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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CCRB Chair Testified Before Public Safety Committee in Support of Bill to Self-Initiate Complaints**

*CCRB Chair Frederick Davie was invited to testify before the Public Safety Committee in support of legislation that would grant the CCRB the power to self-initiate investigations.*

**New York, NY** – Yesterday, the Civilian Complaint Review Board Chair, Frederick Davie, testified before the Public Safety Committee in support of the newly introduced legislation that would allow the CCRB to self-initiate complaints.

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, Council Member Adrienne Adams introduced the bill, Int. 2440, to amend the New York City Charter and the Administrative Code of the City of New York to authorize the CCRB to investigate, hear, make findings and recommend action upon complaints initiated by the CCRB alleging police officer misconduct falling within CCRB’s jurisdiction.

Chair Davie was invited to testify on behalf of the CCRB before the Public Safety Committee on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Agency has long believed that the ability to self-initiate complaints is an important step to improving NYPD oversight.

**Excerpt from Chair Frederick Davie’s 11/22 Testimony:**

“This bill is critical for the people of New York, particularly those who are most vulnerable, as it shifts the burden of responsibility away from victims and civilians most in need. As it stands now, even if the CCRB is aware of misconduct, we must receive a complaint from the victim, a witness, or other concerned citizen before we are able to investigate the complaint...If the CCRB is aware of misconduct, an investigation should not be delayed or not even occur just because a complaint is not filed. All misconduct should be addressed, and be addressed promptly. This bill will bring us one step closer.”

**Chair Davie** also reiterated the importance of granting the CCRB access to sealed records in order to effectively investigate misconduct. Arrest records are often sealed due to police misconduct and withheld from the CCRB to prevent investigations into the underlying

misconduct. This is particularly important for the new unit investigating bias-based policing and racial profiling to effectively investigate their cases.

Statement from **Chair Davie**: “Properly addressing all misconduct is key to re-growing public trust in the police. Decades of ignored bad behavior is what has created today’s climate. New York City is stronger when our police community relationships are strong, and the CCRB is committed to help rebuild that trust.”

See the full testimony [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.*