

Administrative Charging Committee Minutes
Open Session
February 28, 2025

The Administrative Charging Committee (ACC) for Dorchester County convened into Open Session on February 28, 2025, at 4:31 p.m., in Room 110 of the County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland 21613. Present in Room 110 were: Derek Griffin, Chair; Vaughn Evans. Also present in Room 110 were Patrick Thomas, Legal Counsel; and Irene Barnes, Executive Operations Specialist. Zia Ashraf, Vice Chair joined via Teams;

The ACC invited Cherry Moaney and Robert Rowe, to attend the ACC meeting, with the understanding that neither may participate until they have completed the required training.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 22, 2025

Upon motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Ashraf, the ACC unanimously approved the Open Session and Closed Session minutes of January 22, 2025.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Mr. Ashraf, seconded by Mr. Evans, the ACC unanimously adjourned into Closed Session at 4:34 p.m. pursuant to §3-305(b)(1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; §3-305(b)(13) to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter; and §3-305(b)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. The Written Statement for Closing a Meeting under the Open Meetings Act is attached hereto.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The ACC adjourned the Closed Session at 6:09 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 6:10 p.m.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Chair

The ACC appointed Derek Griffin as the Chair to the ACC.

Vice Chair

The ACC appointed Zia Ashraf as the Vice Chair of the ACC.

CLOSED SESSION SUMMARY

The ACC convened into a Closed Session at 4:35 p.m. on February 28, 2025 to discuss the

following items pursuant to Title 3 of the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code §3-305(b)(1), (13) and (7):

1. Discussed complaints filed against specific law enforcement officers; and
2. Obtained legal advice from the ACC Counsel regarding the complaints.

ADJOURNMENT

The ACC adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

FEBRUARY 28, 2025, CLOSED SESSION SUMMARY

1. Statement of the time, place, and purpose of the closed session:

Time of closed session: 4:35 p.m. to 6:09 p.m.
Place of closed session: Room 110, County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland
Purpose of closed session: Pursuant to §§ 3-305(b)(1), (7), and (13) of the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; and to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

2. Record of the vote of each member as to closing the session:

Members voting aye: Griffin, Ashraf, Evans
Members opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Absent: None

3. Statutory authority to close session and listing of each topic actually discussed, persons present, and each action taken in the session:

Topic Description	Statutory Authority	Reason for Closed Session Discussion	Persons Present	Action Taken
To discuss complaints filed against specific law enforcement officers.	GP § 3-305(b)(1)	Discussion involves specific individuals	In person: Griffin, Evans, Rowe, Thomas and Barnes Ashraf joined via Teams.	The ACC made determinations on all of the complaints.

To obtain legal advice from the ACC Counsel regarding the complaints.	GP § 3-305(b)(7)	Attorney-client privilege	In person: Griffin, Evans, Rowe, Thomas and Barnes Ashraf joined via Teams.	S/A
To comply with a specific statutory requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter	GP § 3-305(b)(13)	Md. Code Ann., Public Safety § 3-104(h) requires that the ACC maintain confidentiality regarding matters considered until final disposition.	Griffin, Evans, Rowe, Thomas and Barnes Ashraf joined via Teams.	S/A

ATTEST:




Irene Barnes
Executive Operations Specialist

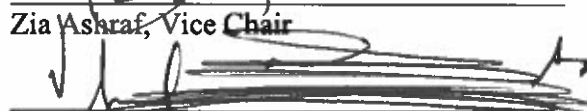
ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING
COMMITTEE



Derek Griffin, Chair



Zia Ashraf, Vice Chair



Vaughn Evans

Approved the 23 day of April 2025.

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT")
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

This form has two sides. Complete items 1 – 4 before closing the meeting.

1. Recorded vote to close the meeting:

Date: 2/28/25; Time: 4:35 p.m.; Location: 501 Court Lane, Room 110,
Cambridge, MD 21613; Motion to close meeting made by: _____ Seconded by: _____
Members in favor: Griffin, Vaughn, Ashraf
Opposed: _____ Abstaining: _____ Absent: _____

2. Statutory authority to close session (check all provisions that apply).

*21a joined via
Teams*

This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only:

(1) x "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"; (2) _____ "To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business"; (3) _____ "To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto"; (4) _____ "To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State"; (5) _____ "To consider the investment of public funds"; (6) _____ "To consider the marketing of public securities"; (7) x "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice"; (8) _____ "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation"; (9) _____ "To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations"; (10) _____ "To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans"; (11) _____ "To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination"; (12) _____ "To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct"; (13) x "To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter"; (14) _____ "Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process." (15) _____ "To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information . . . or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices."

Continued →

3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion of topic
§3-305(b) (1)	To discuss a complaints filed against a specific law enforcement officers.	To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.
§3-305(b)(13)	Same topic as above	To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.
§3-305(b) (7)	To receive legal advice regarding complaints filed against a specific law enforcement officers.	To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

4. This statement is made by Deak Sniff **Presiding Officer.**

WORKSHEET FOR OPTIONAL USE IN CLOSED SESSION: INFORMATION FOR SUMMARY TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT OPEN MEETING. (See also template for summary.)

➤ **For a meeting closed under the statutory authority cited above:**

Time of closed session: _____
 Place: _____
 Purpose(s): _____
 Members who voted to meet in closed session: _____
 Persons attending closed session: _____
 Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: _____
 Topics actually discussed: _____
 Actions taken: _____
 Each recorded vote: _____

➤ **For a meeting recessed to perform an administrative function (§ 3-104):** Time: _____

Place: _____
 Persons present: _____
 Subjects discussed: _____

CLOSED SESSION SUMMARY
February 28, 2025

The Administrative Charging Committee convened into a Closed Session at 4:35 p.m. on February 28, 2025 to discuss the following items pursuant to Title 3 of the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code §3-305(b)(1), §3-305(b)(13) and §3-305(b)(7):

1. Discussed complaints filed against a specific law enforcement officers; and,
2. Obtained legal advice from the ACC Counsel regarding the complaints;