

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

-----X

CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD

PUBLIC MEETING

September 13, 2023

6:44 p.m.

-----X

HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE/  
71 Jersey Street  
Staten Island, New York 10301

B E F O R E:

ARVA RICE - INTERIM CHAIR

JONATHAN DARCHE, ESQ. - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COURT REPORTER:  
Sabrina Brown Stewart

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

1 PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

2 =====

- 3 1. Call to Order
- 4 2. Adoption of Minutes
- 5 3. Remarks from the Chair
- 6 4. Remarks from the Executive Director
- 7 5. Presentation from Outreach about the CCRB
- 8 6. Comment from Community Groups
- 9 7. Public Comment
- 10 8. Old Business
- 11 9. New Business
- 12 10. Adjourn to Executive Session

13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review Board  
September 13, 2023

1 CCRB BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

2 =====

- 3 1. Arva Rice - Interim Chair
- 4 2. June Northern - Board Member
- 5 3. Joe Fox - Board Member
- 6 4. Kevin Jemmott - Board Member
- 7 5. Charlane Brown-Wyands, Esq. - Board Member
- 8 6. Joseph A. Puma - Board Member
- 9 7. AU Hogan - Board Member
- 10 8. Herman Merritt - Board Member
- 11 9. Esmeralda Simmons, Esq. - Board Member
- 12 10. Frank Dwyer - Board Member

13

14 PRESENTERS:

15 JAHI ROSE - Director of Outreach  
16 New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

1 C O M M U N I T Y L E A D E R S :

2 Council Member Kamillah Hanks 49th Council District

3 Barbara Shields - President, Richmond Terrace Tenant  
4 Association

5 Shaquana Perry - Beautiful Heartbeats

6 Benjamin Gilbert - Occupy the Block

7

8

9 S P E A K E R S :

10 Chief Mpaka Princewill - Chairman of ACASI

11 Jeremiah Salia - Member of African Communities  
12 Together and ACASI

13 Paul - Community Member

14 Coach Redd - Founder - Bigger Than Basketball

15 Elliot John - Founder - Elliot John Foundation

16 Peter - New York Juvenile Justice Chair - NAACP

17 Richard "Rick" Robinson - Manager - Newark CCRB

18 John D. Macari Jr. - Retired lieutenant - NYPD

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

5

1 MS. ALVAREZ: Good evening, everyone. We  
2 have two ASL interpreters joining us this  
3 evening; Beth Zuriff and Maria Cardoza. You  
4 can pin their videos using your panel on the  
5 upper right-hand side. CART services will be  
6 found in the chat shortly.

7 Thank you for joining us.

8 CHAIR RICE: Good evening, everyone and  
9 welcome. My name is Arva Rice. I use she/her  
10 pronouns, and I am the Interim Chair of the  
11 Civilian Complaint Review Board. I would like  
12 to call the CCRB's September Public Board  
13 Meeting to order.

14 Would the rest of the board members  
15 like to introduce themselves? Can we start  
16 with Mr. Puma.

17 MR. PUMA: Good evening, everyone. My  
18 name is Joseph Puma. I go by he/him pronouns.  
19 I'm the City Council designee to the Board from  
20 Manhattan, and I hail from the Lower East Side.  
21 I happen to also serve on my NYCHA resident  
22 association, so it's a bit of a familiar space  
23 to be in this community center at this  
24 development, and thank you all for coming.

25 MR. FOX: Hi. My name is Joe Fox. I'm a

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

6

1 retired NYPD chief. I'm the Police  
2 Commissioner's representative. I've been here  
3 a little less than a year, and I'm glad to be  
4 here.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. HOGAN: Good evening, everyone. I'm  
7 AU Hogan. I'm the City Council representative  
8 from District 28 in South Jamaica, Queens.  
9 Good to have -- (audio dropped).

10 MR. DARCHE: Good evening, everyone. My  
11 name is Jon Darche. I use he/him pronouns, and  
12 I'm the Executive Director of the CCRB.

13 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Good evening,  
14 everyone. Charlane Brown, Police Commissioner  
15 designee, and it's a pleasure to be here this  
16 evening.

17 MR. MERRITT: Good evening. My name is  
18 Herman Merritt, City Council designee from  
19 Brooklyn. I live in Bed-Stuy.

20 MR. DWYER: Good evening. Frank Dwyer, a  
21 Police Commissioner designee, and thank you for  
22 coming out on a beautiful night.

23 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

24 And we would like to have the members  
25 of the Board who are joining us virtually, if

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

7

1           they can introduce themselves, with Kevin.

2           MR. JEMMOTT: Good evening. My name is  
3 Kevin Jemmott. I'm the Mayor's designee from  
4 Queens.

5           MS. NORTHERN: Hello. My name is June  
6 Northern, and I'm the Mayor's designee from  
7 Brooklyn.

8           MS. SIMMONS: Good evening. My name is  
9 Esmeralda Simmons. I am - I use she/her  
10 pronouns. I am the Public Advocate's designee,  
11 and I live in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn.

12          CHAIR RICE: Thank you so much.

13          I want to ask if there are any changes  
14 or corrections to the July minutes?

15          (No response).

16          CHAIR RICE: Any changes or corrections  
17 to the July minutes?

18          (No response).

19          CHAIR RICE: Okay. I'm going to ask for  
20 a motion to approve the July Board Meeting  
21 minutes as presented.

22          MS. NORTHERN: So moved.

23          MS. BROWN-WYANDS: The July Board Meeting  
24 minutes are approved.

25          CHAIR RICE: Can I have a second?

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

8

1 MR. DWYER: Second.

2 CHAIR RICE: All right. All those in  
3 favor say aye.

4 (Chorus of ayes).

5 CHAIR RICE: All right. Any opposed?

6 (No response).

7 CHAIR RICE: Okay. I'd like to ask if  
8 there's any changes or corrections to the  
9 August Board Meeting minutes?

10 (No response).

11 CHAIR RICE: To the August minutes, any  
12 changes or corrections?

13 (No response).

14 CHAIR RICE: Okay. If not, I'd like to  
15 ask for a motion to approve the August Board  
16 minutes as presented.

17 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Move the approval of  
18 the august Board meeting minutes.

19 CHAIR RICE: Can I have a second?

20 MS. SIMMONS: Second.

21 CHAIR RICE: All right. All those in  
22 favor?

23 (Chorus of ayes).

24 CHAIR RICE: Any opposed?

25 (No response).

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

9

1 CHAIR RICE: Okay. The board minutes for  
2 July and for April (sic) are approved. Thank  
3 you.

4 I want to start today by taking a  
5 moment to remember the victims of 9/11 and  
6 their families. Twenty-two years ago, our  
7 city was attacked and thousands of lives  
8 lost. Thank you to all of the first  
9 responders who showed up to help save lives  
10 and to the people who work to keep our city  
11 safe.

12 The CCRB is pleased to be back on  
13 Staten Island. Since the beginning of the  
14 year, the CCRB outreach team has doubled its  
15 presence on Staten Island. We have conducted  
16 241 presentations, tabling events block by  
17 block at CCRB Cares events. Anyone can  
18 request an informational presentation by the  
19 CCRB, which explains your rights when  
20 interacting with police officers, what  
21 constitutes misconduct, and how to file a  
22 complaint if you believe you have been a  
23 victim or witness of misconduct.

24 In a few moments, our Director of  
25 Outreach, Jahi Rose, will give one of our

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

10

1 outreach presentations. Thank you to the JCC  
2 Richmond Terrace Cornerstone Community Center  
3 for hosting us today and to Denise Taylor for  
4 helping to facilitate this meeting.

5 I would also like to thank Chairperson  
6 Kamillah Hanks for coming today. Your  
7 leadership as chair of the Public Safety  
8 Committee has been instrumental to supporting  
9 civilian oversight, and we appreciate your  
10 commitment to improving police-community  
11 relations.

12 I would now like to welcome Chairperson  
13 Hanks to say a few words.

14 Council Member Hanks.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Good evening,  
16 everyone. Can you hear me?

17 All right. So, welcome, welcome.  
18 Welcome to this meeting. I really thank --  
19 my name is Kamillah Hanks. I am the council  
20 member of the 49th District. I hail from  
21 Stapleton and Park Hill, but New Brighton in  
22 this area is definitely home. It's good to  
23 see some familiar faces.

24 Hello, everybody.

25 So, I want to thank Interim Chair, Arva

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

11

1 Rice and the CCRB Board. I welcome everyone  
2 to tonight's meeting. I am the chair on the  
3 Committee of Public Safety, and this has --  
4 and we have oversight of CCRB. So, I'm  
5 really happy to see so many faces here  
6 because this is, as Interim Chair, Arva Rice  
7 had said, a very important part of the  
8 process. And the public needs to understand  
9 where they can go and understand their rights  
10 when it comes to police-community relations.

11 So, CCRB is a civilian oversight agency  
12 that plays a critical role in promoting  
13 transparency, accountability, and fair  
14 policing practices within the largest police  
15 department in the United States, the NYPD.  
16 It serves as a mechanism for civilians to  
17 voice their concerns and seek redress for  
18 alleged misconduct contributing to ongoing  
19 efforts to strengthen the relationship  
20 between law enforcement and the communities  
21 that they serve. The goal of CCRB is to hold  
22 NYPD accountable for its actions. It is  
23 important that, you know, the civilian agency  
24 to provide feedback from the public is  
25 critical.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

12

1           So, with that, I would like to thank  
2           all of you for coming here today. I do have  
3           to leave because we got started a little  
4           late, but I am looking forward to having  
5           meetings on our appointment for the Staten  
6           Island CCRB.

7           Thank you so much, everyone.

8           CHAIR RICE: Thank you, Council Member  
9           Kamillah Hanks for joining us. We appreciate  
10          it.

11          And I'm now going to pass it off to  
12          Executive Director Jonathan Darche, who will  
13          give his presentation.

14          MR. DARCHE: Thank you, Chair Rice.

15          I want to first start with an update on  
16          the CCRB's budget in light of the  
17          announcement over the weekend, that due to  
18          the migrant crisis, all city agencies will  
19          have to cut their budgets. There are  
20          proposed three five percent cuts over the  
21          next nine months. Those cuts will be  
22          detrimental to CCRB operations, to say the  
23          least, and the services we provide to New  
24          Yorkers. The CCRB is an instrumental part of  
25          public safety in the City. Without proper

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

13

1 funding, we cannot fulfill our mission to New  
2 Yorkers. We are going to strive to work with  
3 the Office of management and Budget to find  
4 the best way to continue serving New Yorkers.  
5 And, you know, I'm confident that our staff  
6 will continue to be professional and do the  
7 best job they can, but those are very, very  
8 steep and drastic cuts to this agency.

9 I also want to quickly update folks on  
10 a case in which a member of service struck a  
11 man named Eric Dupree with a water cooler, as  
12 he was riding his scooter on the sidewalk,  
13 killing him. The CCRB received a complaint  
14 regarding this incident. We've opened an  
15 investigation and that investigation is  
16 ongoing.

17 Last month, the CCRB released our 2023  
18 semiannual report, which gives the public an  
19 update on the first six months of 2023. It  
20 breaks down CCRB investigations by complaint  
21 data, types of allegation, the location of  
22 incidents, and it now includes sections on  
23 the new unit that investigates complaints  
24 about racial profiling and bias-based  
25 policing. If you take a look, you would see

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

14

1           that complaints in the CCRB's jurisdiction  
2           are up significantly over prior years, almost  
3           the highest levels we've seen in six or  
4           seven years. And when you see that increased  
5           number of complaints, to combine that with  
6           the budgets cuts is going to be a real burden  
7           on the Agency being able to do its job in an  
8           effective way.

9           The Agency also released its quarterly  
10          report on the APU, the Administrative  
11          Prosecution Unit. What's new in this report  
12          is that we're including all of the paperwork  
13          about the cases that were finalized by the  
14          police commissioner. And so, you can see the  
15          evidence that the CCRB presented are  
16          arguments, the arguments of the police unions  
17          and then the police department's decisions.  
18          And I think it is a result of a lot of hard  
19          work by our policy unit, but also the  
20          investigators and prosecutors that did the  
21          work we were able to report on. I want to  
22          thank those team members who did that work,  
23          so that we can get the public information in  
24          a timely way.

25                 Before we get further into this

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

15

1 evening's meeting, I just want to remind  
2 folks that our office is open for walk-in  
3 complaints, but it's also possible to file  
4 complaints online at [nyc.gov/ccrbcomplaint](https://nyc.gov/ccrbcomplaint).  
5 That's N-Y-C.G-O-V/C-C-R-B-C-O-M-P-L-A-I-N-T.  
6 You could also call us directly on the  
7 telephone at 1(800)341-2272 or by dialing  
8 3-1-1 and telling the operator that you want  
9 to make a complaint about a police officer.

10 If anyone wishes to file a complaint  
11 right now, we have two investigators here,  
12 Emma Stydahar and Rob Bryan, and we also have  
13 a member of our Civilian Assistance Unit,  
14 Ruth Villafane here as well. We're going to  
15 ask folks to keep their comments to  
16 four minutes because I think we have a hard  
17 stop tonight. So, I appreciate if you could  
18 keep your comments to four minutes.

19 I want to thank the staff who put this  
20 meeting together. It's tough for us to take  
21 the show on the road, but we know how  
22 important it is to go to the people who we  
23 are serving and hear from you where you are.  
24 And I want to thank the people who are here  
25 today and the people who are here online for

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

16

1 joining us.

2 Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

4 Do any members of our board have any  
5 questions of our executive director?

6 (No response).

7 CHAIR RICE: Any questions for our  
8 executive director?

9 (No response).

10 CHAIR RICE: And online, does anyone have  
11 any questions of Jon?

12 MR. JEMMOTT: No.

13 CHAIR RICE: We're going to hear a  
14 presentation -- (technical difficulties).

15 MR. ROSE: Good evening, everyone. My  
16 name is Jahi Rose. I'm the Director of  
17 Outreach for the Civilian Complaint Review  
18 Board. I go by he/him pronouns. I'm just  
19 going to give you a brief overview of what the  
20 CCRB is, so we're all on the same page.

21 The CCRB, Civilian Complaint Review  
22 Board, is the nation's largest oversight body  
23 over the nation's largest police force. Our  
24 responsibility is to investigate, mediate  
25 and, in some cases, administratively

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

17

1 prosecute allegations of police misconduct  
2 that's alleged against members of the  
3 New York City Police Department. Our agency  
4 is governed by a 15-member board, of which  
5 some of them you've met today. There's five  
6 that are appointed by New York City Mayor,  
7 five that are appointed by the New York City  
8 Council, there's three that are appointed by  
9 the New York City Police Commissioner, and  
10 one that is appointed by the New York City  
11 Public Advocate. The Chair is jointly  
12 appointed by the New York City Mayor and the  
13 New York City Council.

14 As the agency investigates allegations  
15 of police misconduct, we do have a very  
16 specific jurisdiction, that falls under the  
17 category FADO and U; so that's Force, Abuse  
18 of Authority, Discourtesy, Offensive  
19 Language, and Untruthful Statements.

20 Just a little bit of information  
21 regarding The Right to Know Act. The Right  
22 to Know Act went into effect in 2018. It  
23 impacts police encounters with members of the  
24 public. Under certain circumstances, police  
25 officers are required to notify you of who

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

18

1           they are, providing identifying information  
2           such as; name, rank, command, shield or badge  
3           number. With some exceptions, officers  
4           should also be explaining the purpose of the  
5           encounter or the interaction. And under  
6           certain circumstances, officers should also  
7           be notifying you, that if they need to get  
8           your permission to conduct a search, they  
9           have to notify you that you have the right to  
10          say no, as a part of that request.

11                        Last, but not least, officers are also,  
12          under certain circumstances, required to offer  
13          you a business card. That business card has  
14          identifying information about the officer. It  
15          also explains various ways for you to be able  
16          to make a comment and/or complaint about the  
17          interaction between you and that officer.  
18          Individuals can request this business card in  
19          any encounter. This is a copy of what the  
20          business card looks like.

21                        There are various ways to file  
22          complaints with the CCRB, one that was  
23          mentioned by our executive director is going  
24          to the Agency's website; that's  
25

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

19

1 nyc.gov/ccrbcomplaint. You could also call  
2 the CCRB's hotline at 1(800)341-CCRB or  
3 1(800)341-2272. If you see footage of  
4 misconduct on social media or in the news,  
5 you can use that information to file a  
6 complaint with the CCRB. You no longer have  
7 to be there in person in order to file that  
8 complaint. The typical handle for the CCRB  
9 is @CCRB\_NYC.

10 Other ways for you to file a complaint  
11 with the CCRB include coming into our  
12 office -- well, also calling 3-1-1,  
13 everyone's favorite number. You could also  
14 come into the New York City Civilian  
15 Complaint Review Board's headquarters in  
16 Lower Manhattan at 100 Church Street on the  
17 10th Floor. You could also file a complaint  
18 by direct messaging the CCRB on our  
19 platforms. That includes Facebook, Twitter  
20 or X and Instagram. You could also send a  
21 letter to the CCRB at 100 Church Street, 10th  
22 Floor, New York, New York, ZIP code 10007.

23 You could also file a complaint at any  
24 precinct throughout the City of New York. It  
25 does not have to be the precinct where the

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

20

1 encounter took place. Officers are required  
2 to accept those complaints in the precinct,  
3 and they could also offer you a complaint  
4 form and a self-addressed envelope. If  
5 you're interested in receiving an outreach  
6 presentation from the CCRB, feel free to  
7 contact us at outreach@ccrb.nyc.gov, shoot us  
8 an e-mail, and you could also follow us on  
9 social media; on Instagram, Twitter, and  
10 Facebook.

11 Thank you all.

12 CHAIR RICE: Do any of our board members  
13 have any questions of Mr. Rose?

14 (No response).

15 CHAIR RICE: All right. Thank you so  
16 much. Appreciate it.

17 We will now hear from local community  
18 leaders. Thank you so much for joining us  
19 this evening. As a reminder, we're going to  
20 ask you to please keep your comments to  
21 four minutes.

22 And Yojaira, we're going to ask you to  
23 please call on the first speaker.

24 MS. ALVAREZ: Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 First, we'll be hearing from Barbara

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

21

1 Shields, President of the Richmond Terrace  
2 Tenant Association.

3 CHAIR RICE: Yojaira, could you repeat  
4 the name. You were a little muffled. Can you  
5 repeat the name.

6 MS. ALVAREZ: (Inaudible).

7 MR. DARCHE: Yojaira, do you want to sent  
8 me a text, and I can then call on the person?

9 MS. ALVAREZ: Will do. Sorry about that.

10 (A brief pause in proceedings.)

11 MR. DARCHE: So, Ms. Shields is the  
12 president of the Richmond Terrace Tenant  
13 Association. We're very happy to have you with  
14 us.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. SHIELDS: Yes. Thank you.

17 First of all, thank you for having me.  
18 And my biggest concern is having the police  
19 patrolling the area more and also be involved  
20 with the children in the community. We have,  
21 you know -- we have a good rapport with the  
22 police, as far as our NCO's attending our  
23 meetings, but we would like to see them do  
24 more verticals, check the buildings more, and  
25 be more respectful to residents in the area.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

22

1 CHAIR RICE: Thank you for your comments.

2 MR. DARCHE: Ms. Perry? Is Ms. Perry  
3 here?

4 MR. FOX: Ma'am?

5 What was her name?

6 MR. DARCHE: Oh. That was Ms. Shields.

7 MR. FOX: Ms. Shields, can you hear me?  
8 Am I on? Yes.

9 Thank you. And you just described the  
10 model policing, you know, enough patrols,  
11 being respectful, and working with the  
12 community and especially the youth. There  
13 are cops in every borough and precinct  
14 that's -- you probably know the youth  
15 officers, and you know the NCO. I would --  
16 like you're doing tonight, I would do it with  
17 the precinct commander here, with Chief  
18 Galati, just ring the bell. We want you  
19 here.

20 Because like in my experience, I was  
21 always offering to come out and do things  
22 with young people and do role plays, and I  
23 usually get a 10 to 20 percent return; and I  
24 say that without judgment to people. But  
25 not -- everybody's living their lives and

1 running their organizations. And, you know,  
2 they'll say it when it's a crisis and  
3 something bad happens, and I would always  
4 look for the follow-up. So, you do that  
5 already. I can hear that. I would suggest  
6 that you just keep letting it be known that  
7 you want more, and I think they'll come your  
8 way. And if you don't have a relationship  
9 with the precinct commander, we can speak  
10 after and I could just give you a little  
11 guidance on how to make sure you have that.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. DARCHE: Ms. Perry.

14 MS. PERRY: Yes. How are you doing?

15 My name is Shaquana Perry. I am the  
16 president of a nonprofit organization out  
17 here in the urban community called Beautiful  
18 Heartbeats.

19 Recently, last week or two weeks ago,  
20 we had an all weekend event, and we had no  
21 policing to see all the positive that is  
22 happening in the community. They have two  
23 stations. We tried to engage them. They  
24 were just very -- yeah. It was, you know, no  
25 type of interaction, engagement, you know.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

24

1 We offered them hamburgers, hot dogs, things  
2 of that sort, you know, just we want them to  
3 know that we're not against them. You know,  
4 we are here to support them as well. Thank  
5 God everything went well all weekend.

6 However, they don't need to be there  
7 just to be intimidated, you know, the people  
8 in our community. They don't need to be  
9 intimidated by their presence, you know?  
10 They need to build that bond, especially for  
11 the lot of ones that's working the same  
12 corners and things of that sort. They need  
13 to become more engaged, more familiarized  
14 with not just the community members, but as  
15 well as the community itself, and bring more  
16 neighbors back into neighborhood.

17 CHAIR RICE: Thank you, Ms. Perry, for  
18 your comments.

19 MR. DARCHE: Mr. Benjamin Gilbert.

20 MR. GILBERT: Good evening, everyone.  
21 Good evening. My name is Benjamin Gilbert.  
22 I'm the president of Occupy the Block. I'm  
23 also a middle school educator. I'm a school  
24 advisor. I've been in an educational setting  
25 for 30 years, and I'm a proud born and raised

1 Staten Islander.

2 One of the things that I would like to  
3 share with the CCRB panel is that my  
4 experience working with Occupy the Block,  
5 being on the corners with Neil Berry, is that  
6 that was the first time I learned about the  
7 NCOs. And the NCOs did an amazing, amazing  
8 job that I witnessed in Mariners Harbor. As  
9 people walked by, the NCOs engaged them.  
10 They knew the president of the NYCHA  
11 organization for Mariners Harbor, and I was  
12 just very impressed.

13 Another experience that was very  
14 impressive that I had, was working at a  
15 basketball night center at P.S. 44. Not only  
16 did the police officers come and bring the  
17 children to play against the students of 44,  
18 but the families of the police officers come.  
19 And I'm just going to be 100 percent. When  
20 we have Caucasian people come into an area  
21 such as Mariners Harbor at night, you think  
22 that they're there for one thing, but that  
23 kind of broke that barrier that night.

24 And we would love to see more  
25 engagement, more interaction. Not just the

1 police officers, but those families of police  
2 officers who buy into that this is a larger  
3 community that involves all of us, and that's  
4 not what we're seeing. And if we see that  
5 more, then we have the opportunity to cross  
6 some bridges that need to be crossed.

7 With that said, one of the things that  
8 I hope that you can get across to the police  
9 department is that under no circumstances  
10 should stop-and-frisk in any shape or form  
11 exist in our communities, under no shape or  
12 form. I don't care if they call it something  
13 else, but under no circumstances should  
14 stop-and-frisk be allowed and accepted. It  
15 is a violation of the 14th Amendment. It  
16 does not actually prove to be beneficial. It  
17 targets people. And we want to be policed on  
18 the North Shore the same way they police on  
19 the South Shore; that's all that we're  
20 asking.

21 The other thing I want to say is this,  
22 and it's going to take me a little bit -- how  
23 much time I have? I want to say this: Ashli  
24 Babbitt -- Ashli Babbitt is not a hero.  
25 Ashli Babbitt is not a hero, and she should

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

27

1 not be celebrated. Michael Byrd who,  
2 unfortunately, had to take the life of Ashli  
3 Babbitt on January 6th should not have been  
4 demonized. Brian Sicknick who died after  
5 defending in the Capitol, and all of the  
6 Capitol police officers, those were heros  
7 that day. But to have the former president  
8 bastardize Mr. Byrd for doing his job is  
9 uncalled for.

10 And the next election is coming up, and  
11 who the NYPD gets behind in this next  
12 election will speak volumes, will speak  
13 volumes because it says that they do not  
14 practice what they preach in terms of  
15 respecting police officers. During  
16 January 6th, those police officers fought  
17 bravely to defend the Capitol and the  
18 Constitution. And to endorse someone who did  
19 not recognize the sacrifice and the  
20 contribution of those brave men and women is  
21 a smack in the face.

22 To all police officers, to each and  
23 every police officer, and if the NYPD  
24 endorses -- if the PBA, I'm sorry, endorses  
25 Trump for president, it is not a good look.

1 And we will look at the NYPD in a different  
2 way, in a different way. Because they are  
3 supposed to -- our political leaders are  
4 supposed to really speak for all people, all  
5 people. And they're supposed to really  
6 enforce the notion that any criminality  
7 should be prosecuted. And Ashli Babbitt,  
8 once again, is not a hero.

9 I thank you for your time, and I  
10 appreciate the opportunity to speak to you  
11 all.

12 MR. DARCHE: So, that concludes the  
13 community leader portion of the meeting, Chair.

14 CHAIR RICE: We'll now enter the public  
15 comment portion of the meeting. If you are  
16 interested in making a public comment -- I  
17 think I'm about to address what you're about to  
18 say.

19 Okay. If you're interested in making a  
20 public comment, you can come up to the  
21 microphone, and you have --

22 MR. DARCHE: Four minutes.

23 CHAIR RICE: -- four minutes to make your  
24 comments.

25 MR. PRINCEWILL: Good evening, ladies and

1 gentlemen. All protocols of that. My name is  
2 Chief Mpaka Princewill. I'm a retired  
3 architect with the City of New York. I'm the  
4 chairman of ACASI, the African community of  
5 Staten Island.

6 Your previous engagements, we observe  
7 the police patrol vehicles on Staten Island  
8 are not diversified. This is leading to  
9 police profiling of people of color on the  
10 Island. There is disproportionate record of  
11 arrest and prosecution for people of color on  
12 Staten Island. And so, ACASI is stating here  
13 for the record, that if all police vehicles  
14 should show the faces of both white, black,  
15 and brown that live on Staten Island, and  
16 this program should be taken to all boroughs on  
17 Staten Island and in New York City.

18 Because if you go to London today, from  
19 Princetown, Thatcham, Camden, Kidbrooke, they  
20 have started diversifying all the police  
21 vehicles with the faces of people that live  
22 in the area.

23 Thank you very much.

24 CHAIR RICE: Thank you for your comments.

25 If you wanted to make a comment, you

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

30

1 can come to the microphone.

2 MR. SALIA: Hi, everyone. I'm  
3 Jeremiah -- yeah, I'm very short.

4 Hi, everyone. I'm Jeremiah Salia. I'm  
5 a human right activist by profession. I'm a  
6 member of the African Communities Together,  
7 as well as member of ACASI.

8 I'm here to make a brief comment with  
9 regards to this issue here, the police. I  
10 call it police partnership board, how you  
11 interact with the community. I want the  
12 Board to take note of this, how to reach out  
13 to the community outreach programs. The  
14 police and the community need to be family  
15 members. The civilians take information,  
16 correct information, to the police. They  
17 have to interact themselves with each other.

18 The civilians do not have to look at  
19 the police to be an enemy because that is why  
20 I'm always against defunding the police.  
21 Because when something happen, we call on the  
22 police. When something happen with the  
23 police, the police give -- "Okay. We have  
24 \$2,000, who can give us information?" And  
25 who is this person that's going to give this

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

31

1 information? The civilians.

2 Just like recently when this inmate  
3 escaped from the precinct, today he has been  
4 arrested. It is the civilians that gave this  
5 information. So, we have husband and wife;  
6 the police is the husband. The civilians are  
7 the wives. So, we have to organize -- the  
8 Board has to organize how to reach out to the  
9 community. Not only the community, the  
10 information have to start from colleges,  
11 schools because that is where we have to  
12 develop giving information, correct  
13 information, to the community, to the school,  
14 to the colleges, so that when something  
15 happen, they can give off information.

16 And I also want the Board to  
17 organize -- because just like my colleague  
18 there was saying, we have a lot of people of  
19 color incarcerated or kept somewhere, so let  
20 us see how we can bring on board the  
21 organizations, the civilians to reach out in  
22 those cells, in those places, to see  
23 whether -- because I look at the cells or  
24 jail place as a reformation to change you.

25 There are times they arrest some blacks

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

1 and even some whites, they arrest them  
2 because of minor, minor offenses and they  
3 kept them there. So, it is to us to organize  
4 how we can reach out to identify those  
5 people, and to see how we can reform them, so  
6 that when they get out, they have something  
7 to offer to the community, community of  
8 change.

9 That is why I normally -- when I listen  
10 to gospel -- if you listen to gospel songs,  
11 if you look at the history of those singers,  
12 these are people that actually went through a  
13 lot, either they are from prison and they came  
14 out, and today they are people that are also  
15 giving us information. So, I want us, the  
16 Board, please, let us set up an outreach to  
17 reach out to those cells, to get the other  
18 side of the story.

19 Very recently, I get to understand that  
20 a black man was released from prison after he  
21 has had a longtime jail sentence. At the end  
22 of the day, he was not the one that actually  
23 did the crime, that committed the crime. But  
24 it is only when we reach out and we get the  
25 other side of the story and we

1 also further go to do an investigation.

2 Please, that is my brief comment for today.

3 I thank you all.

4 MR. DARCHE: I just wanted to say,  
5 Mr. Salia, that the Agency is very good at  
6 reaching out to the people who make complaints  
7 and getting the full side of the story. We  
8 interview as many civilian witnesses as we can.  
9 We also interview the officers involved. And  
10 so, by conducting those interviews and also  
11 looking at evidence that isn't tainted by a  
12 point of view, but is a body-worn camera  
13 footage, medical records, other things that we  
14 can use. We try and determine what happened,  
15 and we make impartial, fair judgments on  
16 whether the conduct that was committed was  
17 misconduct or not.

18 And so, I want to thank you for your  
19 suggestion, and we'll incorporate it into the  
20 work we're already doing. Thank you.

21 CHAIR RICE: Yes.

22 MR. PAUL: Hey. How you doing? Name is  
23 Paul. I'm in a lot of the neighborhoods,  
24 period.

25 Truth be told, to piggyback off of what

1 he said, a lot of the police, when we stop to  
2 do certain things, we feel like if we're not  
3 doing nothing -- he's saying in certain  
4 situations, certain scenarios, nobody knows  
5 what those scenarios are. If I ask an  
6 officer, "Sir, what am I being stopped for?"  
7 You tell him is this harass stop or a  
8 personal stop, and the officer starts telling  
9 you certain things about, "You're not a  
10 lawyer. You don't know what I am. Don't  
11 worry about all that." The accountability  
12 has to start somewhere.

13 So, us in the neighborhoods, current  
14 events -- oh, Mr. P left -- we gotta deal  
15 with the situation as you guys are doing the  
16 interview. And the minute that a complaint  
17 is filed, that's when our cars get pulled  
18 over. We get stopped at the bus stop. We  
19 get followed to the store. That's kind of  
20 intimidating to a lot of people. The truth  
21 of the matter is, it should start in the  
22 schools. You want to bring education to a  
23 lot more people, you give it to them in  
24 school. Nobody knows what the CCRB is.  
25 You're just starting to see it on the night

1 show, like it's an Ancestry.com show, you  
2 understand? Nobody knows. And I'm being  
3 fair.

4 I've already filed complaints and had  
5 the officer literally pull me over two weeks  
6 later, and be like, "Oh, man. So, we meet  
7 again." Things like that makes another  
8 person feel uncomfortable and unsafe. Why  
9 bring this up at this light is, we have them  
10 at our basketball events, we have them in our  
11 neighborhoods every day, right? Until you  
12 guys -- well, not you guys, but until the  
13 investigation is done, we still have to live  
14 with that; do you understand what I'm saying?  
15 So, it can take a year.

16 So, what I'm trying to say is, he's  
17 saying we're married. I'm not trying to  
18 marry no woman abuser, bro. I'm no body's  
19 wife. You feel what I'm saying? So, the  
20 truth of the matter is, I don't want to be in  
21 an abusive relationship for a year until I  
22 get a divorce. Here's where it goes, when  
23 the hammer comes down, right, and we see what  
24 we gotta deal with, if he locks me up, I  
25 gotta fight a case. Whether I did it or not,

1 he's going to get a suspension, and it's a  
2 slap in the face to say he has to get desk  
3 duty.

4 Some of these people lost their jobs  
5 because you can't have a felony working for  
6 the state, working with somebody disabled.  
7 You can't even have an open case. ACS is in  
8 some people's homes, all because a cop  
9 doesn't like the way you ask him, "What's the  
10 stop for?" I'm dealing with the CCRB right  
11 now, again. I've still had, "Oh, we're still  
12 interviewing officers." It's two officers,  
13 not a whole precinct.

14 It's been four months. I'm still  
15 sitting here. But I have the same cop when I  
16 see him, I still tell him, "Hey. Good  
17 morning, man. How's your day?" Okay. I get  
18 the bird; you understand? All of them have  
19 faulty equipment. We can't tell you what cop  
20 car it is because the lights is off and the  
21 plates are bent. We make a complaint, it  
22 seems like nothing gets done, right?

23 The same way that they have people  
24 located in precincts, like federal agents for  
25 everything else, why don't they have a CCRB

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

37

1 member in the precincts; you understand?  
2 When they stop, it shouldn't be depending on  
3 the scenario, like he said, depending on the  
4 situation. There's no depending. Right is  
5 right. Wrong is wrong. And like I said,  
6 piggyback off of that, nobody is educated on  
7 the CCRB, very few people know; you  
8 understand?

9 So, who do you complain to when you go  
10 to a precinct and the captain is telling you,  
11 "Yo, get the fuck out of here. There's no  
12 complaint board. Go somewhere else with  
13 that." Literally. I have people that I'm  
14 helping with the CCRB take care of this now.  
15 So, what I'm saying is, at the end of the  
16 day, what's the accountability? These people  
17 losing their jobs. Somebody still has their  
18 job, and their voice seem higher than yours,  
19 and the repercussion is just like your kid  
20 stole cereal out the cabinet, you is like,  
21 "Just go sit down and watch TV."

22 Where do we stand with it in coming to  
23 the Civilian Complaint Review Board; you  
24 understand? Where's the accountability? And  
25 who -- who comes up with that final decision

1 of the reprimands? That's all I want to  
2 know.

3 MR. DARCHE: So, Paul, thank you. You  
4 brought up a lot of good points. The first is  
5 letting people find out about the Agency. So,  
6 we have an outreach team of five people for the  
7 whole city, and they do a huge amount of work.  
8 But it is still just five people for the whole  
9 city. And for two years, we were given a small  
10 budget to do some advertising.

11 We focused mostly on web advertisers  
12 because TV and radio was very expensive.  
13 Although, we did a few radio advertisements  
14 and a few print. We did mostly online  
15 advertising. But it's just not enough.  
16 There are nine million people in this city,  
17 and in order to let people know that we are  
18 here and we are a resource, we need more  
19 resources to reach out.

20 MR. PAUL: (Inaudible question).

21 MR. DARCHE: So, I don't know that it's  
22 square one, but it is a problem.

23 The other issue about who is the person  
24 that is the final authority in deciding  
25 whether or not to discipline a member of

1 service, it is the police commissioner. The  
2 Chair has been outspoken in saying that needs  
3 to change, that the police commissioner  
4 should not be the final arbiter of discipline  
5 in CCRB complaints, but that is the way  
6 things are. It is still very new in this  
7 police commissioner's tenure, and I am  
8 hopeful that the concurrence rate will --  
9 where the police commissioner takes the  
10 actions, the disciplinary actions that we  
11 recommend, and follows through on them, will  
12 go up under this police commissioner.

13 There was one thing you said that I had  
14 a little bit of -- I just wanted to push back  
15 on it a little. When you said, "right is  
16 right and wrong is wrong," I agree with that.  
17 But there are sometimes when conduct is  
18 appropriate. And then, there are other times  
19 when that same conduct is not appropriate.  
20 And for a police officer to give you the  
21 finger when you say hello, that is a  
22 discourtesy. I can't really imagine that  
23 that is -- that there is a time where that is  
24 appropriate. However, there are --

25 MR. PAUL: (Inaudible comment).

1 MR. DARCHE: And that is -- that is --  
2 that's wrong, right? Like, that is a  
3 discourtesy. That is textbook misconduct.

4 There are times where someone can curse  
5 in a stressful situation where they are  
6 trying to inform someone that, "Hey, this is  
7 serious." Because this is a public meeting,  
8 I'm not going to do it; you know what I'm  
9 saying?

10 MR. PAUL: (Inaudible comment).

11 MR. DARCHE: Correct. I understand what  
12 you are saying --

13 MR. PAUL: They go back (inaudible) and  
14 they get desk duty as a form of discipline;  
15 that's what I'm saying. And it's nothing with  
16 anybody here. The gentleman asked whose van is  
17 this, it's a work in progress. Like I said,  
18 it's no relationship I want to be in if I'm  
19 abused. Okay? But everybody here has seen  
20 some type of repercussion to an officer asking  
21 a question -- (inaudible). You're calling me  
22 everything other than "sir" or my name. So,  
23 nobody cares what led up to this minute where  
24 I'm slapping the shit out of you and I'm ready  
25 to go to jail. I'm a guy, I'm not going to

1 (inaudible), especially when you're saying that  
2 to a 14-year-old kid because he's out here  
3 during school hour (inaudible). That's still  
4 assault. Why can't police face the same  
5 charges in front of the judge that they're  
6 going to (inaudible); do you understand? But  
7 that's what I don't understand. So, it's not a  
8 misconduct. It's a miscommunication.

9 But then, this is natural -- I'm not  
10 saying, you know -- you're retired, so please  
11 don't take any offense. But I know a lot of  
12 good cops that pull up and they play ball with  
13 everybody. But it's just a shit show when  
14 they gotta come and play ball and they're  
15 like, "Dang. I'm sorry for the other guys  
16 and how they're treating y'all." Not every  
17 cop is a bad cop. I've got cops that I have  
18 in my phone, I'll be like, "Listen, I'm  
19 playing ball this weekend. What's going on, you  
20 coming to the Harbor or the Hill?" And then,  
21 you have some that you seen and you walk off.

22 Like I said, when we go and the CCRB  
23 has a foot step in the door, right, and you  
24 guys are going, and y'all fighting a uphill  
25 battle for us, but we still don't have a voice,

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

42

1           though, because we still gotta go in front of  
2           a judge. They're going to go in front of  
3           y'all.

4           CHAIR RICE: I hear you, Mr. Paul. I  
5           appreciate your comments.

6           AU, did you want to --

7           MR. HOGAN: Paul, please don't leave yet.

8           MR. PAUL: Huh?

9           MR. HOGAN: Can you stay here for a  
10          second.

11          MR. PAUL: All right. Let's go fellows.

12          MR. HOGAN: Because you have a real  
13          concern, and I want to address that.

14                 First of all, I apologize that we are  
15          still going through this in our community,  
16          right? And two, the former comment about  
17          using the analogy of husband and wife, on  
18          that, I really was -- I'm glad you spoke on  
19          that 'cause there's a book by Alex Roslin  
20          that's called "Police Wife," right? And it  
21          speaks about domestic violence that exists in  
22          police relationships, and the battering that  
23          happens with them inside their internal  
24          lives, in their personal lives.

25                 So, yeah, I think you should read that

1 book, brother, you know, so you can change  
2 your analogy just for that one because we  
3 don't need to be abused in any kind of  
4 relationship.

5 But I want you to get with Mike Perry.  
6 All right? And then, he'll get in touch with  
7 me, so we can go to different commands,  
8 right, and really look at the structure of  
9 the policing. Because I believe what you  
10 said 'cause I see it. I'm from Baisley  
11 projects. I don't know if you ever heard  
12 that before. You can Google that and see the  
13 relationship that they have with the police,  
14 right?

15 And so, what we did, though, we used --  
16 in 2014, we used 113th Precinct as a pilot of  
17 crew producing public safety, where it looks  
18 like, where you can't be the only one that  
19 goes, and there's four/five faces that are  
20 doing the advocacy of police respecting the  
21 community. We have to really connect them,  
22 so when these young brothers in this role get  
23 to be your age, that's something that they  
24 used to talk about. That's not something  
25 that's still occurring.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

44

1 MR. PAUL: Right.

2 MR. HOGAN: All right? And so, it's bad,  
3 like you said, for them to go back to race.  
4 So, whatever officer that gave you the bird,  
5 whatever, this is out of order conduct. And  
6 the only way to really address one is to file a  
7 complaint. And as you're patiently waiting for  
8 the investigator to take care of that case --  
9 because I don't want to intervene with your  
10 investigation -- at that time, there has to be  
11 some type of activism, right? Some real  
12 strategies of how we don't allow that in  
13 community anymore, and that's a lot of talking,  
14 that's a lot of your own organizing and stuff  
15 like that, you know.

16 And so, get in touch with the brother.  
17 He get in touch with me, and we go visit  
18 every person that you talked about.

19 MR. PAUL: I got you.

20 MR. HOGAN: All right?

21 MR. PAUL: Yep.

22 MR. HOGAN: Okay. You see my name in  
23 front of there, right?

24 MR. PAUL: I got you. Trust me I got  
25 you, when I walked --

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

45

1 MR. HOGAN: I know you took some  
2 pictures. I seen everybody taking pictures.  
3 All right. But thank you, Brother Paul. Thank  
4 you.

5 COACH REDD: I might need more than  
6 four minutes.

7 MR. JOHN: Pardon me. That's my brother.  
8 I'm just his backup.

9 COACH REDD: My name is Coach Redd.  
10 Everyone knows me as Coach Redd. I got an  
11 organization called Bigger Than Basketball. I  
12 use basketball as a tool to keep kids off the  
13 street and something positive to do. Once I  
14 reel them in with basketball, then we do other  
15 activities. I work with True 2 Life and Iron  
16 Mike Perry; I know who he is.

17 But it's interesting. I wasn't going  
18 to come today because -- like I said, this is  
19 my personal opinion, because nothing is going  
20 to change, so it's wasting my time. My  
21 friend Mike Newcomb got a vegan fest. I was  
22 helping him make a hundred vegan lasagnas  
23 just now. So, I rushed here because Shaquana  
24 from Beautiful Heartbeats want me to come,  
25 and my brother, Elliot John, from Elliot John

1 Foundation.

2 But like Shaquana said, last Friday --  
3 Friday, Saturday, Sunday, I had ten  
4 basketball games right here in Mohoney Park.  
5 I had teams from Jersey, Brooklyn, Queens,  
6 the Bronx, Philly, come up to Staten Island.  
7 They don't know nothing about Staten Island,  
8 nothing about Mohoney Park. They came out  
9 here for the love of myself, and they played  
10 basketball.

11 I said to Shaquana, I sat down, I said,  
12 "I didn't see not one cop." And I forgot the  
13 officer's name. I don't see him here today.  
14 And I expressed my concern with him. When he  
15 calls me, "Coach Redd, I need a favor. Could  
16 you get some young kids to come in here and  
17 do whatever." Okay. Okay. Because this is  
18 about numbers. When you come in here, the  
19 first thing they did was stuff those papers  
20 in your face to sign. These kids right here  
21 are our future. I'm super hard on them.  
22 They'll tell you, I don't play with them.  
23 Because if they could take me, they'd be all  
24 right in the street, and the cops get them.

25 Then, when I walked in, I heard that

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

47

1 funding is being cut. Like, we have to do  
2 something to keep the kids occupied and  
3 something to do. I don't got no felony. I'm  
4 not carrying guns. I don't got no drugs.  
5 I'm good. If I come across an encounter with  
6 a cop, they talk to me like -- and I just be  
7 like -- and I don't have time in my schedule  
8 to go down to the precinct and make a report.  
9 I don't got time to do all of that. But  
10 basketball keep kids off the street. That's  
11 my method, and my method work.

12 September 24th this year make 26 years  
13 that Sandy Brock been dead. I don't know if  
14 any of y'all know who Sandy Brock is.  
15 26 years on September 24th he been dead  
16 through gun violence. The night Sandy Brock  
17 funeral, myself and head coach at Curtis High  
18 School, Dwayne Archbold, we were talking to  
19 Eddy Watkins; rest in peace, and Eddy Watkins  
20 said, "Ain't nothing gonna change."

21 And I'm not saying the cop -- listen,  
22 if these young men and young women is walking  
23 around here with guns, that's out of my  
24 control. I can't help you. Coach Redd can't  
25 help you, Shaquana, Elliot cannot help you if

1           you're walking around here with a gun. I'm  
2           against guns. September 15th, which is  
3           Friday, my sister was killed through gun  
4           violence. She did school safety. Domestic  
5           violence. Her boyfriend killed her, then he  
6           killed himself. My nephew was in the next  
7           room. I work at McKee High School. I coach  
8           high school. God willing -- thank you for  
9           the support right there. McKee High School,  
10          my nephew will be graduating high school this  
11          year.

12                    But like I said, this is my personal  
13           opinion. It has to be something the kids  
14           look forward to. As I'm coming here just  
15           now, I'm walking down the block, the reason  
16           why I was late, I was breaking up a high  
17           school fight, me and two other people from  
18           the neighborhood. The cops came rushing up  
19           and coming to me, like I'm fighting. I don't  
20           got time to fight. I gotta come here, say  
21           what I gotta say, and get back to making  
22           vegan lasagnas.

23                    I have a whole plan. I have a theory  
24           in my head, and I wrote it down on paper.  
25           It's a nine-week program that need funding,

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

49

1 that will guarantee kids off the street every  
2 Friday from 7:00 to 9:00.

3 Thank y'all for having me. God bless  
4 y'all. Goodnight.

5 MR. JOHN: How y'all doing?

6 CHAIR RICE: Thank you for your work and  
7 your passion. And I have to believe that as  
8 tough and difficult as it is now, that we can  
9 build a better future for our young people.

10 So, thank you.

11 MR. JOHN: How y'all doing? My name is  
12 Elliot John. I'm with the Elliot John  
13 Foundation. So, basically, I do a lot of work  
14 within the community with -- alongside, like,  
15 Amazon, Chick-fil-A. I do a lot of givebacks  
16 to the families out here. I make sure a lot of  
17 families go with like household supplies, and  
18 things that they need, you know what I'm  
19 saying? A lot of people can't really go out  
20 and get it.

21 I want to touch on a little bit what  
22 Redd was talking about, like as far as the  
23 kids, with the youth and the gun violence.  
24 Sometimes, like with the cops, like a lot of  
25 them is here, it's like there's no

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

50

1 interaction at all. It's like -- it's just  
2 always like they got their minds set. As  
3 soon as they get here, it's like no -- like  
4 no smiles, no anything. Like you can't even  
5 say hi and converse with any of them. It's  
6 like they already got their mind made up.  
7 They don't want to talk. It's like they're  
8 just here hands on hips. It's nothing --  
9 it's no help.

10 We just -- me, Redd, Quana, we just did  
11 the back to school drop in Mohoneys. We gave  
12 out maybe over 500 book bags. I do turkey  
13 drives. I do -- I did a Christmas toy drive  
14 at P.S. 31. And I be trying as much as I can  
15 to help the kids with everything. Like, I  
16 don't know what the situation is with their  
17 parents or their household, but whatever I  
18 can do, I'm trying to do with them.

19 I actually -- I went to school. I went  
20 to college, but, you know, I made a mistake  
21 in my life. And, you know, I had to -- there  
22 was consequences behind that. And I lost my  
23 little cousin to gun violence. He was  
24 murdered in a store, and I was actually there  
25 and I watched him die. So, to me, as a big

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

51

1 brother, I felt like I let the streets get  
2 him, you know what I'm saying? When I had a  
3 chance and an opportunity to make a  
4 difference, you know what I'm saying? So, I  
5 kind of felt like that was on me to show him.

6 So, like I said, with a lot of these  
7 kids here, I'm trying to do my best, but it's  
8 just we need a little more help. It's like I  
9 can't do it by myself. I'm trying to do  
10 everything. Sometimes I come out of my  
11 pocket. I don't even get donations. So,  
12 it's really nothing for them to do. I see  
13 some of them outside at 10:00, 11:00 at  
14 night. Like, they shouldn't be outside that  
15 late, you know what I'm saying? And it's  
16 just the cops is like really just letting  
17 them. Like, it's not even to where like --  
18 hey, where's your parents? How can I -- you  
19 need help with anything? It's none of that.  
20 It's just -- I just see them, like, drive  
21 right by little kids hanging out. They don't  
22 say nothing.

23 So, I mean, I'm just trying to do my  
24 part and do the best I can, but just a little  
25 more help without being like prejudged.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

52

1 Like, as soon as you get over here, don't  
2 already have your mind made up, like, I hate  
3 coming over there, a bunch of ghetto kids.  
4 Like, you can't just look at us like that.  
5 We human just like you, you know what I'm  
6 saying? So, as a big brother, I'm trying to  
7 do what I can and do my part.

8 But like I said, alongside -- Redd help  
9 me out, Quana does a lot of work, you know  
10 what I'm saying? She kinda showed me the  
11 ropes with the nonprofit thing, you know what  
12 I'm saying? So, without her, I probably  
13 wouldn't even be doing none of this. So, I'm  
14 just really trying to -- whatever it's going  
15 to take, I'm willing to do. But y'all gotta  
16 like meet us halfway at least. Like I can't  
17 just -- it can't just be us-us. Y'all just  
18 selling us a dream every time, and then we're  
19 just sitting there waiting and it's  
20 nothing -- it's nothing being done.

21 Like, I literally, I pull up with an  
22 Amazon truck full of supplies, detergent,  
23 everything, stuff you would get from Walmart.  
24 I make sure everybody in this neighborhood  
25 got it. Everybody. I even bring it to

1 people's houses. I just want to make sure  
2 every -- I just want to make sure -- it's not  
3 even something where it's just like my  
4 people. I'm trying to just do it for  
5 everyone, so I'm doing my part as much as I  
6 can.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. PERRY: I just want to correct  
9 something because the cops did interact with us  
10 at the end. They told us to get out the park.  
11 They did. We were cleaning up from the events  
12 and getting everything together, and they told  
13 us, "Okay. Get out the park." We explained to  
14 them everything that we was doing, everything  
15 that just happened -- "Okay. Y'all gotta go."  
16 And then, more cops came over. More cops came  
17 over, and we was like -- that's what pissed him  
18 off. It was like, "Okay. Where was y'all  
19 during the whole festival? We've been out here  
20 since eight o'clock in the morning setting up,  
21 cleaning up the park, as well as getting  
22 everything ready." And we -- yes, we offered  
23 them food.

24 MR. JOHN: I fed everybody. Everybody.

25 MS. PERRY: No, seriously. And as he

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

54

1           stated, this is a lot that takes out of our  
2           pocket. It's taking from our family, you know.  
3           We have daughters. We have sons, you know, so  
4           we're trying to show them a difference as well,  
5           and have them working hand in hand with us.  
6           Like, we take some of these kids, "We'll give  
7           you \$10. We'll give you \$20. Help us clean  
8           up," just to engage with them. And it's not  
9           being reciprocated from authorities around us,  
10          and it's hurtful. As he said, sometimes it  
11          makes you feel like, is anything going to  
12          change, you know?

13                 COACH REDD: Elliot been asking me for  
14                 two and a half years, "Let's throw a tournament  
15                 in Mohoney Park," and my answer to him is, "No.  
16                 No. No. No." This past weekend when we did  
17                 our event Friday, Saturday, Sunday, it was  
18                 nothing. It was beautiful. The amounts of  
19                 text messages and phone calls that I received  
20                 on the job that we've done this weekend, that  
21                 was satisfying to me. But then, walking down  
22                 the street and seeing that crazy brawl with  
23                 high school kids is like, what about if a  
24                 basketball game was going on right now and the  
25                 cops was here? It would be no violence. If I

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

55

1 do the basketball game and you act up and the  
2 cops are there, you're going to jail. It's  
3 that simple. I don't have no problem with  
4 that.

5 I go to Brooklyn. I go to Gersh. I go  
6 to Zone 6. I see everybody throw beautiful  
7 tournaments out here. My friend Stanley  
8 Etheridge in the Harbor, he tried to do  
9 something good in Mariners Harbor, but as  
10 soon as the cop -- soon as the kids and the  
11 crowd get on the court and in a game and it  
12 gets excited, the cops acting like it's a big  
13 issue. It's basketball. That's what  
14 happens.

15 Have any of y'all been to Gersh Park in  
16 Brooklyn? You have. Like, Sole in The Hole.  
17 Like why we can't bring that back out here?  
18 It can happen. Listen, I'm not talking about  
19 adults playing basketball. I don't got time  
20 for adults playing basketball. I'm talking  
21 about the kids playing basketball, run a good  
22 league, run it the right way. Fund us to run  
23 a basketball tournament that will keep these  
24 kids off the street. When I grew up in Red  
25 Hook, Brooklyn many, many, many moons ago, we

1 had basketball game, it was called Paradise  
2 Classic. And then, the next day, they took  
3 us to Great Adventure. Or one year, they  
4 take us to Bear Mountain. They did stuff  
5 like that. It ain't nothing out here and  
6 everything is funding. You need funding.

7 I'll be seeing -- and this is my  
8 personal opinion. I'll be seeing these wild  
9 organizations out here getting funding, for  
10 what? What are you doing?

11 MS. PERRY: They're getting us to bring  
12 it there.

13 COACH REDD: I used to work at JCC. You  
14 know what happened? I quit. Why I'm working  
15 for you -- and it's no knock on JCC. It is  
16 just more respect that I have for myself. Why  
17 I'm working for you and I could do the same  
18 thing you're doing? You think if I could get  
19 funding -- I could get 20 kids to come here  
20 with this. Why I'm working for the JCC, for  
21 what? I was sitting -- right. I was  
22 sitting -- I don't want to get you in trouble,  
23 but I was sitting at the front desk answering  
24 all my e-mails, not doing nothing.

25 So, I said, you know what? I quit.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

57

1 Let me focus on Bigger Than Basketball. Let  
2 me focus on my dream. Because ain't nobody  
3 going to work hard at my goal but me. So, I  
4 really -- like far as the cops or whatever,  
5 like I said, I don't do nothing. I don't --  
6 they don't bother me 'cause I'm not walking  
7 around with a gun. I'm not walking around  
8 with drugs. I'm not beating my girlfriend.  
9 I'm not doing anything out of the ordinary,  
10 so that don't concern me.

11 What concern me is that he graduate  
12 high school. And he know. He walk by me in  
13 school, "Oh, Coach Redd, Coach Redd, Coach  
14 Redd." He know, but he don't get it yet  
15 because he's still a kid. He don't get it.  
16 He's going to get it when he's older, and I  
17 know because I once -- I was him. So,  
18 hopefully, it will be changed.

19 But like I said, though, Sandy Brock,  
20 rest in peace. He been dead 26 years. Eddy  
21 Watkins, long Staten Island, he been dead  
22 six years, and I will never forget it. I was  
23 16 years old. I'm 43 right now, when Sandy  
24 Brock got killed, and I remember it like it  
25 was yesterday. Eddy Watkins said, "Redd" --

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

58

1 Dwayne Archbold at Curtis, the coach, he  
2 said, "Ain't nothing going to change."  
3 26 years later, ain't nothing changed.

4 MR. DARCHE: Coach. Sir. Sir. Coach, I  
5 know you gotta go make some --

6 COACH REDD: Vegan lasagna, yes. Vegan  
7 lasagna.

8 MR. DARCHE: So, I can't officially  
9 CCRB-wise help you, but I know two people I'm  
10 going to call, if you have --

11 COACH REDD: Say that again.

12 MR. DARCHE: There are two people I'm  
13 going to call. I'm trying to help with the  
14 foundation, so if you have a card or something.

15 COACH REDD: I have a phone number. You  
16 can call me. You can call me. I work 24 hours  
17 a day. You can call me.

18 MR. DARCHE: I'll give you my card.  
19 What's your -- I don't want to -- do  
20 you want to put your number on the --

21 COACH REDD: Yes. I'll give you my  
22 number. (718)812-9764, Coach Redd, two Ds.  
23 I'm available all the time.

24 MR. DARCHE: Thank you.

25 MR. JOHN: Do you want the link to my

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

59

1 website?

2 MR. DARCHE: Sure.

3 MR. JOHN: It's [elliottjohnfoundation.org](http://elliottjohnfoundation.org).  
4 I just did a foot walk at Curtis, too.

5 MR. DARCHE: J-O-H-N?

6 MR. JOHN: Elliot John Foundation.

7 CHAIR RICE: All right. Thank you so  
8 much, gentlemen. We're going to hear from our  
9 next presentation.

10 MR. PETER: All right. Okay. All right,  
11 guys. So, I just came down here and then they  
12 didn't tell me I had an opportunity to speak at  
13 all. I was like, "Oh, snap." All right. So,  
14 I literally wrote what I have on here. My name  
15 is Peter. I'm the NAACP's New York Juvenile  
16 Justice chair. So -- and I'm just going to get  
17 into, like, the story.

18 So, I had pretty much one police  
19 interaction, like, in my lifetime. So, I  
20 remember a time when my uncle, he was driving  
21 a car down Richmond Terrace, like by  
22 currently P.S. 59. He was in -- two  
23 policemen stopped us right when we were  
24 getting there, questioning him about his car.  
25 And during the interaction, they asked him

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

60

1 for his license and asked if he was a gypsy  
2 cab driver. And afterwards, I wasn't -- I  
3 was actually, during this interaction, told  
4 to step out the car and told to not lie and  
5 to tell them the truth as to whether or not  
6 my uncle was operating a car commercially.

7 I'm not abreast with the law myself  
8 personally. But, eventually, the police  
9 officers allowed us to continue on our way.  
10 And I know now he was only stopped because of  
11 a broken taillight. And I'm not a law major,  
12 and I don't know what it is that they wanted  
13 to do to detain my uncle. And in hindsight,  
14 I would have hoped that the police in that  
15 situation were very cordial and not suspect  
16 my 65-year-old uncle at that time of having a  
17 stolen or unregistered vehicle. 'Cause for a  
18 long time, I felt like I didn't have a say  
19 because I was not behind the wheel in that  
20 situation.

21 And so, I believe they know -- I  
22 believe that the police knew how to wield  
23 their authority. And this actually happened  
24 not two years after the death of our fallen  
25 brother Eric Garner. And I plead to y'all

1           that we continue to hold law enforcement  
2           personnel to be straightforward with us when  
3           they have no evidence of our wrong doings. I  
4           was told by a brother to ask this question  
5           right here:

6                       Where do police officers get the laws  
7           that they enforce? And what systems are in  
8           place that gives the police that authority to  
9           wield their, you know -- to intimidate in a  
10          certain way?

11                      I believe if, like me, personally, if I  
12          was trained, you know, in the Police Academy,  
13          I believe I would treat everybody with  
14          respect, no matter if I have a badge. I  
15          respect you if you have a badge or if you're  
16          wearing a suit and tie sitting down. I  
17          respect people the same way, even if I'm  
18          dressed to look, act a certain way. And so,  
19          those are the questions I ask of our pol --  
20          or it's what I demand from our police  
21          officers was the question I was supposed to  
22          pose to y'all.

23                      MR. DARCHE: The laws that the police  
24          enforce in Staten Island and in all New York  
25          City are voted on by the Assembly and the

1 Senate in Albany, and then enacted by the  
2 Governor. There are also laws passed by the  
3 City Council and enacted by the Mayor, that can  
4 have criminal repercussions. But as for how  
5 they use their authority and the way they treat  
6 people, that is not something that comes from  
7 the law. That is how people are trained.

8 And so, you know, one of the things  
9 that we do at the CCRB is we try and make  
10 sure that officers are treating people as  
11 they should, which is with courtesy,  
12 professionalism, and respect. And there are  
13 times when there are situations where  
14 officers are allowed to be discourteous, when  
15 they're allowed to be aggressive, when they  
16 can try and intimidate people into listening.  
17 But generally speaking, officers should not  
18 do that unless they're given a reason to do  
19 that.

20 So, if, for example, there is a traffic  
21 stop because someone has a bad taillight,  
22 then there shouldn't be intimidation and  
23 threats in that encounter.

24 MR. PETER: Yes, I've always known -- yes.  
25 So, again, because he had a broken taillight, I

1 believe that -- I still don't -- I still also  
2 left a little bit of information out, that he  
3 actually had driven what used to be -- I  
4 believe my father might have operated a cab,  
5 either he bought it -- bought his former car,  
6 but the car looked like a silver taxicab that  
7 you would see in New York in the 90s.

8 So, I understand that there might have  
9 been confusion on the part of the police. I  
10 still am not sure what the comments for the  
11 gypsy cab drivers are, or the fact that he  
12 looked like he was -- he is an immigrant,  
13 actually, yes, he -- but I still don't  
14 understand what warranted, you know, this  
15 questioning, you know, of the police  
16 officers. And I really never heard gypsy cab  
17 driver from like anybody, other than, you  
18 know -- I haven't heard it for a long time.  
19 I don't know if it's something illegal,  
20 something he did wrong. If there's something  
21 wrong with being a gypsy cab driver, yeah.  
22 Very confuse -- just a confusing situation.

23 CHAIR RICE: Yes. You had another  
24 comment? Last comment.

25 MR. SALIA: Yeah. I'm just making the

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

64

1 Board -- there's more work to be done. And I  
2 don't know whether -- I don't know how you  
3 organize this meeting, but with the brilliant  
4 ideas coming out, in a subsequent -- I'm just  
5 making a suggestion. In subsequent board  
6 meetings, for the Commissioner, Police  
7 Commissioner, or the head of the police, to be  
8 part of this type of meeting. There's always a  
9 saying when I have interaction, passionate  
10 interaction, with police officers, I always  
11 tell them "twice a civilian, once a police  
12 officer."

13 You are a civilian, you enroll into the  
14 police. After you retired, you're back in  
15 the community. Your legacy, your actions  
16 will make sure how the community accept you.  
17 And I was listening to my sister talking  
18 about when they were cleaning up, and I think  
19 that was the reason why I was saying husband  
20 and wife. It's not like an intermarriages,  
21 but we should look -- the police should look  
22 at the civilians as somebody that they get  
23 information from, and they should be hugging  
24 them, you know, get information and do the  
25 right thing.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

65

1                   Because this is a very brilliant thing,  
2                   and there should be more training for the  
3                   police to understand how they interact with  
4                   civilians, and how after their retirement,  
5                   they should know that they're coming back to  
6                   the community, and they should be accepted  
7                   overwhelmingly.

8                   So, that is just my last comment.

9                   Thank you.

10                  CHAIR RICE: Thank you. Thank you for  
11                  that. Citizen twice, police officer once. We  
12                  heard you.

13                  (A brief pause in proceedings.)

14                  CHAIR RICE: My apologies for that. I  
15                  just had to step out of my role for a second.

16                  Are there any other comments by anyone  
17                  in the room?

18                  Yes, sir.

19                  MR. PAUL: Quick question -- none of us  
20                  here is probably ever going to go to the  
21                  Academy.

22                  What is the actual training or where do  
23                  the police get the training and their  
24                  education, right, to when they approach us,  
25                  accuse us of what we're doing under penal

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

66

1 code; is that in-house? Is that in the  
2 Academy? Where does it come from?

3 MR. DARCHE: There is a Citizens Police  
4 Academy that people can go to, that gives  
5 people a flavor of what it's like to be in some  
6 of the training that officers get.

7 MR. PAUL: How do we get that  
8 information?

9 CHAIR RICE: Charlane, if you could  
10 respond.

11 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: So, were you -- Paul,  
12 were you asking where --

13 MR. PAUL: Where do they get that  
14 training?

15 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: That feeling about how  
16 they feel about communities when they come, or  
17 are you talking about the formal training?

18 MR. PAUL: Just in general, for a cop to  
19 stop and say, I need your ID for such and such  
20 and such, any infraction, right? Because from  
21 my understanding, you need probable cause. And  
22 a cop says I don't need it, that's why I was  
23 saying that when he said in certain situations,  
24 what's those other situations where I don't  
25 have -- where I have to give it to you

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

67

1           regardless, whether I'm getting detained or  
2           arrested?

3                   MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Well, there are  
4           certain levels in the law where a police can do  
5           certain things, and that would take an entire  
6           different lecture. So, sometimes you can stop  
7           someone without probable cause.

8                   MR. PAUL: Uh-huh.

9                   MS. BROWN-WYANDS: But to go back to your  
10          question --

11                   MR. PAUL: But that's what I'm trying to  
12          figure out, what are those things? Because  
13          seven people could look alike, you're going to  
14          stop all seven people until you figure out what  
15          you're looking for?

16                   MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Well, there's  
17          something called a Common Law Right of Inquiry.

18                   MR. PAUL: Uh-huh.

19                   MS. BROWN-WYANDS: There's something  
20          called Reasonable Suspicion.

21                   MR. PAUL: Got that.

22                   MS. BROWN-WYANDS: And then, there's  
23          something called Probable Cause.

24                   MR. PAUL: Uh-huh.

25                   MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Now, that's the law.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

68

1 And the reason why we're here is that when  
2 police officers, and what we're hearing from  
3 you, and I appreciate you sharing from your  
4 lived experience, sometimes police officers are  
5 not acting within the law, which is why we're  
6 here. And I know our executive director did  
7 say that we are hampered with resources, but  
8 this room was full with 50 people. So, it's  
9 great that someone like you, or when you hear  
10 about the CCRB and the different ways to  
11 report, that you help us spread that  
12 information to other people. So, when our  
13 communities are empowered, they can continue to  
14 learn how to leverage and access community  
15 services to get the response.

16 MR. PAUL: So, where do they get the  
17 information, so us, as the citizens --

18 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Right.

19 MR. PAUL: -- could get that same  
20 understanding and reach people?

21 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: So, police officers  
22 are required to have 60 college credits, and  
23 then they go -- in New York City, they attend  
24 the Police Academy for six months and they  
25 receive training, and they will receive

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

69

1 periodic training throughout their career. So,  
2 it's different types of training; there's roll  
3 call trainings and other trainings that they  
4 have to attend.

5 MR. PAUL: On the law and penal code,  
6 though?

7 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Not just the law and  
8 penal code. There's other training as well.

9 MR. PAUL: All right. All right. I just  
10 wanted a little --

11 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Did that help?

12 MR. PAUL: -- clearer understanding.

13 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Did that help?

14 MR. PAUL: I got you. I got you.

15 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: All right.

16 CHAIR RICE: I understand that we still  
17 have a couple of people that are on the line  
18 who have comments. And then, I also wanted to  
19 call on one of the members of our Board.

20 Esmeralda, you had a comment?

21 MS. SIMMONS: Thank you.

22 I wanted to thank the community members  
23 for coming out and speaking tonight. I was  
24 very moved by the remarks of Coach Redd and  
25 his service to the community, and the sister

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

70

1           who spoke before about having the community  
2           event. I also want folks to understand that  
3           their -- we need you to talk to us. Our  
4           outreach workers have been in and out of your  
5           community, but any of you can talk to us at  
6           any time without even filing a complaint, by  
7           just being in touch with our office in the  
8           same way as if you're filing a complaint,  
9           because we need the information you're  
10          sharing.

11                 The last thing I would like to say is  
12           that, I would like to ask our executive  
13           director to give the community the  
14           information about the patrol officers  
15           guidelines, the same thing that we get to  
16           see. It's a public document. They can look  
17           it up, so they can get a better idea of what  
18           cops are supposed to do or not do, based upon  
19           the Police Department's rules for officers,  
20           but that this is a complicated thing.

21                 You know, hundreds of laws, case laws,  
22           in front of the courts and trainings, and  
23           we're all supposed to make some sense out of  
24           this. But the more you know about how the  
25           NYPD operates, the better you will be to

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

71

1 protect yourself and your community and know  
2 what officers can do and what they can't do.  
3 But a lot of this is pure commonsense as  
4 well.

5 I thank you all for coming out. I  
6 especially thank Coach Redd and the sister,  
7 Shaquana, for the work that they're doing.

8 CHAIR RICE: Thank you so much,  
9 Ms. Simmons.

10 MR. DARCHE: So, if people want a link to  
11 the Patrol Guide, which is the foundational  
12 document for police officers. If you go to our  
13 website and go to the Policy and Data tab and  
14 then click on the box that says "Foundational  
15 Documents and City Mandates," there is a link  
16 to the NYPD Patrol Guide. And then, you can  
17 look up all of those regulations.

18 And then, the Citizens Police Academy,  
19 if you want to find out more about that, you  
20 would send an e-mail to Citizens Police  
21 Academy at NYPD.org. But we are separate and  
22 independent from the NYPD, so I don't really  
23 know how that works.

24 CHAIR RICE: Yojaira, I believe you said  
25 there are a few people online?

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

72

1 MS. ALVAREZ: Yes.

2 First, we'll be hearing from Rick  
3 Robinson.

4 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

5 Mr. Robinson.

6 MR. ROBINSON: New York City CCRB, how  
7 are you doing, Jonathan?

8 MR. DARCHE: Good, Mr. Robinson.

9 How are you doing today?

10 MR. ROBINSON: Can you hear me?

11 MR. DARCHE: Mr. Robinson, can you hear  
12 us?

13 MR. ROBINSON: Yes, I can hear you now.  
14 Can you hear me?

15 MR. DARCHE: We can hear you.

16 MR. ROBINSON: Okay. Excellent. Listen,  
17 first of all, I want to thank you for giving me  
18 an opportunity to speak to you guys.

19 I think the most important thing that  
20 people have to realize is that when you're  
21 actually engaged in this type of work, you  
22 are a brave person. All right. Police  
23 departments have been violating people's  
24 right for years, so I want to applaud you and  
25 your team, Jonathan. And I look forward to

1 seeing you next month with my team in Newark,  
2 New Jersey welcoming our CCRB. So, you guys  
3 actually should be applauded because years  
4 ago, there was no other recourse to actually  
5 fight misconduct matters for people who were  
6 actually victims of excessive force,  
7 excessive use of force, I should say, or, you  
8 know, even fatality. So, I give you a lot of  
9 credit.

10 I'll tell you who I am. My name is  
11 Mr. Rick Robinson. I used to be the chair  
12 person for the Newark, New Jersey CCRB.  
13 Recently, I have taken on a role as the new  
14 managing (inaudible) for the CCRB in Newark,  
15 New Jersey, so I look forward to our visit  
16 next month. I will actually contact your  
17 mayor and tell him that we're coming over for  
18 the tour.

19 And I think this is very important:  
20 You have to understand that when you actually  
21 stand up for something in regards to this  
22 discipline, all right, you should be  
23 acknowledged and respected. Now, I know that  
24 I heard a lot of people earlier talk about  
25 their programs and stuff like that. I think

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

74

1 that's a good vehicle for referrals because I  
2 think you said you're going to call some  
3 people for these young brothers pertaining to  
4 their programs; that's great. So, that's  
5 another added piece to the CCRB. Which is  
6 not really the job of the CCRB. The actual  
7 job of the CCRB is to address misconduct by  
8 police officers; that's the job. So, you're  
9 doing the job, plus you're doing something on  
10 top of that.

11 So, again, I want to actually thank you  
12 for giving me the opportunity to speak. I  
13 look forward to seeing you next month.  
14 You'll get my e-mail tomorrow, and then I  
15 wish you all to be safe, you know, and to be  
16 careful and keep continuing the good work.

17 CHAIR RICE: Thank you so much,  
18 Mr. Robinson.

19 MR. DARCHE: And thank you for the work  
20 you're doing with the Newark CCRB.

21 MR. ROBINSON: My pleasure --

22 CHAIR RICE: Yojaira, can we please --

23 MR. ROBINSON: -- look forward to seeing  
24 you, Jon.

25 CHAIR RICE: -- the next speaker.

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

75

1 MS. ALVAREZ: Next, we'll be hearing from  
2 John Macari Jr.

3 MR. MACARI JR.: Can you guys hear me?

4 MS. ALVAREZ: Yes.

5 MR. DARCHE: Yojaira, we're not seeing  
6 Mr. Macari.

7 MS. ALVAREZ: Mr. Macari, can you hear  
8 us? I heard you briefly.

9 MR. MACARI JR.: Oh. Sorry.

10 Do you hear me now? Sorry about that,  
11 guys. Are you guys able to hear me?

12 MR. DARCHE: Yes.

13 MR. MACARI JR.: How is everyone doing  
14 tonight? This is John Macari. I'm a retired  
15 lieutenant. I served 18 years in the NYPD. I  
16 grew up in Staten Island. I had recently  
17 retired. I retired over the vaccine mandate.  
18 I refused to take the vaccine and I retired.  
19 And since I did that, I've been speaking out,  
20 trying to bring cops and communities together.  
21 I started a podcast, "New York's Finest:  
22 Retired and Unfiltered Podcast," where we speak  
23 about police issues.

24 I wasn't going to speak tonight. I  
25 came here to actually ask a question about

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

76

1 the profiling unit, but I'm going to refrain  
2 from doing that and I'll save that for  
3 another night. I heard a lot of young  
4 leaders in the room speaking tonight, and I  
5 think this truly isn't the forum for most of  
6 the stuff you need, the funding. But I think  
7 it's very important that we have these  
8 conversations, and I applaud CCRB for holding  
9 this, and letting all these people, giving  
10 them an opportunity to speak and to speak  
11 their truth and the circumstances they deal  
12 with, with the NYPD.

13 Most of what I hear, you know -- I'm a  
14 young kid. I grew up in Bensonhurst,  
15 Brooklyn. I moved to Staten Island. I was  
16 arrested twice in my youth. I was given  
17 numerous summonses as a juvenile. I was  
18 always hanging out in the park playing  
19 basketball, hung out with some good people,  
20 hung out with some bad people. I have a lot  
21 of life experience in New York City. And I  
22 just want to say to the members of the  
23 community, especially to the leaders who are  
24 dealing with these young kids, I just want to  
25 backup on what Jon said, you could go to

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

77

1 NYPD.org and you could go online and you  
2 could look at the Patrol Guide and look at  
3 each function of when a stop is warranted and  
4 when it isn't.

5 I've had numerous interactions with the  
6 police in my youth, and then I've had  
7 thousands of interactions as a cop with  
8 youth. And what I would say, and I suggest  
9 to everyone, is know the law, know the  
10 procedure, know everything in and out, and  
11 have it be known when there's a problem. And  
12 we need voice at the table. We need  
13 police -- again, I've spoken here and I've  
14 said this before, and I don't want to offend  
15 anyone at the CCRB, but I believe police  
16 should be present here, especially the  
17 leadership. I believe they should hear the  
18 interactions and try to come up with ways to  
19 improve it.

20 You know, you're always going to deal  
21 with personalities. Cops are human like  
22 everybody else, right? You go to a doctor's  
23 office, a girl might be having a bad day at  
24 the front desk, she's going to give you an  
25 attitude. Unwarranted, warranted, it doesn't

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

78

1 matter, you're there to do your job, do your  
2 job; hundred percent agree with that. But  
3 what I'll say is -- and I think this is what  
4 never gets said and what needs to be said, is  
5 that we need to have this discussion,  
6 everybody, real discussions. Whether we  
7 agree or not, at least we understand where  
8 people are coming from.

9 But to the youth, specifically, in the  
10 street is not the time to challenge the cops.  
11 I'm going to just say what my father told me.  
12 Like I said, I was arrested twice. I had a  
13 very big disdain for the police, until I  
14 actually -- until I actually, I matured a  
15 little bit more. I had a lot more  
16 interactions and I kind of understood it. I  
17 got to know a cop. I got to know a senior  
18 guy, and he kind of explained it to me, and I  
19 kind of seen where I was wrong and where I  
20 escalated situations.

21 And exactly what my father said to me,  
22 "Listen, if they're going to lock you up, I  
23 don't care what you did. If you did nothing  
24 wrong, you should put your hands behind your  
25 back, go to jail. We'll figure it out, file

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

79

1           your complaints, we'll get a lawsuit. Do not  
2           fight with these guys. They have guns on  
3           them. They're afraid. They don't know who  
4           you are. They will use those guns."

5                     And that is, you know -- and being a  
6           police officer, I've been in those situations  
7           where I've been scared. I do have intricate  
8           knowledge of New York City, and New York  
9           City, all different ethnicities and all  
10          different groups. I worked in every  
11         neighborhood in New York City. You know, I  
12         did anticrime for a long time, so I was that  
13         guy jumping out on the car, doing stops on  
14         youth, looking for firearms, guns, drugs.  
15         And so, I understand the fears, and I  
16         understand the real fears. And I also  
17         understand your fears.

18                    So, I just wanted to speak on that and  
19         just -- I want to applaud everyone for coming  
20         here. There were somethings I didn't agree  
21         with, and there were somethings I did. But I  
22         -- regardless, we're not here the change each  
23         other's mind, but I just want to say I  
24         understand getting offended by the -- oh, the  
25         police are the husband and you are the wife.

1 I'm here to say that the police are -- we're  
2 a family, right, we're all there. I'm your  
3 neighbor. I'm your brother. I'm your  
4 cousin. I'm the kid that went to school with  
5 you. I'm 43 years old, also.

6 I remember when Sandy Brock died. I  
7 remember that totally. I remember him  
8 playing for Curtis. I attended New Dorp High  
9 School. I played basketball, you know.  
10 These are things that impact all of us. I  
11 have children. I don't want my children  
12 dealing with overzealous police either. But  
13 I also teach my children the same thing.  
14 Don't -- it's not the time. And even in  
15 retirement now, I interact with some cops  
16 where I'm like "Whoa, this guy got a real bad  
17 attitude." You know, but like I said, I try  
18 to just keep a human element to it, and I try  
19 to keep it the same way I did on the street.  
20 I try to understand the person that I'm  
21 dealing with's viewpoint.

22 And I just I think to the public, you  
23 should try to understand the cops' viewpoint,  
24 too. And if they're wrong, it's not the  
25 place. And I'm not saying not to use your

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

81

1 voice, and I'm not saying not to speak up for  
2 yourself, but I'm just saying, like don't let  
3 it get to physical escalation, and that's  
4 where we see things go bad constantly.

5 So, I appreciate you guys letting me  
6 speak on that, and I'll kick it over to you.  
7 I'll be back at the next one to bring up my  
8 issue. So, I just want to thank everybody  
9 for coming here tonight.

10 CHAIR RICE: And thank you, Mr. Macari,  
11 for your comments and for your perspective. We  
12 do appreciate it.

13 Yojaira, do we have anyone else on the  
14 line?

15 MS. ALVAREZ: That concludes the public  
16 session, Chair.

17 (No response).

18 MS. ALVAREZ: That concludes the public  
19 session.

20 CHAIR RICE: I was asking the board  
21 members if they have any old business --

22 MS. ALVAREZ: I'm sorry.

23 CHAIR RICE: -- to come before the Board.

24 Do you have any new business to come  
25 before the Board?

In Re September Public Meeting NYC - Civilian Complaint Review  
Board  
September 13, 2023

82

1 (No response).

2 CHAIR RICE: Hearing none, I'm going to  
3 move now that we break into executive session.  
4 The agenda for the executive session is the  
5 Board will deliberate on a full board case. We  
6 will receive an update from the general counsel  
7 on litigation, and the executive director will  
8 discuss pending personnel issues.

9 I would like to make a motion to  
10 conclude the public meeting for September.

11 MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Motion to adjourn.

12 CHAIR RICE: Do I have a second?

13 MR. FOX: Second.

14 CHAIR RICE: So moved.

15 The meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

16 (TIME ADJOURNED: 8:20 p.m.)

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

:SS

COUNTY OF QUEENS)

I, Sabrina Brown Stewart, a shorthand reporter within and for the State of New York, do hereby certify that the within is a true and accurate transcript of the statement taken on September 13, 2023.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or by marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of September, 2023.

*Sabrina Brown Stewart*  
Sabrina Brown Stewart