



## November 2020 COB Executive Director's Report

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### Executive Summary

**Teleconference Meetings:** The COB will continue to have virtual Board meetings in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order extension that allows for electronic meetings until October 28<sup>th</sup>. The MNCO has established a dedicated phone line for Community members to leave a public comment for Board meetings. The telephone number is 629-255-1906 and the voice mail prompts will walk them through the process.

**MNCO Office:** The MNCO office is open for appointments from the public during November. However, with an increase of COVID-19 positive cases in the county, we will continue to monitor the safety of having in-person appointments. The MNCO staff primarily telecommute but do occasionally work in the office to conduct specific duties. ED Fitchard and AD Clausi have established safety protocols for employees who may need to work in the office. Video cameras are scheduled to be installed in the MNCO office on Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**MNCO Personnel Update:** The MNCO investigator position remains unfilled due to a Metro Government hiring freeze.

**MNCO Training:** ED Fitchard and MNCO staff attended a virtual training titled "*Accountability & Transparency in Law Enforcement: Shaping New Beginnings.*" MNCO staff will attend NCRC's Lunch and Learn session titled "*You don't know me like that: Assumptions or Microaggressions?*" on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Complaints/Contacts:** MNCO continues to receive calls from the public to initiate complaints of alleged misconduct by MNPD officers as well as calls for other non-related misconduct calls. The MNCO received one investigative complaint and assisted with 6 non-complaint calls since the last Board meeting in October.

**Community Outreach:** MNCO Community Liaison Brensey Thompson completed the fall newsletter, which was sent to subscribers and uploaded to MNCO's website and socials. We are working on an educational outreach endeavor to make the public aware of the services of the MNCO, specifically around how to file complaints, the process and, the difference between administrative and criminal investigations.

**MNCO Research:** The MNCO Research Analysts completed two research advisory proposals initiated by NOAH and NAACP. The reports center around *Calls for service and Mental Health (NOAH)* and *Background Checks (NAACP)*. The Use of Force Consent Decrees Policy Advisory Report was sent to Acting Chief Drake for consideration and is under review.

**TBI MOU Meeting:** Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>— ED Fitchard, AD Clausi, and Legal Advisor Robert Pinckley meet with TBI Director Rausch and his team to discuss the proposed MOU between the TBI and COB. The TBI has proposed language changes that would give the COB and MNPDC concurrent access to crime scenes. TBI will be in touch after meeting with MNPDC and District Attorney's Office regarding the language change.

**MOU Meeting:** Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>—ED Fitchard and DC Mike Hagar finalized the agreed-upon language updates for the MNPDC and COB MOU. The MOU was sent to Metro Legal for final review, as well as the Negotiation Task Force participants.

**DAG/COB MOU:** The final District Attorney General/COB MOU was filed with the County Clerk's Office on November 3, 2020, and the MNCO Investigative Staff are currently receiving records without incident.

**Proposed Resolution Reports:** The Board held a special meeting on October 23rd to hear its first PRR. The Board approved the PRR with a slight modification of the recommended action. The Board's recommendation was sent to Interim Chief Drake for consideration, and the investigative file was uploaded to DC Hagar for review. MNPDC is working towards a process of receiving, reviewing, and responding to PRR's and will give us an update once that process is complete.

**Referral to OPA:** Atty. Daniel Horwitz filed a complaint on behalf of his client, stemming from an incident in July 2018, requesting that an investigation be conducted into alleged MNPDC Officer misconduct or refer the complaint to the Office of Professional Accountability for investigation. Because of the COB's timeframe limitation, ED Fitchard referred the case to the director of OPA to investigate the case on behalf of the complainant.