



The Grand Rapids Police Department (GRPD) has supported civilian oversight since the implementation of the Civilian's Appeal Board (CAB). More recently we adopted the opinion of 21st Century Policing regarding police oversight and backed the creation of the Office of Oversight and Public Accountability (OPA). We value their role in our community and appreciate their position on transparency and accountability when it comes to public safety operations.

Financially the department has reallocated \$351,815 to the OPA to assist in their mission. Significant time and energy has also been spent in helping design policies and processes to ensure the lawful sharing of information and data. What has been overlooked is that there are numerous state and federal laws that govern the documentation, storage, retention and sharing of police information. In addition, the agency's professional staff responsible for generating, redacting and distributing records are already understaffed and overtaxed. The Records Unit is responsible for fulfilling over 20,000 records and video requests received each year.

The GRPD can agree with OPA's statement that Grand Rapidians do deserve the accountability and transparency that they have been promised. The department hopes that under this new policy additional administrative resources will be provided in order to satisfy records requests in a reasonable time frame. The GRPD will continue to adhere to our mission, vision and values.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Payne'.

Eric Payne
Chief of Police