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REMARKS AS WRITTEN FOR DELIVERY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD
May 13, 2015

Good evening. My name is Mina Malik and I am the Executive Director of the Civilian Complaint Review Board. We are glad to be here at Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center. I would like to thank both the Center and Councilmember Robert Cornegy and his staff for assisting us in being here tonight.

I will first provide you with a highlight from our monthly statistical report, and then will discuss other matters pertaining to the operations of our agency. For a full review of the agency's monthly statistics, please visit our website.

There is important news to share about our docket and case processing times. In past months, we implemented a strategy which was designed to further reduce both the number of old cases in our open docket and the average time to complete an investigation.

We continue to reduce the number of cases in the open docket of the Investigations Division. Last month, I reported that the open docket of the Investigations Division decreased from 1,858 cases in January 2014 to 842 active cases in March 2015. By the end of April, it has been further reduced by 107 cases, to 735 cases.

We have focused particularly on cases 12 months or older in order to minimize the number of cases approaching the statute of limitations. As of the end of April, we had only 3 cases in the Investigations Division that were 15 to 18 months old, and 22 cases that were 12 to 14 months old. There were 3 cases that were older than 18 months. The Executive Staff and I have made those cases a high priority. Only 3% of all cases currently being investigated are 12 months or older.

By the end of April, there were 713 cases pending Board review, or 45% of the open docket, which is the reason the open docket has increased from 1,417 cases in March 2015 to 1,572 cases by the end of April 2015.

Given the high number of old cases that we have investigated in recent months, these improvements in the docket have yet to materialize into across-the-board gains in the time it takes to complete an average investigation. However, there are strong signs that we have reached some of the benchmarks that we set for ourselves a few months ago.

We have reviewed the productivity of the Investigations Division from January to April and found that investigators under the new pod or smaller team structure were able to close cases in half the time that it took investigators to close cases under the former, larger team structure. The new pod structure submitted cases for review in an average of 141 days while the old team structure did so in 281 days. Those numbers include cases filed prior to and in 2015. More importantly, under the new structure, we have closed 185 cases filed in 2015 in an average of 63 days. This is a 78% reduction compared to the average time it took to conduct an investigation a year ago.

As I stated in past months, the preliminary data for the new pod structure shows that it is far more effective than the former, larger team structure, and we expect this efficiency to continue. The number of days it takes to interview a complainant has decreased from 31 days in January 2014 to 11 days year-to-date in 2015. The number of days it takes to interview an officer has decreased from over 200 days in 2014 to 51 days year-to-date in 2015. We have come a long way, and are still in the process of creating the conditions for a more effective and efficient organization from the foundation up.

I would also like to highlight statistics related to the disposition of cases:

- (1) The percentage of cases that are fully investigated compared to the total number of investigations has increased, from 44% in 2014 to 53% year-to-date. Conversely, the truncation rate has decreased.
- (2) Year-to-date, the Board has substantiated 19% of all full investigations, which is slightly higher than data from the same period last year when the Board substantiated 17% of the cases if fully investigated.
- (3) The percentage of cases referred to the Administrative Prosecution Unit is now 24% of all substantiated cases.
- (4) From January through March 2015, the discipline rate was 89% for cases handled by the Police Department Advocate Office and the discipline rate for cases handled by the APU was 71%.

Finally, another positive development is that our relatively new Administrative Prosecution Unit (APU) has conducted more trials than ever year-to-date. The APU conducted a total of 78 trials since its inception: 1 in 2013; 45 in 2014; and 32 trials to date in 2015. Currently, the APU has 32 trials involving 77 respondents already scheduled in the next few months. These numbers underscore the important work of the conscientious, meticulous, and dedicated prosecutors in this Unit. Equally important, last year's discipline rate for APU cases was below 50% in the first half of 2014, whereas the discipline rate is 77% in year-to-date 2015.