



Human Relations Council Assumes Operation of Citizens' Appeal Board

Release Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Contact: Erica Fields, Human Relations Council, 937-333-1413

The Citizens' Appeals Board (CAB), a five-member body that reviews appeals regarding police investigations and determinations of citizen complaints, is now operating within the City of Dayton Human Relations Council. HRC also provides staff support to the Community-Police Council and administers the Community Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence.

The Citizens' Appeal Board was established and codified by the City Commission, and the change in administrative support was approved by the Commission at its March 8 meeting. The CAB was previously operated by the Human Resources Department.

The CAB hears appeals of findings made by the Dayton Police Department Professional Standards Bureau (PSB) regarding alleged police misconduct, reviews quarterly PSB reports regarding misconduct cases under investigation, and works to enhance professional standards within the Police Department.

Initial complaints of police misconduct must be filed with the Professional Standards Bureau. Citizens who are not satisfied with the PSB decision may file an appeal to the CAB within thirty days of the PSB decision. The CAB reviews information contained in the investigation report and determines whether it sustains or does not sustain the findings.

The CAB has subpoena power and may request additional investigation from the PSB if needed. The CAB cannot make recommendations concerning the discipline of a Police Department employee, which is determined solely by the Chief of Police. However, the City Commission may meet with the Chief of Police to discuss CAB findings and may seek additional remedies.

"The CAB provides another level of accountability and a tool the community can use to weigh in on community-police relations," said Commissioner Joey D. Williams.

Citizens may contact the Human Relations Council if they need assistance at any step in the initial complaint or appeal processes.

Board members are appointed by the City Commission to rotating, two-year terms. To learn more about the CAB, visit daytonhrc.org or contact the Human Relations Council at 937-333-1413.

#

