

Michael Higgins
Rochester, New York

Councilmembers,

Until this Friday, I served as Chief of Policy & Oversight at the Police Accountability Board. I understand that you are currently meeting in executive session to discuss personnel issues at the Police Accountability Board.

I am dismayed that the City has taken no action to investigate my whistleblower complaint that Mr. Bascoe was intoxicated by drugs or alcohol at a staff meeting on October 3, 2022. To date, the City has not contacted me about my complaint and apparently taken no action to investigate this incident to which there were over 20 witnesses and contemporaneous electronic evidence. That evidence identified in my whistleblower complaint includes emails and text messages sent during the meeting.

The City's failure to investigate my complaint follows on the heels of Board President Larry Knox and Vice President Arlene Brown also refusing to act and permitting Mr. Bascoe to fire me in what board member Reverend Mathew Nickoloff wrote in a text message was "a clear act of spite and stupidity."

I support the demands of the 18 employees and remain ready and willing to continue serving the mission of the PAB.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right from the end of the name.

Michael Higgins