



## Board of Police Commissioners

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### News Release

For Immediate Release:  
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#### **Chair Lisa Carter issues statement on President Trump's statements supporting 'rough' police treatment of suspects:**

"On behalf of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, I strongly condemn President Trump's remarks encouraging police officers to 'rough' handle or physically abuse suspects in custody. His approach to policing is antiquated and embodies a mindset that has no place among officers sworn to uphold the law, or frankly among any civilized society in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. His use of an ethnic slur reminds us how ingrained discrimination has been in law enforcement and how police powers have been used to systemically intimidate people based on their skin color, religion, sexual orientation, or heritage, as Irish immigrants once experienced as targets who were rounded up in large groups. It is especially disheartening that President Trump said this to an audience including Suffolk County police officers, whose former chief right now faces prison for beating up a man and whose Police Department remains under federal oversight for years of abusive police practices that violated the U.S. Constitution and discriminated against Latinos and immigrants.

"President Trump's words, and the applause that greeted them, are deeply troubling to oversight bodies like our Board, which has worked diligently to modernize law enforcement policies and procedures for greater effectiveness in identifying, arresting and securing the conviction of criminals. In Detroit, our Board, community, and Police Department leadership will continue to work together towards excellence in the proven best practices that ensure safe neighborhoods and a thriving city."

Created by City Charter in 1974, the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners has supervisory authority and oversight over the Police Department. Under the 2012 Charter, the Board is comprised of 11 civilian members; Detroiters elect seven members by district (the seat for District 7 is vacant); the mayor appoints four at-large members.



The current members are Willie E. Bell, Elizabeth Brooks, Willie E. Burton, Lisa Carter, Reginald Crawford, Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Conrad L. Mallet Jr., Derrick Sanders, Richard Shelby and Bishop Edgar L. Vann.

The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners meets weekly on Thursday at 3 p.m. at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Avenue, except for the second Thursday of the month when it holds community meetings at 6:30 p.m.

For the Board meeting schedule, video, minutes and other information, visit the website at [detroitmi.gov/boards/boardofpolicecommissioners](http://detroitmi.gov/boards/boardofpolicecommissioners).