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CCRB RESPONDS TO NYPD DECISION TO SUPPRESS ORAL CLOSING ARGUMENTS IN TRAWICK TRIAL

NEW YORK – Today, the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) completed the third day of the trial of NYPD officers Brendan Thompson and Herbert Davis regarding the death of Kawaski Trawick. Today, the CCRB and NYPD both called witnesses to testify as to whether the officers’ behavior departed from NYPD guidelines. Tomorrow, Officers Thompson and Davis will both testify.

After adjourning today’s trial, Deputy Trial Commissioner Maldonado issued a ruling that the closing arguments for this case will be submitted in written form and not given orally. While the CCRB recognizes that this ruling is within Deputy Commissioner Maldonado purview, the Agency disagrees with the decision.

“The decision to have written closing arguments instead of oral closing arguments is a tactic to withhold the final statements from the advocates, the public, the members of the press and Kawaski Trawick’s family, all of whom dedicated their time to following this trial,” said **CCRB Interim Chair Arva Rice**. “This decision is designed to cover up the misconduct of these two officers and FID’s failure to hold them accountable. The CCRB will continue its mission of transparency and will release the APU’s closing argument to the public at the same time that it is submitted to Deputy Trial Commissioner Maldonado.”

The CCRB’s closing argument will be posted to the Agency website in a few weeks when it is submitted to the Deputy Trial Commissioner. You will be able to find it at this [link](#).

About the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board.

The CCRB is an independent agency that is empowered to receive, investigate, mediate, hear, make findings, and recommend action on complaints against New York City police officers alleging the use of excessive or unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, or the use of offensive language. The Board’s investigative staff, composed entirely of civilian employees, conducts investigations in an impartial fashion. The Board has 15 members who must all live in

the city and reflect the diversity of the city. This 15-member Board governs the CCRB, with five seats appointed by the Mayor, five appointed by the NYC City Council, three designated by the Police Commissioner and appointed by the Mayor, one appointed by the Public Advocate, and the Chair, who is jointly appointed by the Mayor and City Council Speaker. No member of the board may have a law enforcement background, other than those designated by the police commissioner, and none may be public employees or serve in public office.

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The New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) is the largest police oversight entity in the nation and is empowered to investigate, mediate, prosecute, and recommend disciplinary action for complaints alleging misconduct by NYPD officers. See NYC Charter § 440(c)(1). The agency's jurisdiction includes excessive and unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, and use of offensive language. To further this mission, CCRB issues monthly, biannual, and special statistical and qualitative reports analyzing trends and recurring issues arising from the many thousands of civilian complaints it receives each year.