

# **INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL MINUTES**

July 26, 2007

**LOCATION:** 140 West Flagler Street, Conference Room 908  
Miami, Florida 33130

## **PANEL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Julia Dawson, Esq., 1st Vice Chairperson  
Moiez Tapia, Ph.D., 2nd Vice Chairperson  
Glen P. Falk, Esq.  
Doris Shellow

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Jorge Reynardus, Esq., Chairperson  
Julie C. Ferguson, Esq.  
Josefa Velis, Esq.  
Michael Band, Esq.  
Jean-Robert Lafortune

## **PANEL STAFF PRESENT**

Eduardo I. Diaz, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Carol Boersma, Executive Assistant to the Director  
Kristin Anderson, Conflict Resolution Specialist

**AUDIENCE:** Civilian Investigative Panel (CIP): Steve Wolf, Chief Investigator

**Agenda Item #1) Call to Order.** Julia Dawson called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and asked staff to call roll. Ms. Dawson stated that four members were present and five were needed for a quorum. Ms. Dawson also asked staff to follow up with MDPD Legal Advisor Robert Diers regarding revisions to the mobile vendor ordinance.

**Agenda Item #2) Approval and adoption of the minutes.** Doris Shellow made a motion to adopt the minutes from the meeting held on May 24, 2007. Ms. Dawson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. The minutes must be ratified at the next Panel meeting, due to a lack of quorum.

**Agenda Item #3) Planning of Independent Review Panel Conference.** Ms. Shellow commented on the last community conference held in the northwest part of town and asked what the results of that meeting were. Dr. Diaz replied that particular meeting was a racial profiling meeting held at the Caleb Center. The turnout was poor due to the conference being held on a Saturday morning. Dr. Diaz suggested that the IRP's conference be held on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, in October, November, or December. November the 6, 7, and 8 were chosen as dates to be considered for the conference.

Mr. Falk suggested that the meeting be used to introduce the IRP to the community. He would like to see the participation of the police unions.

Dr. Diaz asked the Panel if they had any special topics to address. Doris Shellow suggested the issues of traffic and signage on roads. Julia Dawson suggested addressing elections, considering that the county is moving from touch screen to paper ballots, and low-income housing. She would like the community to know that the IRP is not limited to police complaints.

Dr. Diaz reported that he was thinking of having 2 or 3 panels, each with different topics. He suggested that Panel members chair the panel focusing on his/her topic of interest and invite guests and representatives from other organizations, such as the CIP and MDPD, to join their panel. Ms. Dawson replied that, whatever the topic, activists who are knowledgeable about the topic should be included on the panel. Ms. Dawson suggested holding the conference on several evenings, so various topics could be presented. Ms. Dawson offered to chair panels on housing and elections. She also noted that November 6 is Election Day. She asked staff to let her know what elections were scheduled for that day.

Ms. Shellow suggested that the meeting be held in a place other than the Caleb Center, because other IRP meetings have already been held there and it is also a high crime area. She offered Coconut Grove as a possible site. Carol Boersma suggested the South Dade area. Staff will explore multiple sites.

The Panel agreed to partner with other organizations in the community conference, such as CIP, CRB, and the Commission on Ethics.

**Agenda Item #4) Executive Director's Report.** Dr. Diaz reported that Glenn Falk will be considered for re-appointment in September and Julia Dawson's re-appointment is currently pending the BCC vote. There is a vacancy in the CAA seat on the IRP. Dr. Diaz informed the Panel, that in the 07-08 mayor's proposed budget, the CAA appears merged with the Department of Human Services. The IRP remains intact. The final budget will be decided by the BCC in September. Ms. Dawson suggested that maybe the Panel should have a nominating agency other than the CAA. Dr. Diaz replied that would require an ordinance change. Ms. Dawson asked that tweaking the IRP ordinance be put on the agenda for a future meeting.

Dr. Diaz spoke about the NACOLE conference in September and reported that he has prepared travel requests for three Panel members to attend, Josie Velis, Julie Ferguson, and Jorge Reynardus.

On an international note, Dr. Diaz communicated that he received an invitation from Mexico to help initiate civilian oversight of law enforcement in the state of Guerrero. Three Mexican non-governmental organizations (NGO) are sponsoring the international conference and will cover travel expenses. This conference will take place August 29 through September 1, 2007.

**Agenda #7) Adjourn.** Dr. Tapia made a motion to adjourn. Julia Dawson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.