



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 January 27, 2026, 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 C25-005 and Complaint Number C25-007.

Executive Session Requested –

- To consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual.



India L. Birdsong Terry
General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

IBT: eb
Attachment

AGENDA
CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

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: Mayor Marie Gallo

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 September 30, 2025, and November 18, 2025, meeting minutes.
- V. Office of Chair – Nominations and election of the Office of Chair.
- VI. Office of Vice-Chair – Nominations and election of the office of Vice-Chair
- VII. Introduction of Complaint Number C25-005 and Complaint Number C25-007.
- VIII. Executive Session Requested:
 - To consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual.
- IX. Discussion/Action regarding Complaint Number C25-005 and Complaint Number C25-007.

- X. New business.
 - Reports and Announcements
 - Review regular meeting schedule for 2026.
 - i. 3/31/26, 5/26/26, 7/28/26, 9/29/26, 11/24/26
- XI. Old Business
- XII. Adjourn.

Minutes

Greater Cleveland RTA Civilian Oversight Committee
5:06 p.m., Tuesday, November 18th, 2025

Civilian Oversight Committee Members: Elise Auvil, Jakolya Gordon, George Taylor, Rebecca Wharton

Not present: Jonathan England, David Morris, Michael Blake

GCRTA BOT: Mayor Gallo

Staff: Bailey, Caver, Darden, Sulik

Public: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. There were four (4) Civilian Oversight Committee ("Committee") members present.

It was advised that notice of this meeting had been posted more than twenty-four (24) 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 September 30, 2025, Committee Meeting Minutes

The Committee decided that, due to several of their members missing, they would postpone the approval of the September meeting minutes. It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Ms. Gordon for approval. All were in favor, and none opposed. The approval of September 20, 2025, meeting minutes will be postponed until the January 2026 meeting.

Introduction of Mayor Gallo as the new Board of Trustees Liaison for the Committee

Mayor Gallo introduced herself as the Mayor of Parma Heights for the last four (4) years and was just re-elected to a second term. Prior to being mayor, she was the HR Director for the City of North Olmsted and was a City of Parma Heights Council member for twelve (12) years. She was elected earlier this year to serve on the GCRTA Board of Trustees. Mayor Gallo expressed her appreciation for the work that GCRTA does and is happy to be the Liaison for this Committee. She also added that she attended Baldwin Wallace University many years ago and has a degree in criminal justice.

Dr. Caver added, on behalf of the management team, he would like to thank Mayor Gallo for joining the Committee, and looks forward to her leadership on this Committee. Dr. Caver stated that this is an amazing opportunity to have a mayor as a part of the Committee because, as mayor, she is the chief safety leader for her community and has a very strong understanding of the work and expectations of professional police departments. Additionally, he is excited to see Mayor Gallo's commitment to activism and would like to thank her for taking this opportunity.

Ms. Gordon asked that each of the Committee members briefly introduce themselves to Mayor Gallo and say why they are a part of the Committee.

Ms. Auvil stated that she has a long tenure in government. She has served as a Director of HR. Many years ago, she served as an attorney for the GCRTA and did a lot of work with Transit Police at that time. Ms. Auvil continued by stating that she thinks Transit Police is a great unit and that the organization is fantastic. Ms. Auvil ended by stating that she likes giving back to the community and that is why she is on the Committee.

Ms. Wharton stated that she started her professional career with the State Government at the Ohio Attorney General's Office and then went to the Department of Public Safety, so she has a background with law enforcement. Ms. Wharton stated that police oversight has always been of interest to her and when an opportunity to be on the Committee became available, she wanted to be involved. Ms. Wharton added that she is a resident of Downtown Cleveland, making it a perfect fit for her.

Mr. Taylor stated that he has forty years of law enforcement experience, most of it being in Northwest Ohio, some in Columbus. His last position was here in Cuyahoga County as the Deputy Chief of the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Taylor added that he is on the Committee because he believes that oversight is needed, but you also need a voice from someone who has been there and done that, and that he thinks he brings that voice to the Committee.

Ms. Gordon stated that she has been a part of public service for twenty-five (25) plus years and is currently employed with Cuyahoga County. Ms. Gordon stated that being on the Committee is personal for her as her mother is a proud retiree of GCRTA, making her involvement a legacy. Ms. Gordon added that even though she is not an operator, she is operating in the capacity of oversight. Like her fellow Committee members, she is excited to be here and contribute to make sure rules and policies are being followed so citizens are being impacted properly.

Executive Session Requested

Ms. Bailey informed the Committee that there was a request to remove the executive session from the agenda. There were no objections from the Committee members.

New Business

Reports and Announcements

Ms. Bailey informed the Committee that at the November Board of Trustees Meeting, Jonathan England and Michael Blake were reappointed to the Committee. Both were unable to be present at the Board Meeting so they will be re-sworn in at a later date.

Adjourn

5:15 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Ms. Auvil that the meeting be adjourned. There were four (4) ayes, and none opposed. The meeting was adjourned.

The next regularly scheduled Civilian Oversight Committee Meeting is Tuesday January 27, 2026, 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@gcrtaw.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 Larry [REDACTED]

Street Address [REDACTED] Apt. [REDACTED]

City Cleveland State OH Zip [REDACTED]

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

Email Address [REDACTED] @ [REDACTED]

SUBJECT(S) OF COMPLAINT

Name(s), Badge Number(s), or Description(s) of accused personnel:

1. Detective Kemmett #85 ; Detective Adkins #56

2. Officer Irizarry #15 ; Officer Brown-Kirby #112

3. _____

WITNESSES

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

1. Name Latonya [REDACTED] Phone Number [REDACTED]
2. Name Mari [REDACTED] Phone Number [REDACTED]
3. Name _____ Phone Number _____

INCIDENT: Date July 23, 2025 Time 7:43 am Ticket and/or Report Number _____
Location Triskett Rapid Transit Station

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.

On Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at approximately 7:43 am, I was exiting the last westbound train car toward the airport at the Triskett Train Station. As I stepped off, Det Kemmett (#85) rushed toward the train as if responding to an emergency. He and his partner, Det. Adkins (#56), split up; Kemmett entered the car I had just exited.

Det. Kemmett nearly bumped into me, without saying "excuse me" or showing any manners. I calmly asked him, "You can't say excuse me? You don't have manners?". He ignored me and the train door closed. I then tapped on the window and said, "Next time, why don't you try using some [REDACTED] manners?" Following this, Det. Kemmett radioed in and falsely reported that I was being disorderly, which was untrue. This was the beginning of the harassment.

Det. Kemmett aggressively forced me to give my identification, which I did not have immediately with me. He also coerced me into giving my date of birth and Social Security number. Despite not committing any crime, he threatened to arrest me on an outstanding warrant I was already aware of and actively addressing through the courts. He also threatened to use excessive force if I did not comply, repeatedly taunting me by saying that the next time I "bumped" into him he would take me to the ground and arrest me. I never bumped into him; it was he who almost collided with me.

I asked multiple times if I was being detained. He said no but simultaneously impeded my movement, preventing me from leaving the area without justification.

Det. Kemmett also asked inappropriate questions about my pre-release status and GPS monitor, information unrelated to any ongoing matter and which I am not required to discuss without an attorney present.

Det. Adkins (#56), his partner, witnessed all of this and did nothing to stop the illegal harassment and intimidation. He eventually gave me his badge number after I repeatedly asked, and only did so after I called the number I found online, +1 (216) 566-5163, and demanded to speak to a lieutenant because I felt harassed, abused and betrayed by people who are supposed to protect me. After that call, I took pictures of the officers involved.

Ofc. Irizarry (#15), who arrived as a backup, refused to provide his badge number or identify himself properly. He also tried to intimidate me by telling me I would never find contact information for supervisors, which I later found online.

Ofc Brown-Kirby (#112), a Black female officer, observed the incident and listened as I explained what was happening. However, she refused to provide her badge number or identify herself when asked and attempted to avoid involvement by walking away. Her behavior made me feel betrayed as Black man being harassed and intimidated.

Officer Campbell (#80) was the dispatch officer who informed me via phone that the lieutenant was en route to Tower City Station.

Lt. Medlong (#924) was not present during the incident at Triskett Station, but met me later at Tower City to provide paperwork related to the incident.

Throughout the entire encounter, my girlfriend Latonya [REDACTED] and my god sister Mari [REDACTED] were on speakerphone in my pocket, listening to everything that was happening. The officers did not know I was on the phone with them, and both women were disgusted at the threats, harassment and intimidation I faced.

As a 37-year-old Black man with PTSD, panic attacks and anxiety, this encounter triggered significant emotional distress. I fear for my safety and wellbeing on RTA premises due to the hostile and aggressive behavior of Det. Kemmett and the lack of intervention by his partner and other officers.

This situation was entirely avoidable. I did nothing wrong. I simply held an officer accountable for his lack of manners and was met with intimidation, harassment and threats of violence from someone who abuses their badge and power.

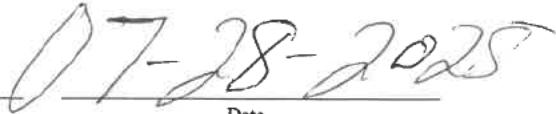
I demand a thorough investigation into the misconduct of these officers and appropriate disciplinary actions to prevent this from happening to others.

I hereby state under penalty of Perjury (Revised Code 2921.11) that I am the complainant in this complaint, that I have prepared, read, and fully understand all matters set forth in this complaint, that this may result in an official investigation, and the information provided is true and complete to my knowledge.

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

7-28-25

Date

1410

Time

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

Investigating Supervisor _____

Investigative Actions: _____

Approved by _____ Date _____

Civilian Oversight Committee Recommendation:

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

Unfounded Exonerated Non-sustained Administratively Dismissed

Final Determination:

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

Unfounded Exonerated Non-sustained Administratively Dismissed



GCRTA Transit Police Department

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- **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 Christopher [REDACTED]
Street Address [REDACTED] Apt. [REDACTED]
City Cleveland State Ohio Zip [REDACTED]
Mobile Phone [REDACTED] Home Phone [REDACTED] Alt. Phone [REDACTED]
Email Address [REDACTED] @ [REDACTED]

SUBJECT(S) OF COMPLAINT

Name(s), Badge Number(s), or Description(s) of accused personnel:

1. Officer W. Edley #125
2. [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED]

WITNESSES

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

1. Name [REDACTED] Phone Number [REDACTED]
2. Name [REDACTED] Phone Number [REDACTED]
3. Name [REDACTED] Phone Number [REDACTED]

INCIDENT: Date 10/9/2025 Time 4:13am Ticket and/or Report Number 25-52077
Location West 65th

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.

Me and my girl were sleeping on the elevator and woke up and came out of the elevator and transit Police were right there coming off the elevator and said that it was a call saying that it was 2 people OD in the elevator and he asked us if we were doing any drugs and i said we just do nothing but weed and tobacco products and he then asked what we was doing on the elevator then and i told him we was just sleeping and then he also said this was a welfare check and then asked if i had my id or does he have has and i said no what are we giving you our ID for and he said do you have a SSN number and i said no and he quickly grabbed me aggressively and said we just going to detain you

INCIDENT: Date _____ Time _____ Ticket and/or Report Number _____
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.

and I did say before the handcuffs was on me all the way that I will give him my information but he still was being aggressive with my arms and cuffed me and my girl has mental problems to where she had a mental episode and she was screaming and yelling saying get off him like that he didn't do nothing and then he aggressively moved me to another part of the rapid station by the ticket machines and two of his partners came then to try and keep me and my girl from each other and so they could get me to the car but the other 2 officers didn't act like they wanted to help the 2 that was there from the beginning and while they were taking to the car my girl was still walking up with me to the police car until she hit

INCIDENT: Date _____ Time _____ Ticket and/or Report Number _____

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.

the other officer into her Silverado having a mental episode
to what they did to me and she had to watch it
and after that they advised her of a warrant and I was
clear and took her to the mental hospital and released

MC

I hereby state under penalty of Perjury (Revised Code 2921.11) that I am the complainant in this complaint, that I have prepared, read, and fully understand all matters set forth in this complaint, that this may result in an official investigation, and the information provided is true and complete to my knowledge.

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

10/14/2025

Date

Complaint received by:

 Lt. George Schreiner #905 14 OCTOBER 2025 21:53
Printed Name and Signature of Representative Accepting Complaint Date Time

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

Investigating Supervisor _____

Investigative Actions: _____

Approved by _____ Date _____

Civilian Oversight Committee Recommendation:

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

Unfounded Exonerated Non-sustained Administratively Dismissed

Final Determination:

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

Unfounded Exonerated Non-sustained Administratively Dismissed