

Njoku, Chioma

From: Shel Gross <shelgross3@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2026 12:20 PM
To: Police Civilian Oversight Board
Subject: Comments for Tonight's Meeting

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As a member of MOSES-Madison I am writing to indicate my support for the maximum independence of the Police Civilian Oversight Board and the Independent Police Monitor. While there were difficulties in getting the PCOB organized and an IPM in place, both the recent Annual Report and this week's report on the death of Richard Lee Johnson demonstrate the critical role that such an independent office can play in bringing forward information that the Madison Police Department has not. With continuing racial disparities in law enforcement, shining on a light on what is not working (as well as on what is) is absolutely necessary.

Therefore I support the original ordinance, which was crafted after a lot of review and based on best practices for these sort of bodies, and believe that changes should come from the PCOB and IPM in order to strengthen its independence if and when a need for this is identified.

And it is necessary to fund the bodies at a level which allows them to carry out the duties and responsibilities required in the ordinance.

Thank you.

Shel Gross
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"Be joyful though you have considered all the facts."
~Wendell Berry