

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2023
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
VIDEOCONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE CALL VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Commissioners Darrell Brooks; Michael Lawlor; Tracey Meares; Evelise Ribeiro; and Donald Walker

Chief Karl Jacobson: Department of Police Service
Assistant Chief David Zannelli: Department of Police Service
Lieutenant Manmeet Colon: Department of Police Service
Lieutenant Jason Weted: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Pedro Colon: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Edward Dunford: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Paul Finch: Department of Police Service
Sergeant David Guliuzza: Department of Police Service
Officer Vincent Deleo: Department of Police Service
Officer Joseph Galvin: Department of Police Service
Officer Frank Grillo: Department of Police Service
Officer Christopher Lawrence: Department of Police Service
Officer Douglas Pearse: Department of Police Service
Officer Scott Shumway: Department of Police Service
Officer Robert Stratton: Department of Police Service
Officer Steven Travaglino: Department of Police Service
Eva Perry-Lambert: Administrative Assistant

Chief Anthony Campbell: Yale Police Department
Michelle Duprey, Esquire: Deputy Corporation Counsel
Officer Florencio Cotto: President, Elm City Local

Gerald Antunes: Board of Alders
Christopher Halstead, YPD
Daniel Hunt
Jonathan Lambert
Officer Michael Lounsbury
Miguel Pittman, Snr.
Christiana

OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Ribeiro indicated that Commissioner Miranda would not be joining the meeting this evening and that Commissioner Meares would be late.

The Regular Session meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was called to order at 6:03 p.m., Evelise Ribeiro, Chair, presiding.

AGENDA

- ** Commissioner Walker motioned to approve the Agenda for January 10, 2023
- ** Commissioner Lawlor seconded
- ** Motion passed unanimously

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion and Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2022

- ** Commissioner Walker motioned to Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners held on December 13, 2022
- ** Commissioner Lawlor seconded
- ** Commissioner Walker abstained
- ** (3-0-1)
- ** Motioned carried

CHIEF’S REPORT

Chief Karl Jacobson

- Chief Jacobson began by stating that the Department had lost Detective D’Andrea in December and then Detectives Nicole Natale and Danny Sacco in the first of week in January. He brought this up because obviously they hope to hire some detectives. They are very much needed.
- There were also two resignations, Officer Pazsak and Officer Simpkins, which is unfortunate as they are both good officers. They went to other departments. They did do an exit interview with Officer Simpkins who is from New Haven. It seems to be that salary is the reason why she left. They wish both officers luck and the four retirees luck.
- There has been an uptick in crime. There were 10 homicides leading into December. There were four homicides in the December and also three in the beginning of January. Year to date, there has been three homicides and one non-fatal shooting. Last year at the same time, there were eight non-fatal shootings and no homicides.
- The Department is making good progress regarding those homicides. For obvious reasons, he could not speak in depth about the ongoing investigations. One appears to be related a drug dispute. One appears to be an old beef related to the homicide of somebody. This is what could be called a group- or gang-related homicide. And then the other appears to be a beef. We see the people talking to the victim ahead of time and the victim is then shot. All the three recent incidents are targeted incidents, and the four from December as well. Detectives are working hard. They have already seized a vehicle related to a homicide.
- The Department is making progress. A big part of that progress is the cameras. As we move into 2023 there were 21 new cameras installed in the city, and also 10 LPR (License Plate Readers). They have been quite substantial in all of these investigations.
- The Department’s cruisers have dash cams which are also License Plate Readers. Those have proven helpful with the investigations. This is just not just regarding violent crimes, this is regarding any type of investigation whether the Department is trying to locate a car or a missing person, etc. These are game changers already.
- The Department just needs more detectives so they can look at more of this camera footages and pursue more of the leads.

- The other thing he is hopeful about coming into 2023 is that the Department had received a lot of assistance related to these cases. This has been very good for the Department.
- The year ended with 246 guns seized. These are crime guns. As a result of the gun seizures, 222 arrests were made. Forty-seven of those guns were ghost guns.
- Since the 1st of January, the Department has seized 10 guns and made nine arrests. And only one gun was a ghost gun. At this time last year, the Department had only seized one gun. So, there are a lot more guns in the streets. The Department is acknowledging that. The Department's federal partners are hard at work with them.
- Just this morning there was a collaboration with the DEA and AFT. They were able to take someone off the street who had 148 grams of Fentanyl. He is well known to the Department as a gang member and someone who had been engaged in violence in the past. He fled the area and crashed into DEA agents' vehicles injuring the agents. He is glad to say that the agents are going to be all right. The Department is using all its resources, federal partners, the State's Attorney's Office, the US Attorney Office, etc., to calm the violence down and also bring the violence to an end.
- The Department has also used other methods such as Project Longevity. They have done numerous custom notifications since the homicide spike. They will continue to do that. They are planning an early call in for PSN and Project Longevity.
- Equipment updates: The Department had ordered and received the Star Chaser equipment which is the device that's installed into the cruisers and then attaches a GPS to vehicles if they take off on officers, thereby obviating a chase and putting other community members at risk. The Department is able to track vehicles. That had just been ordered and brought in. They were able to purchase it on a grant. They will be installing that equipment, doing training, and signing up policies for that in the near future.
- The Department has purchased 15 Dodge Chargers as new police vehicles and five Ford Explorers. All the equipment needed have been installed such as dash cam, etc. They are starting to hit the streets right now.
- The Department had also asked the Board of Alders for eight SUVs. Of those eight SUVs, they are looking at two to potentially be electric vehicles. The Department is not sure. They have researched electric vehicles for full patrol cars. At this time there are no models that can run 24/7 to meet the Department's needs. There are many Departments that could use electric vehicles. They are going to start rolling out that program at the request of the Alders.
- The year ended with 14 homicides and 100 non-fatal shootings. In 2021, there were 26 homicides and 110 non-fatal shootings. There has been some progress made. They did have a spike at the end of the 2022 coming into January. But all hands are on deck. They are working hard.
- Tonight they are asking to promote some lieutenants, sergeants and detectives. This is all part of the plan moving forward, but not just the violent crime but the community engagement and all that the Department does in New Haven.
- Commissioner Meares indicated that she did not expect an answer to her question immediately. She would like to hear some thoughts from the Chief's team about an issue that she had expressed concern about to Chief Ettienne and to the Chair. She and Chief Zannelli spoke about this before. There is an issue of pedestrians being struck by cars in New Haven. They had just received a notification either on January 10th or January 9th. She could not remember when it came through.

■ She had been looking at the stats. This is a national issue. She would say it is actually a national crisis. The number of people being hit by cars has gone up substantially over the last decade. Connecticut is one of the worst states in the country. She is hopeful that this city can be a leader in developing strategies on how to address this.

■ Many people make an argument that the way to do that is to have more officers on the streets to either calm traffic or to arrest speeders. This is one strategy. The latter strategy puts the officers at risk of charges of discrimination when there are more passive ways of doing it either architecturally or through cameras.

■ Commissioner Meares noted that Washington D.C. has speeding cameras installed all over the city. As a result, there has been a marked change in D.C. over the last six years regarding the number of people who are speeding around D.C.

■ Commissioner Meares indicated that Chief Jacobson could respond. However, she was not expecting an answer right away. This is an issue that should be concerning.

■ Chief Jacobson responded by saying that the overall number of pedestrians struck is up. In 2021 there were 10 fatalities. There were only three in 2022. But the number is still up. He had assigned five extra people to the motor unit which is specifically for traffic enforcement only. That's the first phase.

■ Chief Jacobson went on to say that they had met with Giovanni, the city engineer, several times regarding better ways of doing it like Commissioner Meares had indicated. They are working on a plan together.

■ New Haven has different strategies such as the bike lane. There are a lot of things going on. They need to add some things like this. The traffic enforcement will help as well.

■ Commissioner Jacobson said that when he became chief, he asked his officers to put on their cruiser lights one and drive around. He started doing it to when driving home from work. It's funny how people jump on the brake and stop in front of you because they realize, oh, there's a cop right here. They will continue with presence.

■ Chief Jacobson further stated that Commissioner Meares was right and that there are better ways of doing. They are having discussions with Giovanni, the city engineer.

■ Commissioner Lawlor indicated he had a quick question. He was also fascinated about technological solutions. Chief Jacobson had mentioned the Star Chaser. He asked how many of those the Department anticipate the officers would have available. He further asked if this is something officers would carry around with them routinely on patrol. He wondered how it would work.

■ Chief Jacobson indicated that the Department had purchased 12 units that get installed into cars. So, it is like a hand-operated clicker. So, if an officer stops a car and walks up to the vehicle., and the car takes off, the officer can engage the device and it would stick to the back of the car. They also have two-handheld units.

■ What he foresees is that, as they build the program and they see how it works, they can get to the point where the Department will have one or two cars in every district with this device. For example, Traffic, the plainclothes unit, etc., will get a few of those units. They will also have handheld units. The device is very safe. If one shoots oneself, it would be like being shot by a tennis ball but with a regular person throwing it. It is tested and safe. Hartford and many other areas of the state are using this. The Department is looking forward to starting it and seeing where it goes. Chief Jacobson further stated that he viewed this technology as a deterrent for drag racing.

- When the Department starts using it and starts making some arrests especially for drag racing, they are going to know, don't come to New Haven to drag race anymore.
- Commissioner Lawlor commented that he thought it was a good thing that there is no public awareness that this is something else the police have available. The more widespread the awareness of this, the more the deterrent effect will take place he thought. This is the type of thing that would make the privacy people a little bit crazy. It's a legitimate tool. He is glad the Department is starting to incorporate it.
- Commissioner Jacobson indicated that with license plate readers and devices like this, the Department would more importantly be able to identify cars that are being used for crimes, driving recklessly, maybe even striking pedestrians. There will be a lot more tools in the tool box than there used to be for the Department. They appreciate the money that they've been able to put into this. This will make for a safer New Haven.
- Commissioner Lawlor indicated that the Board would have the ability to weigh in on some of the policies that are going to govern the use of these things because obviously they can be abused too.
- Chief Jacobson responded by agreeing with Commissioner Lawlor and that all policies would go through the Board before they run with them.
- Commissioner Walker asked if the New Haven Police Department was a proponent of having cameras turned on more for traffic control. If that is the case, the state legislatures would have to decide. This would be the time to contract the legislators so a bill could be proposed.
- Chief Jacobson replied by saying that he knew one such bill was turned down quite a few years ago when they were trying to propose traffic cameras in New Haven. He could not recall the whole chain of events. He was not against it. The mayor is not against it. There have been some discussions about this. It is important because Commissioner Meares hit the nail on the head. There are only so many officers doing so many different things that if there is another element to slow people down, let us use it. They will be looking into that.
- Commissioner Lawlor pointed out for the record that he had actually done a lot of research regarding this issue. He was involved in the legislative process at one point. New Haven doesn't actually need a law to do this. The law that was sought previously had to do with allowing for private companies to share some of the revenue and have like a local court that adjudicated these things. That was the controversy. The Department could put up cameras the next day and issue tickets for people for violating a driving ordinance. A legislative authorization is not needed to do this. It is complicated. If anybody wants to talk about this, he would be happy to weight in because he supports the concept himself.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Lieutenant Manmeet Colon

Lieutenant Colon had technical difficulties. This matter was passed.

PERSONNEL MATTER

1. Discussion and action on the recommendation from Chief Anthony Campbell, Yale Police Department, to hire the following candidate to the Yale Police Department:

A. Michael Lounsbury

- Chief Campbell greeted everyone. He thanked the Board for taking up his Department's request. They have been down a number of officers. They are in the process of fully staffing their Department. He indicated that Officer Lounsbury is a veteran of the Meriden Police Department. He interviewed a few weeks ago and some members of the Board had an opportunity to interview him last week. He spoke some more about Mr. Lounsbury's background.
- Commissioner Ribeiro indicated she would be asking this of all the candidates to briefly speak about themselves for the record.
- Officer Lounsbury spoke briefly about himself.
- Commissioner Lawlor indicated that he was one of the persons who had a chance to speak with Officer Lounsbury in an interview setting. He was very impressed. Officer Lounsbury seemed highly motivated. He's very humble which he gave him a lot of credit for. He thought he would be a great addition to Chief Campbell's team at Yale.
- Commissioner Meares stated that she also had a chance to interview Officer Lounsbury. They had a great conversation. She was actually really excited about the opportunity that Yale students and other members of the community surrounding Yale will have in their interactions with Officer Lounsbury. She thought he would be a great addition to the Yale's police force.
- Commissioner Ribeiro also added that she had an opportunity to interview Officer Lounsbury. She was also impressed. Officer Lounsbury is very humble. He shared with them two extraordinary stories, life-saving measures that he took while he was an officer in Meriden. She was very impressed with his bravery and the work he had done.

- ** Commissioner Lawlor motioned to Approve Chief Campbell's request to appoint Officer Lounsbury as Yale University P.D. officer
- ** Commissioner Meares seconded
- ** Motion passed unanimously

- Officer Lounsbury was congratulated.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORT

Lieutenant Manmeet Colon

- Lieutenant Colon began with the closed cases for December, 2022.

IA Case No.: 21C-057: On August 4th, 2021 Internal Affairs received three separate complaints from the complainant. At the time of this the complaint he was incarcerated. In this complaint, he alleged that officers harassed him and illegally stopped him. As a part of this investigation, body-worn camera footage and police reports were reviewed. Task Force officers had reliable and credible information from a source that the complainant was selling drugs out a specific vehicle. They noticed the vehicle and conducted a vehicle stop for misuse of a marker plate. On the complainant's person, they located firearm and also located was crack cocaine. The officers' actions were lawful and proper during this incident. And this complaint was deemed as unfounded.

IA Case No.: 22C-041: On June 1st, 2022 Internal Affairs received a complaint from the complainant. She alleged that an officer groped her while he was patting her down. She wanted to know why a female officer was not called to the scene. The computer-aided dispatch report, body-worn camera footage and police reports were analyzed during this investigation. It was determined that the complainant had sent a threatening text message to her daughter stating that she was locked and loaded outside. This information was related by dispatch to the responding officers. Officer Valente conducted a pat-down for weapons. He was calm, respectful and professional, and the complainant berated him for patting her down. She requested a supervisor to respond to the scene. Her wish was granted. There was no indication of misconduct by the officers on the scene. This complaint was closed as unfounded.

IA Case NO.: 22C-029: On April 1st, 2022 Internal Affairs received a complaint from the complainant. The complainant's written complaint was not legible. All she mentioned was that officers grabbed her during an arrest. Sergeant Fennessy reached out to the complainant for clarification, and to provide her an opportunity to give a statement, none of which occurred due to her lack of cooperation. The policer report, body-worn camera footage from the date she provided on the complaint form were reviewed. And it was noted that she was arrested that day for on-site charges, for assault. And she also had an outstanding warrant. No force was used during this incident by the responding officers. While on scene she claimed that she was too weak to move. Medical aid was rendered by the officers. And the officers' actions were lawful and proper. This complaint was closed as unfounded.

■ Lieutenant Colon indicated that the Department closed the year, 2022, with 78 complaints compared to the same time in 2021 with 106 complaints.

■ There was a total of 615 use-of-force reports submitted by officers. Majority of the reports were hard hands or hands which include take-downs, hard hands, resisting arrest. Once again, hard hands are for officers making any contact with an individual when there's a resisted handcuffing.

■ There were only 14 Taser deployments for the year 2022. There were only two baton usages which were used for extraction, not impact, and no K-9 deployments

PERSONNEL MATTERS

2. Discussion and action on the recommendation of Chief Karl Jacobson that the following candidates from the Civil Service Eligibility List #21-27E (Police Lieutenant) be promoted:

- A. #13 Sergeant David Guliuzza
- B. #14 Sergeant Edward Dunford
- C. #15 Sergeant Pedro Colon

■ Chief Jacobson stated that he was asking the Board to Promote Sergeants David Guliuzza, Edward Dunford and Pedro Colon to the rank of Police Lieutenant off the eligibility list. All three gentlemen are well qualified. Sergeants Colon and Dunford were in his academy class. They are approaching their sixteenth year. Sergeant Guliuzza is just a couple of years ahead of them. There is a lot experience. He was proud to put them up for the rank of Lieutenant.

- Commissioner Ribeiro asked each sergeant to introduce himself and each to speak about his career in the order listed above.
- Each sergeant spoke briefly.

- ** Commissioner Brooks motioned to promote the following individuals that were recommended by Chief Jacobson to the Rank of Lieutenant:
 - Sergeant David Guliuzza
 - Sergeant Edward Dunford
 - Sergeant Pedro Colon
- ** Commissioner Walker seconded
- ** Motion passed unanimously

■ The candidates were congratulated.

3. Discussion and action on the recommendation of Chief Karl Jacobson that the following candidates from the Civil Service Eligibility List #21-08E (Police Sergeant) be promoted:

- A. #26 Officer Christopher Lawrence
- B. #27 Officer Robert Stratton
- C. #31 Officer Scott Shumway
- D. #33 Officer Steven Travaglino

■ Chief Jacobson stated that he was very proud to put these gentlemen up for promotion, Officer Christopher Lawrence, Officer Robert Stratton, Officer Scott Shumway and Officer Steve Travaglino. They all have different experiences throughout the Department. Officer Lawrence has been an excellent police officer. He's very attentive to what's going on. He cannot wait to have him as a supervisor. Officer Stratton has experience in training as well which is extremely important. We all know Officer Shumway with PIO experience. He is a really good officer. Officer Shumway has the experienced that he felt needs to be experienced in to advance to position of sergeant. Officer Travaglino, although he as not been with the Department for a long time, has a stunning and very military background and commands a lot of respect.

■ Commissioner Ribeiro requested that each officer speak about himself in the order listed.

■ Each officer spoke briefly.

- ** Commissioner Brooks motioned to follow the recommendation from Chief Jacobson to put the following names up for the promotion of Sergeant:
 - Officer Chris Lawrence
 - Officer Robert Stratton
 - Officer Scott Shumway
 - Officer Steven Travaglino
- ** Commissioner Meares seconded
- ** Motion passed unanimously

■ The candidates were congratulated.

4. Discussion and action on the recommendation of Chief Karl Jacobson that the following candidates from the Civil Service Eligibility List #22-06 (Detective) be promoted:

- A. #3 Officer Frank Grillo
- B. #11 Vincent Deleo
- C. #13 Douglas Pearse
- D. #15 Joseph Galvin

■ Chief Jacobson stated he was requesting the promotion of the following officers to the Rank of Detective: Officer Frank Grill, Officer Vincent Deleo, Officer Doug Pearse and Officer Joseph Galvin. All four officers are excellent. They pay a lot of attention to detail. They've been in different areas of the Department. Officer Grillo is with the FBI Task Force learning a lot about investigations already. Officer Deleo is a staple downtown. And he's very well liked in his assignment now. There is not a person in Newhallville that does not know and love Officer Doug Pearse. And when he talks about Officer Pearse, people in Newhallville tell him all the time he's the bike cop in Newhallville. It is tough to pull him out of there because he is loved, but this is a great opportunity. Of course, he and Officer Galvin have spent many nights sitting in the car looking for fugitives, murder suspects, you name it. He has done a really good job with the Fugitive Task Force for the U.S. Marshals and other assignments. He is very proud of these gentlemen. He is looking forward to all of them moving on to new ventures.

■ Commissioner Ribeiro asked that each speak about himself in the order listed.

■ Each officer spoke briefly.

** Commissioner Brooks motioned to follow the recommendation of Chief Karl Jacobson to promote the following to Rank of Sergeant:

Officer Frank Grillo

Officer Vincent Deleo

Officer Douglas Pearse

Officer Joseph Galvin

** Commissioner Lawlor seconded

■ Commissioner Meares stated her comments are applicable to all of the candidates she interviewed for New Haven. It was an incredibly impressive group. She appreciated all the interviewees' commitment to the Chief's philosophy of promoting procedural fairness and neighborhood policing and the ways in which that engenders trust in community members which is a key component to good detective work. All of these people are leaders, not just within Department, but among peers. She really appreciated the commitment of some of the folks that she interviewed to the importance of the peer-support program. Mostly, she walked away thinking that the future of the leadership of the Department in New Haven is strong. It was really gratifying to participate in those interviews. She thanked all the candidates for their work. She wanted to express how pleased and proud she was to be able to participate in the process.

■ Commissioner Ribeiro concurred with Commissioner Meares. She was also very impressed with the candidates.

** Motion passed unanimously

- All the candidates promoted this evening were congratulated.
- Chief Jacobson congratulated the all the candidates promoted. She thanked Commissioner Meares for her words. He further stated that the officers are giving the Board their trust and faith to move the Department forward. He further commented that the commissioners be who they are always.

RETIREMENTS (For Board information only)

Detective Joseph Landiso, eff., December 31, 2022
Detective Paul D’Andrea, eff., December 31, 2022
Detective Nicole Natale, eff., January 6, 2023
Detective Danny Sacco, eff., January 9, 2023

RESIGNATION (For Board information only)

Records Clerk Lourdes Candelaria, eff. , December 21, 2022
Officer Nicholas Pazsak, eff., December 29, 2022
Officer Kaiyaniah Simpkins, eff. January 3, 2023

RECRUITMENT/SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Sergeant Paul Finch

- Sergeant Finch began by stating that they put out a 104 conditional offer letters. They have received 95 conditional offer packets. They have begun the background process for 95 candidates. They are looking forward to what the number is going to be at end of all the background checks.
- He added that everything is super competitive right now. A lot of the candidates that are in the Department’s process are in other processes too. So, he’s keeping his fingers crossed and hoping New Haven gets a good contract so the Department could be competitive, that way the Department can keep its officers and also officers remain interested in becoming a part of the New Haven process and eventually become New Haven officers.
- The Department is looking to roll out applications towards the end of the month for another group of applications. They are always looking to keep one in the queue. So, that way once they complete the background process for this process, they haven other set of applications ready to go. If anyone knows of anyone interested in applying, the individual could be sent his way. He would be glad to speak with the individual and help in any we he can.

EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE REPORT

- Commissioner Meares indicated that they do not have a report. However, they have been recently been meeting and as recently as yesterday to develop a plan for rolling out all of the new policies required by POST accreditation by November.
- She added that Commissioners Lawlor and Walker should be receiving or at least be notified that there is a POST book that sets out the matrix for the things that the they have to do that the

committee is going to need to consult as they move forward on this process. She saw the books today because she was at the Department.

■ Commissioner Ribeiro indicated that they have a lot of work to do this year regarding the Department's policies and General Orders. She and Commissioner Meares met with the staff yesterday. She met them today. So, by November they will have basically a whole new policy format for everything. She is pleased about this as it will make this a much better Department. New Haven is great but it would make the Department greater by the time they fine-tune the Department's policies.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

There was none.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion and action on the reimbursement request from Officer Paul Vitale

■ Commissioner Ribeiro indicated that the glasses were damaged while responding to a call. Officer Vitale replaced the glasses for a total value of \$315.96. She asked if these were regular glasses for sight, not sunglasses.

■ Officer Vitale responded by saying that they are prescription glasses with transition lenses so he does not have to tint them while patrolling.

■ Commissioner Ribeiro asked if Officer Vitale was aware that according to the policy the Board is only allowed to reimburse up to \$250 even though his claim exceeded the allowed amount.

■ Officer Vitale indicated he was aware of the policy.

** Commissioner Lawlor motioned to approve the reimbursement for \$250 for the glasses that were destroyed on the job

** Commissioner Walker seconded

** Motion passed unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENTS

■ Alder Gerald Antunes indicated that he just wanted to take a second to congratulate all of the promotional candidates. From what he had heard, it sounded like it is going to be a good crew. He knows some of them and some of them know him.

■ Commissioner Ribeiro indicated that "executive session" was not included in the agenda for the evening. Attorney Duprey submitted her report. She asked if there was any reason to go into executive session to discuss legal matters, personnel matters or Internal Affairs' matters. There was no response.

ADJOURNMENT

** Commissioner Meares moved to Adjourn at 7:02 p.m.

** Commissioner Walker seconded

** Motion passed unanimously

The next regular meeting will be on February 14, 2023.
The Board adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sotonye Otunba-Payne