



BILL DE BLASIO
MAYOR

CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD
100 CHURCH STREET 10th FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007 ♦ TELEPHONE (212) 912-7235
www.nyc.gov/ccrb



FREDERICK DAVIE
CHAIR

**Testimony of Jonathan Darche, Executive Director, Civilian Complaint Review Board
Public Safety Committee Oversight Hearing on the
Implementation of the Right to Know Act
April 29, 2019**

Chair Richards and members of the Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today. I am Jonathan Darche, Executive Director of the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB).

As you know, the CCRB is responsible for investigating, mediating, and prosecuting allegations of excessive force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, and offensive language against members of the New York City Police Department (NYPD). In advance of the Right to Know Act going into effect on October 19, 2018, we created new allegations and protocols to account for the additional types of misconduct implicated by the law, and trained our Investigations Division on these new mechanisms. CCRB staff also worked with the Act's co-sponsors—Council Member Antonio Reynoso and Council Member Ritchie J. Torres—and the City Council's Progressive Caucus to conduct a public education campaign. Our staff collaborated with advocates and partners to develop "Right to Know Act: Know Your Rights" materials, and distributed thousands of flyers outside of subway stations and schools, and at street festivals throughout the five boroughs in coordination with street team efforts by Council Members Carlina Rivera, Carlos Menchaca, and Keith Powers.

As a result of the Act and the CCRB's public education work, the Agency has seen a 22% increase in complaints in the last six months compared to the same time frame a year prior. Included in that number are 192 complaints containing 322 allegations of a "failure to receive a business card as required by the Right to Know Act". These metrics are publicly available on the CCRB's website via our Data Transparency Initiative, and we intend to report further on the impact of the Right to Know Act in our 2019 Semi-Annual and Annual Reports.

I believe that the Right to Know Act plays an important role in police accountability in New York City, and that the public deserves to know as much about the police disciplinary process as possible under the law. The CCRB is committed to its role in providing that transparency, and to fair and impartial police oversight in the City of New York.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have.