

Honorable Inspector General Ha and OIG staff:

I am writing this complaint in regard to the blatant disregard for the Charter of the City of Detroit by the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners (BOPC).

In this complaint I am specifically citing direct violations of Section 7-804 which reads:

The board will appoint a board secretary.

The secretary will not be an employee or elective or appointed officer within 3 years prior to appointment or while serving as secretary. The board will appoint a chief investigator and additional staff as necessary. The chief investigator will not be an employee or elective or appointed officer within 3 years prior to appointment or while serving as chief investigator.

The board may hire additional staff as necessary.

All staff members are under the direction of the board.

At their regular [Meeting](#), on January 13th 2022 the Board of Police Commissioners appointed interim Secretary Melanie White to serve as secretary for two calendar years. At the same meeting the BOPC appointed interim Chief Investigator Lawrence Akbar to serve as Chief Investigator for two calendar years.

Since both of these individuals were employees of the City of Detroit less than three years before the aforementioned meeting, they are not qualified for the position to which they are appointed. This is a violation of the Charter and I would call on the Inspector General to take whatever action is necessary to enforce compliance.

While the perpetrators of this violation may argue that these are not the actual appointments, but only interim, this claim is inconsistent with prior actions. The Ms. White and Mr. Akbar have each served in interim positions for all of 2021. During 2021 The BOPC accepted applications and interviewed legally qualified candidates to fill those positions. Upon conclusion of the interview process they failed to hire the qualified finalists. At present they are not seeking additional applicants and are behaving as if these positions are filled.

I look forward to your response on this matter, following a thorough investigation of the aforementioned violations.

Sincerely,
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