verbal command to confess  
victim ~~making~~ <sup>making</sup> go longer then  
~~exp~~ expected.

Made  
thing  
go longer

The ~~B~~ Leads Bus Driver  
was standing car length away  
~~from~~ me. till the ~~so~~ police  
from

~~came~~ came, she was  
on and off her the

she walk on the  
Bus Driver side to the  
Police on mark with





# Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Police STATEMENT

|                             |               |                                    |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Date of Statement<br>5-7-25 | Report #<br>. | If Supplement, Original Incident # |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|

I make the following statement of my own free will and accord, without any threats of violence having been made against me, or any promises of any special considerations to be shown me by any person or persons and having been fully advised of all my constitutional rights, I understand and agree that this statement may be used against me in any court of competent jurisdiction, and that I have the right to have my attorney present if I desire, and that I have the right to remain silent..

let me say first, You can Bring anything on the RTA BUS, you can't Bring food or Drinks on the Bus!! (The time it happen 11:15 ~~am~~ <sup>pm</sup> → 1230 noon)

officer came in a Black SUV, one of them came out holding a gun? his hand was on the trigger yelling at me. far away. I was standing at the end of the BUS. I ask him to lower his gun, he had his finger on the trigger.

Please watch the video (I want to press charges!!!)

the other officer put handcuff on me (squeezes) then he was putting them on

He squeeze them tight that left a mark 4 officer saw the marks on my wrist.

~~when I got to work~~

when I got to work, in the middle of my shift. I had pain. My wrist was hurting. My Boss let me leave to go to the (Hospital) Because of my pain in my wrist.

Signature Dallon Brown

Date

5-7-25

Reporting Officer/Badge #: \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

04/25/18

Supervisor's Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor's Badge No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_