



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

February 24, 2022

Councilmember Charles Allen
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 110
Washington, DC 20004
callen@dccouncil.us

RE: DC Council’s Performance Oversight of the Metropolitan Police Department

Dear Councilmember Allen,

At its regular meeting on February 16, 2022, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With eight of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (8-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Patel and seconded by Commissioner Causey, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in May 2021 ANC 2A voted 7-0-0 in favor of specific recommendations that the ANC put forward requesting that the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) prioritizes diversity, builds relationships with the community, and addresses issues facing law enforcement,

WHEREAS, an October 2021 lawsuit alleges that retributive actions were taken against individuals, a number of them being Black women and other officers, who came forward about mistreatment and sexual harassment occurring within MPD,¹

WHEREAS, a February 2022 lawsuit alleges that MPD has limited responses to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests in order to reduce the criticism and scrutiny of MPD from the media, legal professionals, ANC commissioners, and other individuals that inquire about the inner workings of MPD, placing certain individuals on a “black list” and violating the spirit of the law for FOIA obligations,² and

WHEREAS, ANC 2A requests that the following recommendations from the DC Police Reform Commission report are implemented in order to restore transparency with our community partners, recommendations that the ANC believes are necessary in order to maintain trust and agency accountability:

A. Create a public advisory board for MPD,

¹ [Black Female Police Officers Sue D.C. Metropolitan Police Dept. Over Alleged Systemic Race, Gender Discrimination \(classaction.org\)](https://www.classaction.org/black-female-police-officers-sue-dc-metropolitan-police-dept-over-alleged-systemic-race-gender-discrimination)

² [Lawsuit Says MPD Kept 'Watchlist' Of Critics And Reporters \(dcist.com\)](https://www.dcist.com/lawsuit-says-mpd-kept-watchlist-of-critics-and-reporters)



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- B. Establish a strong internal audit function,
- C. Create a Deputy Auditor for Public Safety position,
- D. Reduce racial disparities in the use of force, and
- E. Ban the use of choke holds.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A encourages the DC Council to implement policies to promote a culture of transparency and equity within MPD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Council to implement the DC Police Reform Commission’s recommendations outlined in this resolution so that public faith is restored and MPD is more diverse, inclusive, ethical, responsible, and effective.

Commissioners Trupti Patel (2A03@anc.dc.gov) and Joel Causey (2A02@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Joel Causey
Chairperson

CC: Robert Contee, Chief of Police, MPD
Christopher Geldart, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice
Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Ward 2
Joe Florio, Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services