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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 9, 2020

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## CCRB Moves to Restart Sexual Misconduct Inquiries, Expand Investigations into Untruthful Statements

**New York, NY** – The New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) published new rules for public comment that would empower the agency to investigate sexual misconduct and allegations of untruthful statements made by members of service against civilians in official proceedings or on official NYPD or court documents.

In February 2018, the CCRB voted, by resolution, that it would begin investigating, pursuant to its Abuse of Authority jurisdiction, allegations of sexual misconduct that it previously had referred to the NYPD. In May 2020, <u>following a lawsuit from a NYPD union</u>, the Appellate Division, First Department Court determined the Agency could not proceed with this change by board resolution, but would instead need to go through the rule-making process specified in the City Administrative Procedure Act. After a 30-day public comment period, and a virtual public hearing on the new rules to be held on December 9, 2020, the CCRB's Board will again vote whether to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct made against an NYPD officer.

"The CCRB is prepared to do the work we set out to do in 2018—to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the NYPD and administratively prosecute them when necessary," said **CCRB Chair Fred Davie**. "There is no question sexual misconduct is a gross abuse of police authority and New Yorkers need an investigatory body outside of the police department that can receive and investigate these allegations. It is my hope that the Board swiftly adopts these new rules and restarts this work on behalf of all New Yorkers."

Additionally, following New York City voters' decision to expand the CCRB's jurisdiction into untruthful statements made by NYPD personnel, the CCRB has proposed new rules to clarify the agency's abuse of authority jurisdiction to also include untruthful statements made by NYPD personnel regarding a civilian during sworn testimony or on official documentation.

"These kinds of false statements are as much an abuse of police authority as any abuse of authority allegation currently investigated by the Agency," **said CCRB Executive Director** 

**Jonathan Darche**. "When an officer makes a material false statement in a court proceeding, or on official police paperwork, they are directly harming a civilian, breaking the public trust, and betraying their oath. This misconduct directly implicates CCRB's abuse of authority jurisdiction and should be investigated by the agency."

You can read the rules and learn how to submit public comment here.

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