



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency
Evandro C. Carvalho, Executive Director

OPAT COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING

Minutes

Wednesday, August 13, 2025 | Scheduled for 5:00 p.m.
In-Person Meeting | 2300 Washington St, Roxbury, MA 02119

Call to Order

The meeting of the Office of Police Accountability and Transparency (OPAT) Commission was called to order by Executive Director Evandro Carvalho at **5:07 p.m.**

Introduction

Executive Director Evandro Carvalho opened the meeting, providing an overview of OPAT's mission and purpose. He stated that the Office was created by ordinance of the City of Boston as an official independent agency for oversight pertaining to complaints of misconduct regarding the Boston Police Department (BPD).

Director Carvalho introduced **Samuel Harold, Chair of the Civilian Review Board (CRB)**, and **Anthony Fugate, Chair of the Internal Affairs Oversight Panel (IAOP)**.

Director Carvalho discussed the **meeting agenda**, noting the following primary topics:

- **The Director's Report**
- **OPAT Subpoena Powers**
- **BPD Response Expectations**



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He extended special thanks to the OPAT team and to Boston Public Schools (BPS) for providing the meeting space.

Individuals unable to attend the meeting in person could contact OPAT through the website or at the office located at 2201 Washington Street, Boston, MA.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Director Carvalho presented the April 30, 2025 meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve Minutes as Presented

- Moved by: Anthony Fugate
 - Seconded by: Samuel Harold
 - Vote: Anthony Fugate (yes) Samuel Harold (yes) Evandro Carvalho (yes)
- Motion unanimously passed.
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Director's Report and Administrative Updates

Director Carvalho provided an overview of cases and findings from April–July 2025, followed by administrative updates:

- New Staff: Welcomed Mario Beazile as a new team member.
 - Ongoing Recruitment efforts for investigator, communications manager, and Director of Administration and Finance position.
 - The FY2025 Annual Report will soon be released, summarizing the Office's recent work and initiatives.
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Discussion: Subpoena Powers

The Commission discussed Section 12-16.4 of the OPAT Ordinance, outlining the Powers and Duties of the Commission, including subpoena authority.

Discussion also centered around the public's interest in OPAT's subpoena powers and circumstances under which subpoena authority should be exercised.

Motion: To authorize the Executive Director to issue subpoenas for routine matters without requiring a two-thirds Commission vote

- Moved by: Samuel Harold
 - Seconded by: Anthony Fugate
 - **Vote:** Evandro Carvalho (yes) Samuel Harold (yes) Anthony Fugate (yes)
Motion unanimously passed.
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Discussion: BPD Commissioner's Responses to Board Decisions

The Commission discussed Section 12-16.11(e) of the OPAT Ordinance regarding the Civilian Review Board process, emphasizing that the Police Commissioner must either accept or reject the CRB's disciplinary recommendations and provide written reasoning if recommendations are not adopted.

The Commission reviewed Commissioner's responses in the past year and expressed concern over the four recent responses OPAT received from the BPD Commissioner. These responses indicated that sustained cases from May 15, 2025 had been referred to the Internal Affairs Division (IAD) for further review. The Commission addressed how the sustained findings of the CRB and IAOP remain binding and cannot be overturned by the BPD Commissioner.



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Discussion: Response Timeline for BPD to Respond to OPAT Boards' Decisions

The Commission discussed establishing a reasonable timeline for BPD to reply to the Boards Findings and Recommendations to promote efficiency and accountability.

Motion: Establishing a 45-day response window for the BPD Commissioner to reply to CRB findings/recommendations.

- Moved by: Samuel Harold
- Seconded by: Anthony Fugate
- **Vote:** Evandro Carvalho (yes) Samuel Harold (yes) Anthony Fugate (yes)
Motion unanimously passed.

The Commission emphasized that while BPD retains discretion in implementing recommended disciplines, the CRB's findings should remain unchanged following the Board's vote and stressed the importance of BPD providing clear reasoning for any departures from CRB's recommended discipline.

Motion: To authorize the Executive Director to send a letter to the BPD Commissioner outlining the new rule that BPD must not alter CRB findings and must respond to recommendations within 45 days, providing written reasoning for any disagreement.

Moved by: Samuel Harold

Seconded by: Anthony Fugate

Vote: Evandro Carvalho (yes) Samuel Harold (yes) Anthony Fugate (yes)

Motion unanimously passed.



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Other Business

The Commission discussed the first CRB Policy Subcommittee Meeting that took place on August 12, 2015. Minutes for this and other CRB Police Subcommittee Meetings can be found on OPAT's website: boston.gov/opat

Public Comment

Director Carvalho opened the floor for Public Comment, providing information on how attendees may submit comments and concerns to OPAT.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn:

- Moved by: Anthony Fugate
- Seconded by: Samuel Harold
- **Vote:** Anthony Fugate (yes) Evandro Carvalho (yes) Samuel Harold (yes)
Motion unanimously passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Office of Police Accountability and Transparency Staff
Submitted to: OPAT Commission for approval.