Glossary of Terms

21st Century Policing: modern-day theory of policing based on six key points; building trust and legitimacy, policy and oversight, technology and social media, Community Policing and crime reduction, training and education, and officer safety and wellness.

Accountability: the obligation or regulation of an officer or other person(s) to be held responsible.

Adversarial: Confrontational interaction between a police officer and a member of the public.

At-Risk: refers to an individual or group who are considered to have a higher probability of engaging in criminal activity.

CCPC: Commission to Combat Police Corruption, a board to monitor and evaluate the anticorruption programs, activities, commitment, and efforts of the New York City Police Department.

CCRB: Civilian Complaint Review Board, the oversight agency of the New York City Police Department tasked with investigating, mediating, and prosecuting complaints of misconduct.

CIT Training: Crisis Intervention Team Training, educates officers on developing strategies to safely de-escalate situations with individuals in crisis.

CMOS: Civilian Member of the Service, individuals who are not police officers.

CO: Commanding Officer, the appointed ranking Officer of a specific area, specialized unit, or precinct which oversees all operations within the designated command.

Collaborative Policing: concentrates on developing more non-enforcement options for police officers, designing creative and focused enforcement strategies, and improving access to police services.

Command: an organizational management unit with in the New York City Police Department.

Community Engagement: the process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest, or similar situations to address issues affecting the well-being of those people.

COMPSTAT: created by the New York City Police Department, a combination of management, philosophy, and organizational management tools for police departments.

Criminal Summonses: issued by a police officer to individuals who commit low-level misdemeanors and/or violations. Officers may issue a criminal court summons from the field without the need for formal processing at a precinct.

CRT: Co-Response Teams, a collaboration between the New York City Police Department and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) established to serve community members with mental health or substance use challenges who are at an elevated risk of harm to themselves or others. Co-Response Teams consist of 2 police officers and 1 DOHMH clinician.

DAO: Department Advocate's Office. Responsible for prosecuting officers for internal discipline.

Department Manual: composed of the Patrol Guide, Administrative Guide, Detective Guide, and Organizational Guide; it contains the rules that NYPD members of the service must follow in carrying out their official duties.

Discipline Matrix: This discipline matrix provides an overview of the goals of internal discipline, defines the presumptive penalties for specific acts of substantiated misconduct by officers and outlines potential aggravating and mitigating factors that may be considered when assessing a disciplinary penalty.

Dismissal Probation: the department delays the imposition of the dismissal for a one-year period during which the officer is placed on probation. During the one-year probationary period, the officer's conduct is monitored and evaluated on a monthly basis. If the officer violates this probation, then the officer will be terminated.

EDP: Emotionally Disturbed Person, a person with emotional, mental, or erratic behavior that affects their decision-making process that may include hurting themselves or others. If these actions are likely to result in serious injury to themselves or others, an EDP will then be taken into custody, sometimes forcibly to avoid further harm.

HB: Housing Bureau, the division for police officers assigned to provide the security and delivery of police services to people living in New York City's public housing developments.

IAB: Internal Affairs Bureau, is responsible for investigating criminal actions and serious misconduct by members of the police department.

Implicit Bias: refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect a person's understanding, actions, and decisions unconsciously.

Investigative Encounter: police interactions with members of the public who are not free to leave while officers investigate criminal activity. Officers may only stop a person when they have reasonable suspicion that somebody has committed, is committing, or is about to commit a crime. The vast majority of interactions between police and members of the public are not investigative encounters. Investigative encounters are also known as stops.

Mediation: a structured, interactive process where an impartial third party assists disputing parties in resolving conflict through the use of specialized communication and negotiation techniques.

NCO: Neighborhood Coordination Officer(s), serve as liaisons between the police and the community, but also as key crime-fighters and problem-solvers in their sector.

Neighborhood Policing: a strategy of policing that focuses on building ties and working closely with members of the communities.

Non-Enforcement Options: Alternative measures taken by law enforcement to correct situations which will not result in criminal prosecution.

OATH: Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings, hears cases on summonses which charge a person with breaking a City rule or law. A summons that is issued by City agencies and filed at OATH charge a person or entity with a violation. OATH only hears civil summonses for offenses defined in the Administrative Code.

OEI: Office of Equity and Inclusion, proactively trains and advises department employees on issues of equality and fairness in the workplace.

Patrol Borough: a geographical area composed of numerous precincts within relatively close proximity. There are 8 Patrol Boroughs: 1 in the Bronx and Staten Island, and 2 each in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens.

PCT: Police Communications Technicians, civilian members of the New York City Police Department that staff 911 call centers.

Peer Support: process of giving and receiving encouragement and assistance to achieve long-term recovery.

Penalty Days: The most common penalty imposed by the department in disciplinary matters is the loss of vacation days or the imposition of suspension days.

PERF: Police Executive Research Forum, is a police research and policy organization and a provider of management services, technical assistance, and executive-level education to support law enforcement agencies.

Precision Policing: investigations that target the small percentage of offenders who commit most of the crime in the city that result in cases that take crime off the street with fewer overall enforcement encounters. This allows stops, arrests, and summonses to remain at low rates.

PSA: Police Service Areas, police precincts that serve the nine housing bureau districts located throughout Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, and The Bronx.

QOL: Quality of life, refers to policing a number of normally non-criminal activities such as congregating and/or drinking in public spaces, as well as minor offenses such as graffiti, public urination, panhandling, littering, and other similar offenses.

Reform and Reinvention Collaborative: process to solicit input from community members to implement changes in the New York City Police Department in order to better the organization.

Restorative Justice: an approach to justice in which one of the responses to a crime is to organize a meeting between the victim and the offender, sometimes with representatives of the wider community.

Stakeholders: an individual or group with an interest or concern in something.

Substantiated: When an allegation(s) of misconduct against a police officer is investigated and evidence is found to show that the event did occur, that the officer in question engaged in the action, and that the act itself was a violation of department guidelines.

TD: Transit District, the division for police officers assigned to protect riders in public transportation.

TRI Report: Threat, Resistance, or Injury Report, documents when an officer uses any level of reportable force, or has had any force used against them. It is also filled out whenever an officer or member of the public suffers an injury, regardless of whether force is utilized.

Transparency: refers to the release of information to the public.

UMOS: Uniformed Member of the Service, a sworn officer of the New York City Police Department. This term applies to all members, regardless of rank.

Unsubstantiated: not supported or proven by evidence.

YCO: Youth Coordination Officer, precinct experts for all youth-related matters. They will partner with city agencies and local community-service groups that have a stake in improved youth outcomes.

Youth Strategy: a new structure within the New York City Police Department that will seek to intervene with at-risk youth before they commit their first crime.