

**ETHICS REVIEW BOARD
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS**

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



ETHICS REVIEW BOARD CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Current Board Members

C. Holly Callia, Chair

Monique G. Doucette

Sally B. Richardson, Secretary.

Patrice Sentino, Ed.D., Vice-Chair

Current Staff Members

Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator and General Counsel

Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer

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Message from the Chair

The New Orleans Ethics Review Board (ERB) enforces the City of New Orleans Code of Ethics, which was established to remind each public official and employee that individually and collectively, public officials and employees must adhere to high ethical standards not simply to avoid sanctions or criticism. That code applies to all officials of the government of the city, where elected or appointed; all employees, whether classified or unclassified; and all members and employees of all boards, agendas, commissions, advisory committees, public trusts, and public benefit corporations of the City.

Leadership. On June 16, 2025, the ERB elected Dawn Broussard to serve as Chair of the ERB, Patrice Sentino to serve as Vice-Chair, and Sally Richardson to serve as Secretary.

Summary of ERB Work in 2025. During calendar year 2025, the ERB continued its work in overseeing the New Orleans Office of Inspector General (“OIG”) and the New Orleans Office of Independent Police Monitor (“IPM”). The Ethics Review Board focused on strengthening the City’s ethics and oversight infrastructure through sustained supervision of the Office of Inspector General and the Office of Independent Police Monitor, complaint handling, and key governance decisions. In March 2025, the Board unanimously reappointed Inspector General Ed Michel to a second four-year term after a public meeting and public comment. The board made its appointments to the Quality Assurance Review and Assessment Committees for both the OIG and OIPM, and continued to await appointments from the mayor and council. Across its regular meetings, the Board reviewed and accepted monthly reports from the OIG and OIPM detailing major audits, investigations, and monitoring work—including audits of NORD and Safety and Permits, NOPD promotion testing and consent-decree sustainment, expansion of police-complaint mediation, and rollout of a 24-hour hotline and public-education campaigns. The Board resolved numerous ethics complaints by referral to the OIG or by public votes to dismiss for lack of jurisdiction, lack of factual basis, or failure to allege a prima facie ethics violation, and it issued Advisory Opinion 2025-01 to guide a city employee’s political activity. In addition, the Board elected new officers, monitored mayoral and council appointments to fill ERB and QARAC vacancies, endorsed continued ethics-training and liaison initiatives for city employees, and formalized payroll-approval practices for the EA, IG, IPM, and Ethics Trainer in conformity with the City’s executive time-keeping policy.

OIG Oversight. In 2021, the board appointed Ed Michel to a five-year term as New Orleans Inspector General. Thus, Mr. Michel served his fourth full year as Inspector General during 2025. The board reappointed him to another four-year term in March 2025. During 2025, the IG regularly reported on the work of his office in written and oral monthly reports to the board. The reports addressed

the OIG's efforts to audit, inspect, evaluate, and investigate city programs and operations to reduce corruption, fraud, and abuse, and to hold city officials accountable for efficient and cost-effective municipal government. On May 31, 2025, the OIG delivered its annual report to the ERB.

OIPM Oversight. In 2022, the ERB concluded a national search for a new Independent Police Monitor by appointing Stella Cziment. Since her appointment, Ms. Cziment and her office have regularly reported on the work of the office, including ongoing monitoring of the New Orleans Police Department ("NOPD") in key areas, receipt and review of citizen complaints, coordinating mediations of qualifying citizen complaints, and other important work. On May 30, 2025, the OIPM delivered its annual report to the ERB. The ERB expects that the work of the IPM will assume even greater importance in the years to come as NOPD moves closer to full compliance with a federal consent decree and enters the two-year sustainment period following full compliance. The ERB expects that the IPM will play a critical role in monitoring and reporting on NOPD's progress toward and continued compliance with the federal consent decree benchmarks. The current IPM, Stella Cziment, serves until April 2026; the ERB anticipates conducting a nationwide search and to consider the reappointment of Ms. Cziment and/or the appointment of another individual.

Ethics Education. In 2021, the ERB Executive Administrator hired Jordy Stiggs as the ERB's first full-time ethics trainer. During the year 2025, Mr. Stiggs and the training division of the Ethics Review Board continued its mission to create a culture of ethics throughout the city through education. This mission was furthered by establishing collaborative partnerships with department leaders and stakeholders within public agencies in the city to bring ethics training to their respective staff populations throughout the year. These partnerships helped the ERB training division provide in-person group training sessions. These partnerships also allowed the training division to bring ethics education in the form of mass group training to our larger public-facing departments.

In 2025, the ERB Training Division conducted 102 sessions and reached 598 individuals, reflecting an increase of 50 individuals compared to the previous year. New for 2025 was the addition of the summer lifeguards of NORD to the roster of individuals receiving annual ethics training. While their duration of service only lasts for a brief period, it was deemed necessary that the lifeguards also be equipped with the proper knowledge to navigate any potential incidents. In addition to NORD, Property Management, and Health Department personnel, public-facing departments - including Parks and Parkways, Public Works, and Sanitation - were prioritized for frequent ongoing training throughout the year because they are more likely to interact with individuals who may qualify as prohibited sources. Public-facing agencies, including the New Orleans Public Library System and the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority, were provided additional training sessions beyond their usual levels to help meet organizational

goals and accommodate increases in staffing. A notable project in 2025 was the creation of season-specific infographic posters outlining acceptable and unacceptable behavior during the Christmas and Mardi Gras seasons. Placement was ensured in all areas readily accessible and visible to public servants, including each of the 14 branches of the public library system. 2025 also saw the return of the Ethics Review Board's Liaison Award and Torch Award program. This program was designed to bring recognition to individuals and city boards and commissions who have exhibited excellence by going above and beyond to further the mission of creating a culture of ethics throughout the city. A deserving public employee was selected to receive the honor for the year.

Quality Assurance Review Advisory Committees. The Quality Assurance Review Advisory Committees for the Office of the Inspector General and Independent Police Monitor did not issue reports in 2025. This is so because the mayor and the city council did not appoint members to these committees and, as a result, neither committee had the quorum necessary to perform their functions. The ERB continues to press the mayor and council for QARAC committee appointments so that these committees can function during calendar year 2026.

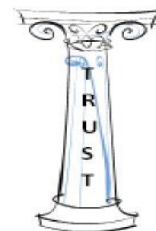
ERB Personnel. Dane S. Ciolino serves as the board's Executive Administrator and General Counsel. Jordy Stiggs serves as the board's Ethics Trainer.

It is our great privilege to serve the citizens of the City of New Orleans.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Holly Callia
Chair
Ethics Review Board
City of New Orleans

Ethics Review Board Membership 2025

The Ethics Review Board consists of seven volunteer members who serve staggered seven-year terms. Six members are appointed by the mayor from lists of three nominees submitted by the presidents or chancellors of Dillard University, Loyola University, Southern University in New Orleans (SUNO), Tulane University, University of New Orleans (UNO), and Xavier University. The seventh member is appointed by the mayor. Each appointment is subject to approval by a majority of the members of the city council.



Michael Bagneris

Michael Bagneris, a graduate of Yale University and Tulane Law School, served as executive counsel to New Orleans Mayor Ernest “Dutch” Morial. He would later be elected judge in the Orleans Parish Civil District Court where he would serve for 20 years and has remained active as a judicial educator through lectures and committee posts.

Mr. Bagneris was the appointee of Mayor Latoya Cantrell. He was appointed on April 24, 2025. His term was scheduled to expire on June 30, 2027. He voluntarily resigned on November 25, 2025.

Dawn Broussard

Dr. Dawn Broussard serves as Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Student Affairs Officer for the Loyola University New Orleans community. In this role, Dr. Broussard is responsible for coordinating the University’s compliance obligations under Title IX, including coordination of investigations of complaints pursuant to Title IX and implementing Title IX regulations. She is also responsible for reviewing and revising University policies to ensure alignment with current Title IX regulations. Additionally, Dr. Broussard co-chairs the Loyola University’s Student Success Task Force.

Prior to this role, Dr. Broussard served as an Investigator in the Office of Institutional Equity and as the Assistant Director for the Office of Student Conduct at Tulane University. In these roles she investigated and adjudicated allegations of Title IX Sexual Misconduct, violations of the University’s Code of Student Conduct, and violations of the University’s Equal Opportunity and Anti-Discrimination Policy. These responsibilities included interpreting, applying, and ensuring compliance with University policies as well federal, state and local laws regarding discrimination and harassment.

Dr. Broussard worked in Louisiana K-12 public education for seven years and in Louisiana public and private higher education since 2007. A native of Louisiana, and a resident of New Orleans for the past seven years, Dr. Broussard earned her bachelor’s degree in Education from Louisiana State University, her master’s degree in Educational Leadership from Nicholls State University, and her doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. In addition to her educational credentials, Dr. Broussard has extensive experience in policy interpretation, review, and development, as well strategic planning and assessment.

Dr. Broussard was the appointee of Loyola University. Her term was scheduled to expire on June 30, 2029. *See* Broussard Appointment Motion (Mar. 23, 2024). She voluntarily resigned effective January 21, 2026.

Holly Callia

Holly Callia serves on the Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans, supporting its mission to promote transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct in public service. She is Vice President of Mortgage Lending at OnPath Credit Union and brings more than 30 years of experience in housing finance.

A graduate of Mount Carmel Academy, Ms. Callia earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Finance from the University of New Orleans. She has served on multiple boards and commissions, contributed to the Katrina recovery committee, and remains active in nonprofit fundraising and community initiatives across the region.

Ms. Callia is the appointee of the University of New Orleans. Her term will expire on June 30, 2026. *See* Callia Appointment Motion (Sep. 17, 2020). After the resignation of Ms. Broussard, Ms. Callia was elected to serve as Chair of the ERB.

Monique G. Doucette

Ms. Doucette is a shareholder of the law firm of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. in New Orleans. She practices primarily in the area of employment litigation and represents management in claims arising under various federal and state employment laws. Ms. Doucette has significant experience litigating employment matters in a variety of business sectors such as construction, energy, banking and hospitality. She also has expertise in workplace misconduct and sexual harassment issues. Ms. Doucette regularly conducts customized workplace respect and anti-harassment training for employers.

Ms. Doucette is a frequent speaker on various employment law topics and contributing author to publications such as the Louisiana Bar Journal, New Orleans CityBusiness and HR Magazine. She is also an avid supporter of the local arts and education in New Orleans by serving on the executive board of directors for the New Orleans Ballet Association and the Arts Council of New Orleans, as well as the board of directors for Urban League of Louisiana and the advisory board for the New Orleans Opera Association. She is a member of the A.P. Tureaud Chapter of the American Inns of Court and serves as a co-chair on the ABA Employment Rights and Responsibilities Committee's Diversity Initiative Task Force. In 2018, Ms. Doucette was appointed to the board of directors of the New Orleans chapter of the Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM) as the board attorney.

Ms. Doucette is the appointee of Xavier University. Her term will expire on June 30, 2025. *See* Doucette Appointment Motion (Aug. 8, 2019).

Sally Brown Richardson

Sally Brown Richardson is the A.D. Freeman Professor of Civil Law at Tulane University Law School. She has served on the Tulane Law faculty since 2012, teaching courses on property law, community property law, and comparative law. She served as the Interim Dean of Tulane Law School from 2023-2024 and the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs from 2020-2023. She is the author of the book *Community Property in the United States* and has received a number of awards for her scholarship and teaching, including the Tulane University Presidential Award for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Teaching, the Tulane Law School Felix Frankfurter Distinguished Teaching Award, and was selected for the Yale/Harvard/Stanford Junior Faculty Forum. She is an active member of the Louisiana State Law Institute, serving as the Reporter for the Property Committee, and is an elected fellow of the American Law Institute and the American College of Real Estate Lawyers.

Professor Richardson received her bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and graduated *summa cum laude* from the LSU Law Center. Prior to joining the Tulane Law faculty, she practiced law at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, clerked for the Honorable W. Eugene Davis on the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, and worked on the legislative and communications staff of U.S. Senator Mary L. Landrieu.

Ms. Richardson is the appointee of Tulane University. Her term commenced on June 20, 2024, and will expire on June 30, 2030.

Patrice Sentino

Patrice Sentino, EdD, DSW, LCSW-BACS, serves as Assistant Professor of Social Work and Title IX Coordinator at Southern University at New Orleans School of Social Work. Dr. Sentino attended Edward Livingston Middle School, Marion Abramson High School, and is a graduate of Sarah Towles Reed High School (class of 1989). She holds a Doctorate of Social Work from the University of Tennessee and Master of Social Work from Southern University at New Orleans. She holds a Doctorate in Educational Psychology and Technology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Dr. Sentino is the appointee of SUNO. Her term expired on June 30, 2025. *See* Sentino Appointment Motion (Oct. 5, 2024). However, she continues to serve awaiting appointment of her successor.

Ethics Review Board Mission and History

The Ethics Review Board seeks to uphold and enforce high ethical standards and promote the public's confidence in the government of the City of New Orleans.

In 1996, citizens of New Orleans voted to amend the Home Rule Charter to mandate the City Council to establish, by ordinance, an Ethics Review Board. Under that ordinance, as amended, the ERB is empowered to issue advisory opinions, promulgate rules regarding interpretation and enforcement of the New Orleans Code of Ethics, retain counsel and impose fines. The ERB also

appoints and oversees the New Orleans Inspector General and the New Orleans Independent Police Monitor. The initial selection of board members occurred in December 2006.

The Ethics Review Board has dedicated its energy to ensuring an effective government ethics program throughout the City of New Orleans, including ethics education, advice, and enforcement.

Ethics Review Board Functions and Authority

The Ethics Review Board is authorized to enforce the provisions of the City of New Orleans Code of Ethics. The Code of Ethics was established to remind public officials and employees that they must adhere to high ethical standards. It applies to all officials and employees of city government, as well as all members and employees of boards, agencies, commissions, advisory committees, public trusts, and public benefit corporations of the city. The ERB is empowered to establish additional recommendations for the code of ethics, issue advisory opinions, promulgate rules regarding the interpretation and enforcement of the city's code of ethics, refer cases for investigation on referral or complaint, retain counsel, and impose fines.

In addition, the Ethics Review Board, through its Ethics Training Division, sponsors training events for city officials, employees, and contractors and for city boards, departments, agencies, and offices.

Finally, the Ethics Review board appoints and oversees the City of New Orleans Inspector General and the City of New Orleans Independent Police Monitor.

2025 Complaints

Any person may file a complaint concerning violations of the City's Code of Ethics with the Ethics Review Board. Any public employee who reports information which the employee reasonably believes is a violation of any ordinance, statute, policy, order, rule, regulation or other ethical mandate is protected by the New Orleans Municipal Code Division 3. Code of Ethics, Subdivision 3. Generally, Section 2-772(a) Freedom from reprisal and disclosure of improper acts, which states such employees "shall be free from discipline or reprisal for reporting such acts of alleged impropriety. An employee with authority to hire and fire, supervisor, agency head, or elected official may not subject to reprisal any public employee because of such employee's efforts to disclose such acts of alleged impropriety."

The Board may consider any matter that it has reason to believe may be a violation of any law within its jurisdiction, including but not limited to, a notice or report sent to the Board by the Inspector General. The Board may close the file, refer the matter for investigation, or take such other action as it deems appropriate.

During 2025, the Ethics Review Board received the complaints set forth in the attached table.

2025 Ethics Review Board Meeting Attendance

The Ethics Review Board's attendance report is set forth in the attached table.

2025 Ethics Review Board Meeting Minutes

The ethics review board conducted seven (7) public meetings in 2025. The minutes of those meetings are attached.

**Board Members
for 2025**

ERB Members During 2025

#	Name	First	Current Position	Nominated By	Term Began	Term Expires
1	Callia	Holly	ERB Member ERB Chair	UNO	9/17/2020	6/30/2026
2	Doucette	Monique	ERB Member ERB Secretary	Xavier	8/8/2019	6/30/2025
3	Broussard	Dawn	Former Member	Loyola	3/23/2023	6/30/2029
4	Sentino	Patrice	ERB Member ERB Vice-Chair	SUNO	10/5/2023	6/30/2024
5	Richardson	Sally	ERB Member	Tulane	6/20/2024	6/30/2030
6	Bagneris	Michael	Former Member	Mayor	4/24/2025	6/30/2027

**Complaints Received
by the ERB in 2025**

ERB Public List of Complaints 2025

#	ERB No.	Status	Date Opened	Date Closed	Notes
1	2025-01	Advisory Opi...	6/4/2025	9/15/2025	Request for advisory opinion on legislative advocacy. Board issued advisory opinion to Health Department.
2	2025-02	Dismissed	7/14/2025	9/15/2025	Complaint regarding OIPM relationship with NOPD. The board voted unanimously to dismiss this complaint for failure to allege a violation of the City of New Orleans. The board considered the matter in its supervisory capacity as a personnel matter during executive session.
3	2025-03a	Dismissed	7/23/2025	11/3/2025	NORD extra-marital affair anonymous complaint. Referred to OIG. Two subjects interviewed. Report from OIG received. The board voted unanimously to dismiss the complaint for lack of a factual basis based on investigative report from the OIG.
4	2025-03b	Dismissed	9/23/2025	11/3/2025	2025-03b: NORD nepotism allegations. Referred to OIG. Report from OIG received. The board voted unanimously to dismiss the complaint for lack of a factual basis based on investigative report from the OIG.
5	2025-04	Dismissed	8/28/2025	9/15/2025	Complaint regarding code enforcement hearing. The board voted unanimously to dismiss the complaint for failure to allege a violation of the Code of Ethics of the City of New Orleans.
6	2025-05	Dismissed	9/10/2025	9/15/2025	Complaints against firefighter wearing uniform and stating derogatory things about Charlie Kirk after his murder. The board voted unanimously to dismiss the complaints for failure to allege a violation of the Code of Ethics of the City of New Orleans.
7	2025-06	Dismissed	10/11/2025	11/3/2025	Complaint about campaign within 600 feet of courthouse. The board voted unanimously to dismiss the complaint because state ethics board handling. Lack of jurisdiction.
8	2025-07	Open	10/16/2025		Complaint about campaign contributions from contractors with business before city council.
9	2025-08	Open	11/19/2025		Complaint re PCABs

**Meeting Attendance
by ERB Members
for 2025**

Ethics Review Board Attendance 2025

#	Board Mtg.	Board Members Present	Board Members Absent
1	2/10/2025	Sentino Doucette Callia Broussard	Richardson
2	3/10/2025	Sentino Richardson Doucette Callia Broussard	
3	4/14/2025	Sentino Richardson Doucette Callia Broussard	
4	6/16/2025	Richardson Doucette Callia Broussard	Bagneris Sentino
5	8/11/2025	Sentino Richardson Doucette Callia Broussard Bagneris	
6	9/15/2025	Sentino Richardson Doucette Callia Broussard	Bagneris
7	11/3/2025	Sentino Doucette Callia Broussard	Richardson Bagneris

**Minutes of All ERB
Meetings in 2025**



Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

Board Meeting of February 10, 2025, at Robert E. Smith Branch, New Orleans Public Library, Canal Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana

Minutes

1. *Call to Order.*
 - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.
 - 1.2. Attendance
 - 1.2.1. ERB members present:
 - 1.2.1.1. Dawn Broussard, Chair
 - 1.2.1.2. Holly Callia
 - 1.2.1.3. Monique G. Doucette
 - 1.2.1.4. Patrice Sentino
 - 1.2.2. ERB members absent:
 - 1.2.2.1. Sally Richardson
 - 1.2.3. Staff member present: Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator & General Counsel
 - 1.2.4. Staff member present: Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer.
 - 1.3. The agenda for the meeting is attached.
2. *Approval of Minutes.* Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the ERB unanimously approved the minutes of the regular ERB meeting held in December 2024.

3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
 - 3.1. Ed Michel appeared on behalf of the Office of the Inspector General. He appeared with Mike Laughlin, general counsel for OIG.
 - 3.2. The board accepted Mr. Michel's monthly report (attached).
 - 3.3. Ms. Broyles reported on a recent investigation regarding saving the City \$2.5 million by "checking the math" on a contract with a contractor. The matter took little effort, but reaped large rewards.
 - 3.4. Mr. Michel discussed issues with the "low barrier" shelter for homeless people. The OIG will evaluate whether the city is adequately running the facility.
 - 3.5. Mr. Michel noted his office prepared a report for the federal NOPD monitor regarding whether there were any irregularities in the testing for promotions at NOPD.
 - 3.6. Mr. Michel noted that his office continues to work on "brass thefts" at S&WB to recoup money for the city. These thefts have caused hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses.
 - 3.7. Mr. Michel noted that his office has issued 17 formal reports, letters or investigations. His office has recovered many millions of dollars. His office has achieved a 739% return on the city's investment in the OIG.
4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
 - 4.1. Ms. Sziment did not appear on behalf of the Office of the Independent Police Monitor. Kirshell Williams, DPM, appeared..
 - 4.2. The board accepted Ms. Sziment's monthly report (attached).
 - 4.3. Kirshell Williams, Deputy Police Monitor, delivered the report for the office.
 - 4.4. Stella Sziment was on call for the Bourbon Street terrorist attack. She was on scene most of the day.
 - 4.4.1. On scene, OIPM recommended a family gathering area but NOPD did not accept the recommendation. OIPM hopes this will be done for future events.
 - 4.4.2. OIPM has checked in with officers involved since then.
 - 4.5. The federal court has transitioned NOPD to the "sustainment period" under the consent decree. The city filed a late motion to terminate the consent decree, which was denied. The city is now appealing it.

- 4.5.1. The focus now shifts to NOPD to demonstrate that it can “do this on its own” without federal monitoring.
 - 4.5.2. The OIPM will now take on a greater role in interacting with the NOPD for audits to assure good police practices during the 2-year sustainment period.
 - 4.6. The OIPM has issued its work plan for 2025 which is part of the submissions for today’s meeting.
 - 4.7. The OIPM continues to promote its “Monitor’s Mike” podcast. This month it focused on crime survivors and the aftermath of the Bourbon Street terror attack.
 - 4.8. Ms. Doucette asked why mediation numbers are “up.” The OIPM does not know, but suspects that NOPD has promoted mediation among its officers.
5. *Monthly Report of the Ethics Trainer*
- 5.1. Jordy Stiggs attended the meeting and presented his monthly report.
 - 5.2. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs’s monthly report (attached).
 - 5.3. Mr. Stiggs reported that 548 people attended his ethics training classes during 2024. He thanked the HR managers for facilitating these sessions.
 - 5.4. Mr. Stiggs is now regularly presenting to city employees who are eligible for promotions.
 - 5.5. Mr. Stiggs will be going to the training conference he missed last year.
6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*
- 6.1. Mr. Ciolino presented his monthly report (attached).
 - 6.2. Mr. Ciolino reported that there have received no complaints since the last board meeting.
 - 6.3. Mr. Ciolino reported that one ERB position (Dillard) must be filled. The mayor’s office is working on this and has received nominations. The mayor’s office is also filling the “at large” position vacated by Tyrone Jefferson.
 - 6.4. Mr. Ciolino reported that four (4) Council and Mayoral appointments remain unfilled on QARACs for the IG and the IPM.

7. *Executive Session*

- 7.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 4:03 p.m. (1) pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(4) to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, namely, ERB Complaint No. 2024-04, and (2) pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(1) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person.
- 7.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to return to general session at 4:44 p.m.

8. *Resolution of Complaint 2024-04*

- 8.1. The OIG investigated Complaint 2024-04 after referral from the ERB during the December board meeting. Mr. Michel reported in executive session regarding the findings of his office's investigation.
- 8.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to dismiss ERB Complaint 2024-04. The board dismissed the complaint for lack of a factual basis for the allegations of nepotism within NORD.

9. *Discussion of Appointment or Reappointment of Inspector General*

- 9.1. After discussion, the board asked Ms. Broussard to put on the agenda for next meeting "Reappointment of Ed Michel as Inspector General." There will be no other items on the agenda.

10. *Discussion of Locations of Future Meetings*

- 10.1. Mr. Ciolino will check with City Hall regarding availability of council chambers.
- 10.2. Mr. Ciolino will consult with Ms. Broussard on this.

11. *Adjournment.*

- 11.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.
- 11.2. The motion was seconded.
- 11.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

* END *



Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

**Board Meeting of March 10, 2025, at Loyola Law School, 526 Pine Street, Room 308,
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118**

Minutes

1. *Call to Order.*
 - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.
 - 1.2. Attendance
 - 1.2.1. ERB members present:
 - 1.2.1.1. Dawn Broussard, Chair
 - 1.2.1.2. Holly Callia
 - 1.2.1.3. Monique G. Doucette
 - 1.2.1.4. Sally Richardson
 - 1.2.1.5. Patrice Sentino
 - 1.2.2. ERB members absent: None
 - 1.2.3. Staff member present: Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator & General Counsel
 - 1.2.4. Staff member present: Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer.
 - 1.3. The agenda for the meeting is attached.
2. *Approval of Minutes.* Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the ERB unanimously approved the minutes of the regular ERB meeting held in February 10, 2025.

3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
 - 3.1. The board accepted Mr. Michel's monthly report (attached).
 - 3.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
 - 4.1. The board accepted Ms. Cziment's monthly report (attached).
 - 4.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
5. *Monthly Report of the Ethics Trainer*
 - 5.1. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs's monthly report (attached).
 - 5.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*
 - 6.1. The board accepted Mr. Ciolino's monthly report (attached).
 - 6.2. The board declined to receive an oral report this month.
7. *Discussion and Vote on Reappointment of Inspector General Ed Michel*
 - 7.1. Ed Michel presented an overview of his office's work since his appointment, commencing at 3:32.
 - 7.2. Mr. Michel thanked his family and team for their support and assistance.
 - 7.3. Mr. Michel highlighted the work of his office in combatting fraud, waste, and abuse in city government. He quoted and referenced his most recent annual report, which was made public today. That report speaks for itself and is attached to these minutes.
 - 7.4. Mr. Michel's remarks concluded at 3:46.
 - 7.5. Public comments, which commenced at 3:47., were as follows:
 - 7.5.1. Comments received by email (attached to these minutes):
 - 7.5.1.1.Laura Rodrigue (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
 - 7.5.1.2.Belden Batiste (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
 - 7.5.1.3.Jim Cook (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
 - 7.5.1.4.Karl Fasold (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)

- 7.5.1.5.Rita Glavin (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.1.6.Michael Hecht (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.1.7.Terry Mills (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.2. Michael Cowan (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.3. Rafael Goyeneche (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.4. Patrice Rose (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.5. Alison Broyles (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.6. Charlotte Horne (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.7. Bobbie Jones (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.8. Rodney Black (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.9. Heather Browning (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.10. Sarah Lewis (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.11. Amanda Barry (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.12. Jessica Henschen (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.13. Michael Laughlin (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.14. Alicia Plummer (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.15. Edward Parker (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.16. Belden Batiste (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.17. George Mahdi submitted a comment form, but declined the opportunity to speak (the comment form was in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.18. Dierdre Lewis (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.19. Sean Beavers (in support of Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.20. Annette Cranford-Hamilton (in opposition to Mr. Michel's reappointment)
- 7.5.21. Mr. Ciolino noted that confidential ERB Complaint 2025-01, which was submitted by a former subject of an OIG investigation, is negative. That

complaint was forwarded to each board member by email a few days ago for consideration before this reappointment meeting.

7.5.22. Public comments concluded at 4:43.

- 7.6. Ms. Sentino asked about the status of the public records requests made by Mr. Batiste. Mr. Michel of the OIG reported on the response by the OIG.
- 7.7. Ms. Richardson asked the OIG employees whether Mr. Michel asked them to speak. They responded that he informed them of the meeting but did not ask them to speak. Other employees noted that they have civil service protections.
- 7.8. Ms. Doucette addressed Mr. Batiste. She asked whether there were other employees at the OIG who were dissatisfied with Mr. Michel. He responded that there were, but that he would not name them. He reported that he represents the whole community including those workers.
- 7.9. Ms. Callia noted that the complaints brought to the board were thoroughly investigated over the course of more than a year. The board was not able to get proof of the misconduct alleged today. The board spent a significant amount of money to investigate the allegations.
- 7.10. Ms. Callia moved to reappoint Mr. Michel as inspector general to a second four-year term.
- 7.11. Ms. Doucette seconded the motion.
- 7.12. Ms. Sentino commented that the comments today were comments about the same alleged misconduct that the board investigated in depth. She is voting today on Mr. Michel's performance as IG. She is not voting today on personal matters. She is voting on Mr. Michel's production.
- 7.13. The board voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Michel to another four-year term.

8. *Executive Session*

- 8.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously at 5:04 p.m. to go into executive session at 5:04 p.m. pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(4) to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, namely, ERB Complaint No. 2025-01.
- 8.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to return to general session at 5:14 p.m.

9. *Resolution of Complaint 2025-01*

- 9.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to dismiss ERB Complaint 2025-01. The board dismissed the complaint for failure to allege a

prima facie violation of the City of New Orleans Code of Governmental Ethics. In addition, the board does not have noted that it lacks jurisdiction to grant the relief that the complainant requests requested.

10. *Adjournment.*

10.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.

10.2. The motion was seconded.

10.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

* END *



Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

**Board Meeting at Robert E. Smith Library, 6301 Canal Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70124, on
Monday, April 14, 2025, at 3:30 P.M.**

Minutes

1. *Call to Order.*
 - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.
 - 1.2. Attendance
 - 1.2.1. ERB members present:
 - 1.2.1.1. Dawn Broussard, Chair
 - 1.2.1.2. Holly Callia
 - 1.2.1.3. Monique G. Doucette
 - 1.2.1.4. Sally Richardson
 - 1.2.1.5. Patrice Sentino
 - 1.2.2. ERB members absent: None
 - 1.2.3. Staff member present: Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator & General Counsel
 - 1.2.4. Staff member present: Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer.
 - 1.3. The agenda for the meeting is attached.
2. *Approval of Minutes.* Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the ERB unanimously approved the minutes of the regular ERB meeting held on March 10, 2025.

3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
 - 3.1. The board accepted Mr. Michel's monthly report (attached).
 - 3.2. The OIG was represented by Ally Broyles. Mr. Michel was absent.
 - 3.3. Ms. Broyles noted that there were two promotions in the office.
 - 3.4. Ms. Broyles discussed the OIG's new report on public safety agencies and their reporting.
 - 3.5. Ms. Broyles noted that a new audit of NORD is underway.
 - 3.6. The OIG noted that it released a new letter on NOPD and new reporting protocols (LIBERS). The city was not properly reporting some information that could jeopardize certain federal grants. In 2023 alone, the city lost more than \$700,000 in grant funds because of failures in reporting compliance.
 - 3.7. The OIG reported that three new investigators are joining the office, two retired FBI agents and one retired Harbor Police officer.
 - 3.8. The OIG reported that Belden Batiste filed a public records request against the OIG that will be heard in court soon.

4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
 - 4.1. The board accepted Ms. Cziment's monthly report (attached).
 - 4.2. The OIPM was represented by Ms. Cziment and the deputy police monitor.
 - 4.3. Ms. Cziment reported that the office's 24-hour hotline is now up and running.
 - 4.4. Ms. Cziment reported that her office considered the work of NOPD over carnival. She noted that crime was down this year, partly because of enhanced law enforcement. This year, carnival was a SEER 1 event at the federal level; NOPD received support from federal, state, and local law enforcement.
 - 4.5. Ms. Cziment reported that her office monitored NOPD at two cultural events involving Mardi Gras Indians. There was no misinformation on social media about NOPD. The public response was generally positive about NOPD's performance.
 - 4.5.1. Ms. Doucette asked why NOPD performed better this year. Ms. Cziment noted that the Second District has a new captain who interacts well with the community. Also, the escalated police presence during carnival may have affected the community's conduct.
 - 4.5.2. Ms. Broussard asked whether the community welcomed the police more than in years past. Ms. Cziment reported that some community leaders

will never be happy with the police presence. However, she reported that the terrorist attack on January 1st changed some attitudes about the importance of policing and protecting the public from threats both within the community and outside of the community.

- 4.6. Ms. Cziment reported about the guests who appeared on her podcast, including leadership from the Orleans Public Defenders, and the director of the NOPD crime lab.
 - 4.7. Ms. Cziment noted that she is hiring for two positions, including one AmeriCorps position for a new college graduate.
 - 4.8. Ms. Cziment noted that her office's last peer review is still underway and that it is time for the office to begin a new one.
5. *Monthly Report of the Ethics Trainer*
- 5.1. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs's monthly report (attached).
 - 5.2. Mr. Stiggs discussed the liaison program and his efforts to find and interact with department and board liaisons. He will also coordinate these efforts with the liaison award program.
6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*
- 6.1. The board accepted Mr. Ciolino's monthly report (attached).
 - 6.2. Mr. Ciolino reported two board positions still need to be filled.
 - 6.3. Mr. Ciolino reported that the board must appoint QARAC committee members for both the OIG and OIPM committees.
7. *Discussion and Vote on QARAC Committee Members.*
- 7.1. After a nomination and a second, the board unanimously voted to appoint Sheridan Cooper of SUNO to serve as the ERB's appointee to the QARAC for the OIPM.
 - 7.2. After a nomination and a second, the board unanimously voted to appoint Vanessa Rodriguez of SUNO to serve as the ERB's appointee to the QARAC for the OIG.
8. *Executive Session*
- 8.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously at 4:48 p.m. to go into executive session at 5:04 p.m. (1) pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(4) to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, namely, ERB Complaint No. 2024-02; and, (2) pursuant to Louisiana

Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(1) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person who has been notified of the board's planned executive session and consented to the executive session.

- 8.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to return to general session at 5:42 p.m.
9. *Resolution of Complaint 2024-02*
 - 9.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to dismiss ERB Complaint 2024-02. The board dismissed the complaint for failure to allege a prima facie violation of the City of New Orleans Code of Governmental Ethics. The complaint presented employment related grievances that were fully litigated during a civil service hearing and appeal.
10. *Adjournment.*
 - 10.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.
 - 10.2. The motion was seconded.
 - 10.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

* END *



Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

Board Meeting at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, 526 Pine St., New Orleans, Louisiana 70118, on Monday, June 16, 2025, at 3:30 P.M.

Minutes

1. *Call to Order.*
 - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.
 - 1.2. Attendance
 - 1.2.1. ERB members present:
 - 1.2.1.1. Dawn Broussard, Chair
 - 1.2.1.2. Holly Callia
 - 1.2.1.3. Monique G. Doucette
 - 1.2.1.4. Sally Richardson
 - 1.2.2. ERB members absent:
 - 1.2.2.1. Patrice Sentino
 - 1.2.2.2. Michael Bagneris
 - 1.2.3. Staff member present: Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator & General Counsel
 - 1.2.4. Staff member absent: Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer.
 - 1.3. The agenda for the meeting is attached.
2. *Approval of Minutes.* Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the ERB unanimously approved the minutes of the regular ERB meeting held on April 14, 2025.

3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
 - 3.1. The board accepted Mr. Michel's monthly report (attached).
 - 3.2. The OIG was represented by Ed Michel and general counsel Michael Laughlin
 - 3.3. Mr. Michel reported on his office's participation in a US State Department program to educate developing nations with setting up governmental oversight.
 - 3.4. Mr. Michel noted that his office is beginning a new audit of NORD.
 - 3.5. Mr. Michel reported that Todd Morell, a former city employee, and another city employee recently pleaded guilty in United States District Court to engaging in various fraud schemes.
 - 3.6. Mr. Michel noted that his office recently hired three new investigators, most of which came from the FBI.
 - 3.7. Mr. Michel noted that his office recently released a report on the Department of Safety and Permits Third Party Inspections Audit.
 - 3.7.1. The office found that the New Orleans Department of Safety and Permits (S&P) did not implement adequate protocols for inspections performed by City-licensed third party inspectors.
 - 3.7.2. The audit also found that third party inspectors failed to comply with the S&P policies and procedures that were in place, leaving the City vulnerable to significant public safety hazards and litigation.of the city's Safety and Permits Department and its permitting practices.
 - 3.7.3. For a summary of the report, see <https://nola.oig.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/OIG-In-Brief-Safety-and-Permits-Third-Party-Inspections-Audit-Report.pdf>
 - 3.8. Ms. Richardson asked for the OIG to make sure to get its monthly report to each board member on the fifth of each month.
4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
 - 4.1. The board accepted Ms. Cziment's monthly report (attached).
 - 4.2. The OIPM was represented by Ms. Cziment.
 - 4.3. Ms. Cziment reported on the numbers of mediations, etc., as set forth in the report.
 - 4.4. Ms. Cziment noted that her office monitored two officer-involved shootings, including by attending one autopsy.

- 4.5. Ms. Cziment discussed and highlighted various aspects of her office's annual report. She noted that her office would provide a more detailed presentation at a later meeting.
- 4.6. Ms. Cziment noted that she discussed with a national media outlet the use of facial recognition technology by the NOPD.
- 4.7. Ms. Cziment interviewed Emily Maw on her podcast. Also had Lauren Sapp on her podcast. Both are posted on the office's website.
- 4.8. The City of New Orleans has filed a motion to be relieved from complying with the federal consent decree. The decree is still in effect. The DOJ formally rescinded their findings as to the Louisiana State Police.
- 4.9. Ms. Cziment discussed her comments on the shooting of a dog by Officer Burmaster. The matter was closed by NOPD. There is currently civil litigation pending on the civil liability of the city.
 - 4.9.1. The City Attorney wrote a letter to Ms. Cziment requesting that she cease and desist making comments on the case.
 - 4.9.2. Ms. Cziment responded with her own letter.
 - 4.9.3. Ms. Cziment believes that the City Attorney's letter contained inaccuracies, which she discussed with the board.
 - 4.9.4. Ms. Broussard asked whether her office issued a report on this. Ms. Cziment responded that her office had not.
 - 4.9.5. Mr. Broussard asked whether the City Attorney was correct in stating that the wrong standard was used. Ms. Cziment responded that there was some confusion in this regard, particularly between the Use of Force Board and the NOPD Training Academy. She noted that there was also a change in personnel on the Use of Force Board.
 - 4.9.6. Ms. Doucette asked whether the OIPM had any rules on media contact. Ms. Cziment responded that her office does not comment on ongoing disciplinary or criminal matters. This was a civil matter.
 - 4.9.7. Several board members noted that Ms. Cziment needs to be very cautious in speaking with the press because of the risk of being misquoted. She acknowledged this and agreed.
 - 4.9.8. Ms. Callia asked why Ms. Cziment discussed a matter with the press when her office did not officially report on the matter. Ms. Cziment noted that her office actually provided oversight regarding this shooting event, even though her office did not issue a formal report. Ms. Cziment also noted that such press opportunities are important to educate the public about

NOPD oversight. Also, the dog shooting has lead to a number of changes with how the NOPD deals with pet shootings.

4.9.9. Ms. Richardson thanked Ms. Cziment for sending the ERB copies of the letters prior to the meeting.

4.9.10. Ms. Callia asked Ms. Cziment to send the board copies of the OIPM media policy.

4.9.11. Ms. Callia also asked Ms. Cziment what her plan was for addressing the inaccuracies in the letter from the City Attorney. Ms. Cziment said that she had no plan because she had already addressed everything.

5. *Monthly Report of the Ethics Trainer*

5.1. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs's monthly report (attached).

5.2. Mr. Stiggs did not attend the meeting.

6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*

6.1. The board accepted Mr. Ciolino's monthly report (attached).

6.2. Mr. Ciolino reported that the mayor's position has been filled through the appointment of Michael Bagneris. However, one board position (Dillard) still needs to be filled by the mayor's office.

6.3. Mr. Ciolino reported that the City Council and mayor must appoint committee members for both the OIPM committees.

7. *Discussion of Request for Advisory Opinion*

7.1. The Board deferred consideration of this request to the next meeting.

7.2. Mr. Ciolino will circulate the full advisory request to the board before the next meeting.

8. *Discussion and Vote on Officers.*

8.1. After a nomination and a second, the board unanimously voted to appoint Dawn Broussard as chair.

8.2. After a nomination and a second, the board unanimously voted to appoint Patrice Sentino as vice-chair.

8.3. After a nomination and a second, the board unanimously voted to appoint Sally Richardson as secretary.

9. *Adjournment.*

9.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.

9.2. The motion was seconded.

9.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

* END *

ETHICS REVIEW BOARD MEETING

Monday, August 11, 2025

ATTENDING

Michael Bagneris
Dawn Broussard
Holly Callia
Monique Gougisha
Sally Richardson
Patrice Sentino

Start time: 3:44pm.

BUSINESS

Call to Order

By D. Broussard

Executive Session

Moved by P. Sentino. Second by M. Gougisha. D. Broussard asked OPM and OIG to remain. ERB retired to back room.

Moved by H. Callia to come out of executive session. Second by M. Bagneris.

ERB reported back from Executive Session that the ERB still had the matter at hand under advisement and would continue discussions at its next meeting.

Adjournment

Motion to M. Bagneris. Second by adjournment by S. Richardson.

End time 5:55pm.



Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

Board Meeting of November 11, 2024, at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, 526 Pine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana

Minutes

1. *Call to Order.*
 - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.
 - 1.2. Attendance
 - 1.2.1. ERB members present:
 - 1.2.1.1. Dawn Broussard, Chair
 - 1.2.1.2. Holly Callia
 - 1.2.1.3. Sally Richardson
 - 1.2.1.4. Patrice Sentino
 - 1.2.2. ERB members absent:
 - 1.2.2.1. Monique G. Doucette
 - 1.2.2.2. Tyrone G. Jefferson, Jr.
 - 1.2.3. Staff member present: Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator & General Counsel
 - 1.2.4. Staff member present: Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer.
 - 1.3. The agenda for the meeting is attached.
2. *Approval of Minutes.* Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the ERB unanimously approved the minutes of the regular ERB meeting held in October 2024.

3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
 - 3.1. Ed Michel appeared on behalf of the Office of the Inspector General. He appeared with Mike Laughlin, general counsel for OIG.
 - 3.2. The board accepted Mr. Michel's monthly report (attached).
 - 3.3. Mr. Michel noted that his office recently attended a City Council meeting regarding the budget and the office's recent accomplishments. He noted that the Council was complementary of his office's work. He also noted that the Council was interested in further work on the use of city funds by all agencies including by the OPSO.
 - 3.4. Mr. Michel highlighted his office's report regarding the Dept. of Public Works and its maintenance of traffic signals. Many of the issues are rooted in personnel and staffing shortages, inventory management, and other issues.
 - 3.5. Mr. Michel noted that his office will soon release a report regarding OPSO details.

4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
 - 4.1. Ms. Sziment did not appear on behalf of the Office of the Independent Police Monitor. A deputy who did not identify herself appeared.
 - 4.2. The board accepted Ms. Cziment's monthly report (attached).
 - 4.3. The office reported that it has been involved in many discussions regarding the federal consent decree during the past few months. The hope is that the city will soon move into a sustainment period under the decree.
 - 4.4. The office reported that it hosted a public forum with Chief Kirkpatrick. The office put questions to the Chief and she answered them. Then the public was allowed an opportunity to ask questions. The session was broadcast on WBLK.
 - 4.5. The office reported on the mediation training program the office conducted last month. The office celebrated 10 years of mediations.
 - 4.6. The office reported on its on-going radio show, including participation by STAR and the Innocence Project and Deputy Chief Gerston. Comments on the consent decree will be shared with Judge Morgan.
 - 4.7. The office presented to the Budget Committee this month.
 - 4.8. Ms. Callia commented that budgeting issues will be presented when the sustainment period begins. The office assured the ERB that it would inform the ERB of any developments in this regard.

5. *Monthly Report of the Ethics Trainer*

- 5.1. Jordy Stiggs appeared.
- 5.2. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs's monthly report (attached).
- 5.3. Mr. Stiggs reminded the board about training videos that the board members need to watch before year end.
- 5.4. Mr. Stiggs showed the board the new city-based website that was redesigned by the IT department. He highlighted the ethics training program content on the site. He will continue to work on the site to make it more user friendly and educational.

6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*

- 6.1. Mr. Ciolino presented his monthly report (attached).
- 6.2. Mr. Ciolino reported that the ERB has received two complaints since the last board meeting.
- 6.3. Mr. Ciolino reported that one ERB position (Dillard) must be filled. The mayor's office is working on this and has received nominations.
- 6.4. Mr. Ciolino reported that four (4) Council and Mayoral appointments remain unfilled on QARACs for the IG and the IPM.

7. *Executive Session*

- 7.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 4:24 pm. pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(1) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person and pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(4) to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, namely, ERB Complaint No. 2023-02.
- 7.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to return to general session at 4:38 p.m.
- 7.3. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to dismiss ERB Complaint 2023-02. The complaint presented issues relating to an office supervised by the ERB. Through public contract K24-233, the ERB hired a law firm, Transcendent Law Group (TLG), to conduct an investigation into the allegations. Over the course of several months, TLG interviewed numerous employees of the subject office. After those interviews were completed, TLG orally reported its findings to the ERB in executive session. After further investigation by the ERB, the ERB discussed the complaint in executive session. The board chair has discussed the board's employment-related concerns with the

individual who was the subject of the investigation. The board will issue a press release today reporting the foregoing.

8. *Discussion of Locations of Future Meetings*

- 8.1. Mr. Ciolino will check with City Hall regarding availability of council chambers.
- 8.2. Mr. Jefferson will look into other locations used by nonprofit organizations in Orleans Parish.
- 8.3. This issue will be on the agenda for next board meeting.

9. *Adjournment.*

- 9.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.
- 9.2. The motion was seconded.
- 9.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

* END *



Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans

Board Meeting of December 9, 2024, at Robert E. Smith Branch, New Orleans Public Library, Canal Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana

Minutes

1. *Call to Order.*
 - 1.1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.
 - 1.2. Attendance
 - 1.2.1. ERB members present:
 - 1.2.1.1. Dawn Broussard, Chair
 - 1.2.1.2. Holly Callia
 - 1.2.1.3. Tyrone G. Jefferson, Jr.
 - 1.2.1.4. Patrice Sentino
 - 1.2.2. ERB members absent:
 - 1.2.2.1. Monique G. Doucette
 - 1.2.2.2. Sally Richardson
 - 1.2.3. Staff member present: Dane S. Ciolino, Executive Administrator & General Counsel
 - 1.2.4. Staff member present: Jordy Stiggs, Ethics Trainer.
 - 1.3. The agenda for the meeting is attached.
2. *Approval of Minutes.* Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the ERB unanimously approved the minutes of the regular ERB meeting held in November 2024.

3. *Monthly Report of the Office of the Inspector General.*
 - 3.1. Ed Michel appeared on behalf of the Office of the Inspector General. He appeared with Mike Laughlin, general counsel for OIG.
 - 3.2. The board accepted Mr. Michel's monthly report (attached).
 - 3.3. Mr. Michel reported on a recent guilty plea from an NOPD officer whose misconduct was investigated by his office.
 - 3.4. His office has been asked to assist in investigations into certain allegations of misconduct.
 - 3.5. Deputy Inspector General Alison Broyles for audit and review reported on the OPSO audit and investigation. The report speaks for itself, but Ms. Broyles reported on the highlights of the report.
 - 3.5.1. Ms. Sentino asked about issues related to the use of BRASS by OPSO. Ms. Broyles responded with OPSO's arguments for independence and other reasons.
 - 3.5.2. Mr. Michel noted that the City Council may address this issue via an ordinance.
 - 3.6. Patrice Rose, Chief of Inspections and Evaluations, discussed the Orleans Parish Communications District purchased software in a manner that was not transparent and that ultimately did not function as required by NOPD and OPSO.
 - 3.6.1. Ms. Rose and Mr. Michel noted that the District has been receptive to the recommendations and policy changes, including internal controls, made by the OIG.
 - 3.6.2. Ms. Callia clarified the extent to which the state regulates the District. The OIG responded that the state has changed the makeup of the District.
 - 3.7. Mr. Michel introduced the OIG's new HR manager. She will handle all personnel actions, training, and the like for the OIG.
 - 3.8. Mr. Michel introduced his new Public Information Officer who highlighted the PIO initiative to create public awareness about their function through RTA bus and street car ads.
 - 3.8.1. Mr. Ciolino suggested that ERB Trainer Jordy Stiggs be included in some of these public awareness initiatives.

4. *Monthly Report of the Office of Independent Police Monitor.*
 - 4.1. Ms. Sziment did not appear on behalf of the Office of the Independent Police Monitor. A deputy who did not identify herself appeared along with Sharonda Williams.
 - 4.2. The board accepted Ms. Cziment's monthly report (attached).
 - 4.3. The OIPM noted that there will be a December 17th public comment hearing in federal court on the consent decree. There are a number of questions regarding what might change with the new administration at the DOJ beginning in 2025.
 - 4.4. The OIPM has engaged in public communications about how to prevent violence at second-line parades. These social media communications revealed that the community is split on the efficacy of additional police presence.
 - 4.4.1. Mr. Jefferson asked whether the OIPM had any recommendations regarding the issue of police presence. The OIPM noted that it had no recommendations regarding increased police presence at these events.
 - 4.4.2. Ms. Broussard asked whether the OIPM has reviewed the permitting process. The OIPM noted that it has not looked into permitting issues.
 - 4.5. The OIPM reported on last month's podcasts and the guests who appeared, including Councilmember Oliver Thomas.
 - 4.6. The OIPM and board discussed issues with the offices of the OIPM, including that the elevator is not functional. The board offered its assistance to the OIPM in working with the landlord to improve the condition of the building.
5. *Monthly Report of the Ethics Trainer*
 - 5.1. Jordy Stiggs was ill and did not appear.
 - 5.2. The board accepted Mr. Stiggs's monthly report (attached).
6. *Report of the Executive Administrator and General Counsel.*
 - 6.1. Mr. Ciolino presented his monthly report (attached).
 - 6.2. Mr. Ciolino reported that there have received no complaints since the last board meeting.
 - 6.3. The City's 2025 Budget allocated the Ethics Review Board \$305,093 which is \$5,642 (or 1.9%) more than the \$299,451 the ERB received in 2024.
 - 6.4. Mr. Ciolino reported that one ERB position (Dillard) must be filled. The mayor's office is working on this and has received nominations.

- 6.5. Mr. Ciolino reported that four (4) Council and Mayoral appointments remain unfilled on QARACs for the IG and the IPM.
7. *Executive Session*
 - 7.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 4:29 p.m. pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes section 42:17(A)(4) to discuss investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, namely, ERB Complaint No. 2023-04 and 2023-05.
 - 7.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to return to general session at 4:57 p.m.
8. *Resolution of Complaints 2024-04 and 2024-05*
 - 8.1. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to refer ERB Complaint 2024-04 to the OIG for further investigation.
 - 8.2. After a motion, duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to dismiss ERB Complaint 2024-05 for failure to claim a violation of the City of New Orleans Code of Ethics. Rather, the complaint claimed a violation of the public bid laws.
9. *Discussion of Locations of Future Meetings*
 - 9.1. Mr. Ciolino will check with City Hall regarding availability of council chambers.
 - 9.2. Mr. Ciolino will consult with Ms. Broussard on this.
10. *Adjournment.*
 - 10.1. A motion was made to adjourn the ERB meeting.
 - 10.2. The motion was seconded.
 - 10.3. The ERB unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

* END *