

From: Marjorie Hakala  
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 2:36 PM  
To: #CI-StPaul\_Ward4  
Subject: Civilian review commission

Dear Mr. Stark,

I am a resident of the Hamline-Midway neighborhood, and I have been following the conversation about the civilian review commission for police officers. I am writing to voice my support for the position that you expressed earlier this year, if I understand you correctly: that the disciplinary process already involves police officers on the internal review board and that decisions about punishment are made by the police chief, such that there is not a compelling need to include officers on the civilian commission as well.

It could not be clearer that we need to build better relationships between police departments and the communities they serve. As a Quaker and a pacifist, I am disturbed by the military nature of the modern police and the sense that police officers and non-white community members are positioned as opposing sides in a war. It is a founding principle of the United States that the military ultimately must answer to civilian elected officials. The same principle ought to apply to the police.

Please continue to oppose including police officers on the civilian review board, and thank you for your work.

Sincerely,  
Marjorie Hakala

**From:** Laura Jones  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2016 1:22 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4  
**Subject:** Support an independent civilian review commission

Dear Councilmember Stark,

I'm a resident of the Hamline/Midway neighborhood and am writing to encourage you to support an all-civilian police internal affairs review board, as outlined in two separate audits and modeled in countless other cities throughout the country. While I appreciate some of the reforms that have been proposed, keeping police on the commission in nonvoting capacity does nothing to address concerns about the impact on the board's independence and ability to render unbiased judgments.

Our region is suffering from strained relationships between law enforcement and communities. Shootings death by police hit a record high this year in Minnesota. There is widespread perception that policing procedures are rigged against communities, and set up to allow departments to "protect their own" at the expense of citizens who may have rightful complaints. Following the lead of other commissions and the two audits, an independent civilian review board could be an important step in building trust.

The department has sufficient opportunity for input into the commission, and commissioners are trained and develop expertise and experience over time. Police participation in the commission, even in a nonvoting role, does not add to commissioners' ability to weigh and deliberate cases, and instead jeopardizes the legitimacy and independence of the process. Our city, communities, and police department will benefit from a fully independent citizen review board, that can provide the thoughtful analysis and reflection of the dedicated laypeople who serve on the commission.

I have read both the U of M report and Berkshire reports carefully, which compellingly argue for an independent process due to the risk of influence and bias. Police officers do important and difficult work, and the investigation should reflect department policies and other relevant information. But having police participate in the commission's deliberations makes no more sense than allowing a member of the prosecution or defense team to participate in the deliberations of a jury.

The jury process works when jurors are truly independent and each can participate in the dialogue on an equal footing. Police department staff who participate in the commission can never be truly independent, nor will they be on equal footing with other commission members because they have and are seen to have special expertise. I share the belief, with many other residents and voters, that police do not belong on a civilian review board.

I ask for your support for an independent and all-civilian review board. Our residents need to trust in the integrity and impartiality of the process.

I would be happy to speak with you further about my concerns with this issue.  
Laura Jones

**From:** Tracy Kugler  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2016 8:28 AM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4  
**Subject:** The police must be held accountable

Dear Councilmember Stark,

As your constituent, I am writing to ask you to vote to remove police officers from the Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission. I believe the presence of police officers on the review commission represents a conflict of interest and interferes with the openness of a process to hold police accountable for upholding fair and unbiased protection of all St. Paul residents.

Sincerely,  
Tracy Kugler

**From:** Lisa Larson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2016 11:16 AM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4  
**Subject:** No police on the civilian review board

I am writing to ask you PLEASE vote to remove police officers from the civilian review board. As your constituent from 1359 Edmund Avenue, I am painfully aware that the current board is not enforcing an adequate standard of accountability. It is critical that the Civilian Review Board be civilian-only in order to be independent and as impartial as possible. The point of the civilian review board is for civilians to review the police, not the police to police themselves. In addition, the presence of police officers on the board makes it difficult for civilians on the board to feel comfortable and capable of doing their job of reviewing policing conduct to the best of their abilities. This certainly is not in the best interest of your constituents.

This board is incredibly important, and the city council has the opportunity to be a better model for police accountability and restore residents' confidence in the board.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,  
Lisa Larson

**From:** Donald lorr  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2016 5:02 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4; Henningson, Samantha (CI-StPaul); Bauer, Kelly (CI-StPaul)  
**Cc:** donald.lorr@thomsonreuters.com  
**Subject:** RE: Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission

Hello, Council President Stark:

Thank you for all your hard work on this matter and ALL items that come before you.

I know you to be a thoughtful, fair, thorough thinker and considerate public servant. I know you to be deliberate and considerate of the wide range of values of your constituents and of all residents of the City.

1. I am concerned about the Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission.
2. I am concerned about the Police presence on the board.
3. I am concerned that they are voting members.
4. I think that the City should follow the recommendations of two commissioned reports and have no officers on the commission.  
As noted in reports, having police on such commissions is not done in other cities, so doing it here invites criticism and sows mistrust.
5. I think the oversight of the civilian review board should remain with the Human Rights Office. This agency is experienced and fair and will provide the appropriate support to the civilian review board.
6. I think we need this transparency and independent oversight to make Saint Paul “***the most livable City***” for all of its residents and visitors.

I believe that the leadership of the Saint Paul Police is strong and will lead their employees to strong relationships with the communities in the future. Supporting a truly civilian review board is in the best interests of the police and the citizens of Saint Paul.

NOW MORE THAN EVER. We need to stand together and work toward a better future for all. Let us all move forward courageously and build the City we all dream and hope for that supports & protects each of us equally.

Thank you for your thoughtful service and consideration.

Donald Lorr

**From:** Mae Hanzlik  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2016 12:14 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4  
**Subject:** No police on the civilian review board

I am writing to ask you to vote to remove police officers from the civilian review board. This is a stock email provided to me by a non-profit, but I stand firmly behind every word.

As your constituent, I am painfully aware that the current board is not enforcing an adequate standard of accountability. It is critical that the Civilian Review Board be civilian-only in order to be independent and as impartial as possible. The point of the civilian review board is for civilians to review the police, not the police to police themselves. In addition, the presence of police officers on the board makes it difficult for civilians on the board to feel comfortable and capable of doing their job of reviewing policing conduct to the best of their abilities. This certainly is not in the best interest of your constituents.

This board is incredibly important, and the city council has the opportunity to be a better model for police accountability and restore residents' confidence in the board.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,  
Mae Hanzlik

From: Jennifer  
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 4:42 PM  
To: #CI-StPaul\_Ward4  
Subject: Police officers on the PCIARC

Dear Council Member Stark,  
I recently became aware of tomorrow's City Council vote regarding police officers sitting as members of the PCIARC. I don't think this is the appropriate place for the officers to serve because it causes an obvious conflict of interest.

I am writing to urge you to vote along with Council Member Thao to remove the police officers from the committee to maintain a stronger, fairer system of accountability that the public feel we can trust.

Thank you for your service to our community! I appreciate your work very much.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Magnus

**From:** Kelli  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2016 8:58 AM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4  
**Subject:** Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission Feedback

Dear Councilmember Stark,

I am writing today regarding the amendments proposed for the PCIARC.

I do not believe police belong on this commission and that the extensive community feedback gathered by the NAACP and other community groups should be honored.

Additionally, the PCIARC should be housed in the City's Department of Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity.

I hope in our time of division and pain in the wake of Philando Castile's death and so many others around the country that you and the Council will do the right thing in accepting the community feedback gathered by the NAACP and presented in two separate audits and vote against the inclusion of officers on the commission.

Thank you for your openness to consider the feedback you may be hearing from your ward residents.

Thank you for your time,  
Kelli McCully



**From:** MJ Maynes  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2016 9:32 PM  
**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4; MJ Maynes  
**Subject:** Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission

Dear Councilmember Stark:

**I strongly urge you to vote to remove police officers from the Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission.**

**The Saint Paul City Council must to vote to remove police officers from its police review commission.** It's a small step toward interrupting the disproportionate pattern of negative, at times fatal, interactions with people of color and Native Americans and police. This is a chance to take step that build greater public confidence in our police and city government, not give us cause to question whose interests they are really looking out for. We need strong police accountability and it can start here.

Sincerely,  
MJ Maynes