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CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD

PUBLIC MEETING

AUGUST 14, 2024

4:00 P.M.

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HELD AT 100 CHURCH STREET, 10TH FLOOR

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

AND

VIA WEBEX VIDEOCONFERENCE

B E F O R E:

ARVA RICE, INTERIM CHAIR

JONATHAN DARCHE, ESQ., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Transcribed by:

Julia M. Speros

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PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

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1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of the Minutes
3. Remarks from the Chair
4. Remarks from the Executive Director
5. Presentation from Outreach on the CCRB
6. Public Comment
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Adjourn to Executive Session

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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1. Arva Rice, Interim Board Chair
2. Joseph A. Puma, Board Member
3. Pat Smith, Board Member
4. Herman Merritt, Board Member
5. AU Hogan, Board Member
6. Joe Fox, Board Member
7. Charlane Brown-Wyands, Esq., Board Member
8. June Northern, Board Member
9. John Siegal, Esq., Board Member

Presenters:

Jahi Rose - Director of Outreach  
New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board

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SPEAKERS

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1. Eric Umansky
2. Assata-Makeya Rhodes
3. Doyin Adeeko Abowaba
4. Christopher Dunn, Legal Director  
New York Civil Liberties Union
5. Michael Myers, President and Executive  
Director New York Civil Rights Coalition
6. Rick Robinson, Manager  
Newark, New Jersey CCRB
7. Maureen Ross
8. Princess Benn James, Community Board 8
9. Andrew
10. Anthony James
11. Unknown Speaker

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PROCEEDINGS

MS. ALVAREZ: Good evening,  
everyone.

For those joining us virtually and  
are utilizing ASL interpreter services,  
our interpreters today are Ariel and  
Erika Agramonte. You can pin their  
video on your screen. Instructions for  
utilization will be found in the chat.

For those utilizing CART services,  
the link will also be found in the chat.

Thank you very much.

CHAIR RICE: Good evening and  
welcome. My name is Arva Rice. I use  
she/her pronouns and I am the Interim  
Chair of the Civilian Complaint Review  
Board.

I would like to call the CCRB's  
August Public Board Meeting to order.

Will the Board please introduce  
themselves now, starting with Pat on  
this side. Thank you.

MR. SMITH: Good afternoon. Pat  
Smith, Mayoral Appointee. Thank you.

MR. MERRITT: Hi. My name is Herman

1 Merritt, City Council Designee from  
2 Brooklyn.

3 MR. SIEGAL: Good afternoon. John  
4 Siegal. I was appointed by a mayor.

5 MR. DARCHE: Good afternoon. My  
6 name is Jon Darche. I use he/him  
7 pronouns and I'm the Executive Director  
8 of the Agency.

9 MS. NORTHERN: June Northern,  
10 Mayoral Appointee from Brooklyn.

11 MR. HOGAN: AU Hogan, City Council  
12 Appointee from Queens.

13 MR. FOX: Joe Fox, Police  
14 Commissioner Appointee.

15 MR. PUMA: Good afternoon. My name  
16 is Joseph Puma. I go by he/him  
17 pronouns. I am the City Council  
18 Appointee from Manhattan.

19 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

20 Is there anyone on the line?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIR RICE: No -- okay.

23 Are there any changes or corrections  
24 to the July Public Board Meeting  
25 minutes?

1 MR. SMITH: Yes --

2 CHAIR RICE: Yes.

3 MR. SMITH: -- Madam Chair.

4 On page 12, line 15, "this Board  
5 commend a share of Arva Rice", I think  
6 that should be "Chair of Arva Rice" --  
7 "Chair Arva Rice" -- and I promise in  
8 the future to be more articulate.

9 CHAIR RICE: Okay. Thank you.

10 MR. SIEGAL: That's page 12, line  
11 15.

12 CHAIR RICE: Are there any other  
13 corrections to the minutes?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIR RICE: Any other corrections?

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIR RICE: If none, can I ask for  
18 a motion to approve the July Board  
19 Meeting minutes with it corrected --  
20 with the correction on page 12, line 15  
21 as stated.

22 MR. SIEGAL: So moved.

23 CHAIR RICE: All those in favor?

24 (Chorus of "Ayes".)

25 CHAIR RICE: Opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIR RICE: Okay. The minutes are  
3 approved.

4 Good afternoon, everyone. I have  
5 served as the Interim Chair of the -- of  
6 this Board for over two-and-a-half years  
7 and today is my final day with the  
8 agency.

9 I submitted my resignation to the  
10 Mayor on July 22nd after giving a great  
11 deal of thought to what is best for both  
12 the Civilian Complaint Review Board and  
13 my fellow New Yorkers.

14 Some of you may know that in  
15 addition to my work with the CCRB, I am  
16 also President and CEO of The New York  
17 Urban League. The New York Urban League  
18 is a civil rights organization that  
19 empowers African Americans and other  
20 underserved communities.

21 The upcoming presidential election  
22 could have monumental consequences for  
23 the communities we serve. I've decided  
24 that I need to dedicate the entirety of  
25 my time and energy to mobilizing New



1           Yorkers to get involved and make their  
2           voices heard in that capacity.

3           My tenure has shown that the  
4           Civilian Complaint Review Board is a  
5           vital resource for our City. I believe  
6           it deserves a full-time Chair who is  
7           able to dedicate themselves completely  
8           to advocacy and leadership. It is my  
9           hope that in focusing my efforts  
10          elsewhere, a new Chair will be appointed  
11          who will continue this critical work.

12          I urge the Mayor and the speaker to  
13          come together and agree on a Chair who  
14          will be able to lead the agency forward.

15          Before my initial appointment to the  
16          Board in June of 2021, I worked on  
17          various task forces with the NYPD. Most  
18          recently, I co-chaired the Re-Imagining  
19          Policing Task Force with Jennifer Jones  
20          Austin and Governor Wes Moore.

21          The task force convened town halls  
22          and focus groups with members of  
23          service, unions, and the community  
24          focused on ensuring that public safety  
25          be fair and just for all New Yorkers.

1                   It was during this time that I  
2                   became even more familiar with the  
3                   system of civilian oversight in New York  
4                   City. As a result of this, I was both  
5                   honored and excited when I was appointed  
6                   to the Board and given the opportunity  
7                   to continue this work in a meaningful  
8                   way.

9                   Joining the Board underscored the  
10                  importance of the work of this agency  
11                  for civilian oversight and police  
12                  accountability. This is an agency of  
13                  New Yorkers who dedicate their  
14                  professional lives to holding those in  
15                  power accountable and it has been my  
16                  honor to lead and advocate for them as  
17                  Interim Chair.

18                  My time on the Board has also showed  
19                  me that the CCRB is a national model of  
20                  civilian oversight. We oversee the  
21                  largest police force in the country and  
22                  set the standard through thorough and  
23                  impartial investigations.

24                  I'm very proud of our work and the  
25                  milestones we were able to achieve

1           during my tenure.

2           In 2023, the agency saw an overall  
3           reduction in investigation times, even  
4           as the number of complaints we received  
5           increased dramatically. We also  
6           eliminated the backlog of open  
7           complaints from the COVID-19 crisis.

8           This was an agency-wide effort  
9           requiring commitment from investigators,  
10          attorneys, support, staff and Board  
11          Members.

12          We also made strides toward  
13          increasing transparency and police  
14          accountability. To this end we began  
15          publishing redacted closing reports to  
16          the website. We also issued an  
17          extensive report of the NYPD response to  
18          the summer 2020 protests. This report  
19          included recommendations to the NYPD on  
20          how to improve their tactics in policing  
21          widespread demonstrations.

22          The agency also began to investigate  
23          complaints of racial profiling and  
24          bias-based policing through a dedicated  
25          investigative unit. Investigating those

1           allegations is so critical to just and  
2           fair policing.

3           I want to thank the staff for their  
4           hard work. Their work is not easy, but  
5           they remain committed and fair.

6           I'd like to especially thank my  
7           colleagues on the Board who bring a  
8           diversity of backgrounds and viewpoints  
9           to the table to discuss individual  
10          complaints. From all different  
11          ethnicities, life experiences and  
12          neighborhoods, those with experience as  
13          police officers and those without, we  
14          speak together and listen to each other.

15          We deliberate and vote in accordance  
16          with the facts of the cases presented to  
17          us while respecting our colleagues'  
18          points of view. I'm proud to have  
19          worked with them, led them, and learned  
20          from them.

21          I'd like to close by saying it has  
22          been an honor and a privilege to serve  
23          my fellow New Yorkers as Interim Chair  
24          of this Board, and although no longer in  
25          this formal role, I will remain an

1 advocate of police oversight and  
2 accountability.

3 I'll now pass it over to Executive  
4 Director Jon Darche for an agency  
5 report.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. DARCHE: On behalf of the staff  
8 of the agency, I want to extend my  
9 sincere thanks to Chair Rice for her  
10 service and leadership, and as much as  
11 Chair Rice was a formidable leader for  
12 the agency, she was also a thoughtful  
13 and dedicated Board member and a very  
14 good boss.

15 The CCRB benefited from Arva's  
16 wisdom, experience, and tenacity in many  
17 ways and she will be missed.

18 I also want to express my gratitude  
19 to the Administration and Council for  
20 providing the CCRB with funding to hire  
21 19 new staff members. These positions  
22 include a full class of investigators,  
23 an APU prosecutor, an investigating  
24 attorney, and data analyst for our  
25 racial profiling unit, and an outreach

1 coordinator.

2 Please visit the NYC employment  
3 portal at [jobs.nyc.gov](https://jobs.nyc.gov) for more  
4 information and to apply for a position.  
5 You can also reach out to  
6 [careers@ccrb.nyc.gov](mailto:careers@ccrb.nyc.gov) for more  
7 information.

8 Earlier this week, the CCRB policy  
9 and data unit published both the 2024  
10 Semiannual Report and the APU Report for  
11 the second quarter of 2024. Both  
12 reports are available on our website.

13 Our office is open for walk-in  
14 complaints, but it is also possible to  
15 file complaints online at  
16 [nyc.gov/ccrbcomplaint](https://nyc.gov/ccrbcomplaint) -- [nyc.gov/ccrb](https://nyc.gov/ccrb),  
17 C-O-M-P-L-A-I-N-T, by telephone at  
18 1-800-341-2272, by calling 311, or by  
19 tagging the agency on Twitter, Facebook  
20 and Instagram.

21 If anyone wishes to file a complaint  
22 right now, we have two investigators  
23 here with us today, Emma Stydahr and  
24 Rob Ryan. Also, Ivana Torres is here  
25 from the Civilian Assistance Unit.

1           Some ground rules for today's  
2 meeting:

3           Please keep your remarks to four  
4 minutes regardless of whether you are  
5 speaking remotely or in-person.

6           Finally, I want to remind everyone  
7 that the September Board Meeting will be  
8 on Wednesday the 18th, which is a little  
9 later than -- in the month than usual.  
10 As always, information about the meeting  
11 will be posted on our website and on  
12 social media.

13           CHAIR RICE: Thank you, Jon.

14           Does anyone have any questions for  
15 our Executive Director?

16           MR. SMITH: Madam Chair, on the  
17 monthly report, pages 37-38, am I seeing  
18 some progress in mediation here,  
19 especially in the 40 precinct and the 83  
20 precinct?

21           CHAIR RICE: I'm going to have our  
22 Executive Director respond to that  
23 question.

24           MR. SMITH: And if so, can we make  
25 that grow, please?

1 MR. DARCHE: One moment.

2 MR. SMITH: You didn't know there  
3 was a quiz, huh? (Laughter.)

4 MR. DARCHE: So, the Mediation Unit,  
5 which is currently led by Caroline Anna  
6 as part of the Investigations Unit, has  
7 been working steadily since the office  
8 has been back full-time at the end of  
9 the pandemic to keep remote options open  
10 for folks while proceeding with resuming  
11 in-person mediations and we've also had  
12 a focus on not letting cases sit in  
13 mediation if -- we don't want cases to  
14 avoid investigation because we tried too  
15 long to mediate a case, and then it  
16 became impossible to both mediate it and  
17 investigate it.

18 So, the Mediation Unit has been  
19 working very hard, and while numbers  
20 have improved in -- recently in those  
21 two precincts, as an overall, we still  
22 need more -- to do more work to bring  
23 the Mediation Unit back to where it was  
24 previously.

25 But I think it's also important to



1 note that in an -- on an individual case  
2 basis, we don't have a preference for  
3 mediation over something else. It is  
4 truly up to the people involved, both  
5 the civilians and the members of  
6 service.

7 We don't force mediation on folks.  
8 We make them available -- aware that  
9 it's an option that they can choose  
10 because we don't want -- we don't want  
11 people to find themselves in mediations  
12 that they don't truly want.

13 CHAIR RICE: Are there any other  
14 questions of our Chair -- I mean of our  
15 Executive Director? Sorry -- Whoops.

16 (No response.)

17 CHAIR RICE: Any other questions of  
18 our Executive Director?

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIR RICE: Okay. If not, we're  
21 going to have our presentation from our  
22 Director of Outreach, Jahi Rose.

23 MR. ROSE: Hello. Good evening,  
24 everyone.

25 My name is Jahi Rose, as mentioned.

1 I go by he/him pronouns and I'm the  
2 Director of Outreach. I'll just be  
3 providing you with a brief overview of  
4 the agency and some interesting updates.

5 The New York City Civilian Complaint  
6 Review Board is the nation's largest  
7 independent oversight entity over the  
8 largest police force in the country.

9 The Civilian Complaint Review Board  
10 investigates, mediates, and  
11 administratively prosecutes complaints  
12 alleged against New York City members of  
13 the police department, the NYPD.

14 The agency is governed by a  
15 15-member Board. The Board are selected  
16 by -- five appointed by the New York  
17 City Mayor, five are appointed by the  
18 New York City Council, three are  
19 designated by the New York City Police  
20 Commissioner, three -- one is appointed  
21 by the Public Advocate, and the Chair is  
22 jointly appointed by the Mayor and the  
23 City Council.

24 The CCRB can investigate allegations  
25 of force, abuse of authority,

1           discourtesy, and offensive language.

2           If you do see complaints of police  
3           misconduct, you can feel free to file  
4           those, as previously mentioned, by going  
5           to our agency's website,  
6           nyc.gov/ccrbcomplaint. Also, you can  
7           call the agency's -- the agency's  
8           hotline at 1-800-341-CCRB or  
9           1-800-341-2272.

10           Remember, if you see footage of  
11           misconduct on social media or in the  
12           news, you can also file a complaint to  
13           the CCRB, even if you were not there  
14           in-person. Our typical handle is  
15           @ccrb\_nyc.

16           Additional ways to file a complaint  
17           with the CCRB also include calling 311.  
18           You can also come to the agency's  
19           headquarters at 100 Church Street on the  
20           10th floor in lower Manhattan. You  
21           could also direct message, or DM, the  
22           CCRB on social media. That's on  
23           Facebook, Twitter or X, and Instagram.  
24           Our handle is @ccrb\_nyc.

25           You can also send a letter to the

1 agency as well at 100 Church Street,  
2 10th Floor, New York, New York, zip  
3 code, 10007. You can also file a  
4 complaint at any local precinct  
5 throughout the five boroughs.

6 Even if that's not where the  
7 encounter took place, the NYPD is  
8 required to take complaints about police  
9 misconduct and accept CCRB complaints.  
10 You could also request a complaint form  
11 in a self-addressed envelope.

12 As mentioned, the CCRB is hiring.  
13 So, we are hiring for various positions  
14 from investigators to investigating  
15 attorneys all the way to outreach  
16 coordinators. Feel free to go to the  
17 New York City Jobs website,  
18 [nyc.gov/jobs](http://nyc.gov/jobs). You can also email the  
19 CCRB at [careers@ccrb.nyc.gov](mailto:careers@ccrb.nyc.gov). That  
20 information is also in the chat.

21 So, over the -- over the summer we  
22 had the pleasure of hosting SYEP  
23 interns. That's Summer Youth Employment  
24 Interns. The Summer Youth Employment  
25 Interns were assigned to us by

1 Transition and College Access Center.  
2 That program assigned us eight interns  
3 for the summer. We worked with nine  
4 collectively.

5 Some of the activities that the  
6 interns engaged was Youth Ambassador  
7 training where they learn how to connect  
8 with other young people and do  
9 peer-to-peer outreach to members of --  
10 to young New Yorkers.

11 They also engaged CCRB Cares, which  
12 is a volunteer initiative. They watched  
13 an APU trial, did an observation. They  
14 also did community outreach. They did  
15 research for our agency. They  
16 collected -- they collected data and  
17 information and did phone banking.

18 These are some of the activities  
19 that our SYEP interns participated in:

20 They were able to meet Council  
21 Member Sandy Nurse, also the House  
22 Minority Leader, Hakeem Jeffries during  
23 National Night Out Against Crime.

24 This is some photos of the CCRB  
25 Cares initiative in Brownsville at

1 Nehemiah Playground. They helped to  
2 restore some of the infrastructure at  
3 the playground by painting.

4 Our SYEP students also engaged in  
5 creating social media content for us so  
6 we could be able to appeal to more young  
7 people online.

8 This is a gallery of some of the  
9 images that were created by some of our  
10 SYEP students.

11 Our SYEP students also worked with  
12 the CAU to be able to do data collection  
13 to be able to expand the amount of  
14 outreach that we could do to folks and  
15 referrals that we can provide to  
16 individuals as well.

17 So, for this year, we definitely  
18 want to say thank you to our SYEP  
19 interns.

20 So, there are more of them, but the  
21 closer we got towards the end of the  
22 year, many of them did have to travel  
23 for the remainder of the program. Some  
24 of them are working virtually from  
25 Mexico. That's the level of dedication

1           that they had.

2           So, they've been very dedicated in  
3           the work that they've been doing. So, I  
4           had a blast working with them. Their  
5           last day is Friday, so if you want  
6           pictures, it will cost. So, thank you  
7           all very much.

8           If you'd like to request a -- if  
9           you'd like to request the outreach  
10          presentation from the CCRB, feel free to  
11          connect with us via email at  
12          outreach@ccrb.nyc.gov, or connect with  
13          us online on our social media platforms  
14          and -- on Instagram, Facebook, and  
15          Twitter.

16          Thank you.

17          CHAIR RICE: Does anyone have any  
18          questions for Jahi?

19          MR. SMITH: (Indicating.)

20          CHAIR RICE: Yes.

21          MR. SMITH: I ended up in a  
22          conversation with Daniel before the  
23          meeting. Turned out he was at the same  
24          student -- same school where my daughter  
25          was a counselor, so -- and she just

1           texted back, "always friendly, kind  
2           hearted, and curious".

3           CHAIR RICE: Any other questions or  
4           comments for Jahi?

5           (No response.)

6           CHAIR RICE: All right.  
7           Congratulations to the SYEP young people  
8           for the work that you did this summer.  
9           We appreciate you.

10          All right. Thank you so much.

11          MR. ROSE: Thank you.

12          CHAIR RICE: We will now enter the  
13          public comment portion of the meeting.

14          We will begin with those joining us  
15          virtually who would like to make a  
16          comment, followed by those who are  
17          joining us in-person.

18          For those joining personally -- I  
19          mean virtually, we please -- we ask you  
20          to please use the "raise your hand"  
21          feature and please keep your comments to  
22          four minutes.

23          I would also like to recognize one  
24          of the members of our Board who has  
25          joined us virtually.



1                   Charlane, if you would introduce  
2                   yourself, please.

3                   MS. BROWN-WYANDS: Good afternoon,  
4                   everyone. My name is Charlane Brown. I  
5                   am a Police Commissioner Designee.

6                   CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

7                   With that said, Yojaira, would you  
8                   please call on the first person?

9                   MS. ALVAREZ: Thank you, Madam  
10                  Chair.

11                  First we have Eric Umansky.

12                  MR. UMANSKY: I have a question  
13                  about something that was in the  
14                  Semiannual Report, I believe, and that  
15                  is about the rise in number of cases  
16                  that the NYPD is ending without review  
17                  because they come within 90 days of the  
18                  statute of limitations.

19                  Can Board Members tell me if they're  
20                  aware of that and whether they think  
21                  that's something that needs to be  
22                  addressed?

23                  CHAIR RICE: I don't know if any  
24                  member of the Board wanted to address  
25                  Mr. Umansky's question?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIR RICE: Okay. Jon, did you  
3 want to say anything?

4 MR. DARCHE: So, the policy began in  
5 2021 where the NYPD's Department  
6 Advocate's Office instituted a policy of  
7 closing matters referred to them for  
8 lesser discipline, not charges, without  
9 review if they received the case within  
10 90 days of the statute of limitations,  
11 and so that is -- that is -- that's the  
12 policy that Mr. Umansky referred to in  
13 his question.

14 It is something that has become more  
15 widespread, especially as the  
16 Investigations Division has made an  
17 effort to reduce investigation times,  
18 there are more and more cases that fall  
19 into the category of under 90 days to  
20 the SOL, but are still actually quite  
21 far from SOL.

22 So, I think -- I want to say there  
23 were -- there were 330 cases closed in  
24 the second quarter of 2024 short SOL,  
25 but -- I think Lincoln is here.

1                   Is that -- is that close to right?

2                   MR. MACVEAGH:   Very close.

3                   (Indiscernible.)

4                   MR. DARCHE:    313 -- 383.  I was  
5                   under.

6                   CHAIR RICE:    Thank you.

7                   MR. SIEGAL:    Jon, that policy is  
8                   still only applied to non-charges cases.

9                   MR. DARCHE:    Correct.

10                  The Department Advocate's Office is  
11                  still committed to either using its  
12                  powers under Provision 2 or serving in  
13                  charges cases it receives from the CCRB.

14                  MR. SIEGAL:    So, the way I look at  
15                  this is effectively they've shortened  
16                  the statute of limitations by 90 days.

17                  Is that not -- Is there some other  
18                  way to look at it cause that's how I  
19                  look at it?  I don't think I could, as a  
20                  defense counsel, say to a judge, "Oh,  
21                  it's within 90 days so the statute  
22                  applies".  It just seems so arbitrary to  
23                  me.

24                  UNKNOWN SPEAKER:  (Indiscernible.)

25                  MR. SIEGAL:    I'm asking a question.

1 I don't know why you have a problem with  
2 that.

3 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (Indiscernible.)

4 MR. SIEGAL: No, Usually you  
5 criticize us cause we don't have  
6 anything to say, so --

7 All right. I just asked the  
8 question. You answer it at the  
9 appropriate time, Jon.

10 CHAIR RICE: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
11 Umansky for your question.

12 And, Yojaira, can we hear from the  
13 next speaker?

14 MS. ALVAREZ: Next we have  
15 Assata-Makeya Rhodes.

16 MS. RHODES: This is Assata-Makeya  
17 of the Rhodes family. Can you all hear  
18 me?

19 MS. ALVAREZ: Yes.

20 Can you -- can you start from the  
21 beginning?

22 MS. RHODES: Yes -- greetings all.  
23 I'm Assata-Makeya of the Rhodes family.

24 In March of 2023 property of which I  
25 was in control of was unlawfully and

1           illegally confiscated without right or  
2           privilege by uniformed City of New York  
3           police officers. 11 days later, a  
4           complaint was delivered to and received  
5           by the CCRB.

6           Despite that complaint being  
7           received in March, and despite my  
8           several attempts to follow-up on the  
9           matter, the complaint was not noted as  
10          registered until eight months later.  
11          That complaint was reportedly  
12          investigated by CCRB and that case was  
13          closed just last month.

14          I received notification that CCRB  
15          determined the officer's conduct was  
16          within NYPD guidelines with no further  
17          details.

18          I believe I have grounds to appeal  
19          CCRB's determination, but find it  
20          difficult to appropriately appeal  
21          because I don't have any information  
22          whatsoever about the specifics of the  
23          investigation. I was not contacted by  
24          the investigator at any point during the  
25          investigation following our initial

1 conversation about the matter and I do  
2 believe I may have information that will  
3 sustain an appeal.

4 I filed two Freedom of Information  
5 requests to obtain documents relevant to  
6 that case and was subsequently notified  
7 by CCRB that the FOIA request will not  
8 be fulfilled until July of 2025. I'm  
9 concerned that certain relevant  
10 deadlines will not be met if I wait  
11 until then.

12 Can you advise me on how to gather  
13 those relevant details to pursue this  
14 case further?

15 CHAIR RICE: Thank you very much,  
16 Ms. Rhodes. I'm going to have our  
17 Executive Director respond to your -- to  
18 your question.

19 MR. DARCHE: So, Ms. Rhodes, I will  
20 check with the FOIL unit. It's now no  
21 longer just one person. It's now two  
22 people.

23 So, I will -- I will speak to the  
24 leader of the FOIL unit at the  
25 conclusion of this meeting and we will

1 expedite getting you the information you  
2 need to file a Reopen Request, which is  
3 essentially what an appeal is and we'll  
4 make sure that you get the information  
5 of what we did gather, so you -- cause  
6 one of the things we look for in a  
7 Reopen Request is that you have new  
8 information.

9 And so we'll make sure you know what  
10 we did have so that you can give us  
11 additional information that we can use  
12 when evaluating the Reopen Request.

13 MS. RHODES: Thank you.

14 Is there an email address that I can  
15 have so that I can basically move it up  
16 to the front of the line so you don't  
17 have to go digging through those  
18 requests?

19 MR. DARCHE: So, if you -- if you  
20 send it to my assistant, Helen  
21 Pressburg, H-P-R-E-S-B-E-R-G,  
22 @ccrb.nyc.gov she will forward it to me  
23 and I'll make sure it gets looked at  
24 forthwith.

25 MS. RHODES: Thank you all. Have a

1 great evening.

2 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

3 Yojaira, can we have the next  
4 speaker?

5 MS. ALVAREZ: Next we'll be hearing  
6 from Doyin Adeeko Abowaba.

7 (No response.)

8 MS. ALVAREZ: Doyin, Can you hear  
9 us?

10 (No response.)

11 MS. ALVAREZ: You'll have to  
12 un-mute, Doyin.

13 MR. ABOWABA: Hello?

14 MS. ALVAREZ: Hi. We can hear you.

15 MR. ABOWABA: Yeah -- good  
16 afternoon, everyone.

17 My name is Doyin Adeeko Abowaba. I  
18 live in 722 Post Avenue although I've  
19 been (indiscernible) by the Department  
20 of Building, you know, to -- I mean, due  
21 to the illegal apartment, you know, on  
22 17th of August, the official of  
23 Department of Building came to the house  
24 for inspection and the landlord was  
25 harassing me.



1                   On that very day, she was -- she  
2                   came into the -- into my apartment  
3                   harassing my wife, constantly yelling  
4                   out all sorts of things.

5                   I called the NYPD on that day. For  
6                   two hours, I did not see anyone come  
7                   around to arrest the offender.

8                   So, apart from that, there was  
9                   another case that I reported at the same  
10                  station at 78 Richmond Terrace, that the  
11                  landlord opened my apartment with his  
12                  personal key while I was in the house.  
13                  We were in the house sleeping.

14                  He came in, and, you know, that very  
15                  morning, I asked him, "What are you  
16                  looking for? You want to come into my  
17                  house, you have to inform me".

18                  So, that very day, I call, but no  
19                  response. I have to go there again to  
20                  record the scene and they said, "The  
21                  landlord has the right to enter his  
22                  house even when I'm inside or  
23                  emergency".

24                  So, again, reported harassment.  
25                  They told me, "You can not" -- that

1 landlord has a right to enter the house  
2 where I rented from him. There's  
3 nothing they can do and I was shocked.

4 So, I don't understand it. Maybe  
5 it's -- it's in the New York law -- New  
6 York State law that every landlord can  
7 enter a tenant's house without their  
8 permission, without -- without notifying  
9 him that he is going to do something in  
10 house and we don't have emergency in the  
11 house. (Indiscernible) apartment for  
12 me.

13 So, that is my case.

14 MR. DARCHE: Mr. Abowaba --

15 MR. ABOWABA: Yes, sir.

16 MR. DARCHE: -- the rights of  
17 landlords and tenants in New York City  
18 are complicated and the responsibilities  
19 of police officers are also complicated.

20 So, this is something where you  
21 would really need to talk to an  
22 investigator so that we can get all the  
23 details about -- about the situation and  
24 then we can let you know if -- if this  
25 is something that is in our jurisdiction

1 or if this is something we can refer to  
2 someone else.

3 So, what I'm going to ask is that  
4 you will hold on and then you -- you  
5 speak to one of our investigators and  
6 either we can take the complaint right  
7 now from you or we can make an  
8 appointment to follow-up with you and  
9 your wife at a -- at a later time.

10 But I'm going to ask that you hold  
11 on and either Emma or Rob will reach out  
12 to you right now.

13 MR. ABOWABA: Okay, sir.

14 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

15 Yojaira, can we speak -- hear from  
16 the next speaker?

17 MS. ALVAREZ: That concludes the  
18 virtual portion of the public comment.

19 CHAIR RICE: Thank you. I  
20 appreciate that.

21 For those joining us in-person and  
22 are interested in making a public  
23 comment, please line up behind the  
24 podium and we're going to ask you to  
25 keep your comments also to four minutes.

1                   Good evening, Mr. Dunn.

2                   MR. DUNN:    Good afternoon.    For  
3                   those of you I have not met, I'm Chris  
4                   Dunn from the New York Civil Liberties  
5                   Union.

6                   I've been coming to CCRB meetings  
7                   for 25 years now, but I have not been  
8                   since the pandemic.    So, I apologize for  
9                   that, but I wanted to be here for Arva'a  
10                  last meeting.

11                  But before I turn to that, I did  
12                  want to raise a couple substantive  
13                  questions.

14                  First, to pick up on Eric's question  
15                  about the semiannual report -- and I  
16                  first should note, there have been years  
17                  when semiannual reports showed up 6  
18                  months, 18 months, 24 months after the  
19                  end of the semiannual period.    Good for  
20                  you for getting the report out in a  
21                  timely way.

22                  But there was a bombshell in this  
23                  report that Eric has flagged, which is  
24                  the huge increase in the cases being  
25                  closed based upon a claimed SOL concern,

1 particularly with the number of cases  
2 between 60 and 90 days from the SOL,  
3 which I think is 279 cases for this  
4 six-month period.

5 And to pick up on Jon's point --  
6 and, Jon, feel free to respond during my  
7 time -- I do think there is a question  
8 about what is going on with the  
9 Department.

10 So, Jon, I am curious -- Jon Darche,  
11 I apologize -- I am curious to hear what  
12 the Department has been saying about  
13 this, and also curious -- and I'm  
14 looking at you, Mr. Fox, as a Police  
15 Department rep -- to hear what members  
16 on the Board here from the Police  
17 Department think about this situation.

18 MR. DARCHE: So, the policy is from  
19 2021. It's a Department Advocate  
20 policy, and I -- I think they -- they  
21 are trying to process these cases as  
22 fast as they can and sometimes they  
23 have -- they have difficulty doing it  
24 within the time period that they have  
25 given themselves.

1           I think there are things they could  
2           do to preserve the statute of  
3           limitations and allow -- if they require  
4           more time to review these cases, that  
5           they could do it, but we haven't made  
6           progress on that line of conversation.

7           MR. DUNN:   Okay.   Mr. Fox, not to  
8           put you on the spot, but here you are.

9           You think you could help make some  
10          progress on this?

11          MR. FOX:   I'm not an employee of the  
12          NYPD, Chris.

13          I'm a Police Designee, so my primary  
14          job is to review cases, which I've been  
15          doing for almost three years now.   I  
16          don't speak for the Police Commissioner  
17          -- Commissioner Caban.

18          I think John Siegal touched on the  
19          complexity of this -- or the issue that  
20          could be raised.

21          Jon Darche covered what I -- what I  
22          do understand could be the challenge  
23          because of processing.   There is a  
24          process that happens once a police  
25          officer was served.   There's notice.

1           There are a lot of things that happen in  
2           this realm that I don't have direct  
3           experience with unless I was on the job  
4           right now.

5           But I think that's the most I have  
6           to (indiscernible).

7           MR. DUNN: Well, I think you're  
8           being, perhaps, a little bit modest.  
9           You have a long and distinguished career  
10          in the Department. You carry a lot of  
11          weight in the Department.

12          I'm sure your say would make a  
13          difference and whatever may have been  
14          the situation before this six-month  
15          period, we've got nearly 300 cases that  
16          are going down the tubes based upon this  
17          policy.

18          Somebody needs to say, as John  
19          Siegal said, "You guys are cheating.  
20          You're just treating the statute of  
21          limitations as being today as opposed to  
22          three months out and this report shows  
23          something has got to happen on this".

24          All right. The second thing I want  
25          to raise is based upon some of the

1 reporting in the last week or so about  
2 Deputy Commissioner Daughtry and what  
3 looks to be a fast one the Department  
4 pulled on you about his status. He's  
5 either a civilian or an MOS.

6 The reporting, as I understand it --  
7 and I only know what I read in the  
8 papers, so I accept that caveat -- he's  
9 acting as a member of service.

10 He's carrying a weapon, but somehow  
11 they have tried to characterize him as a  
12 civilian to remove your jurisdiction  
13 from complaints that were live before  
14 his claimed change of status and I don't  
15 know what the Department is saying about  
16 that now. I saw some reporting today  
17 that they are being very oblique about  
18 pointing to some sort of special  
19 provision.

20 All I can say is, given what has  
21 been reported, I hope the CCRB will  
22 aggressively move to reopen those  
23 investigations, and I understand we're  
24 going to run into a statute of  
25 limitations problem from perhaps --



1 everything comes back to something.

2 But I think for the agency, it's  
3 important to do that, and I think as  
4 part of that, it's important to get to  
5 the bottom of what the Department did  
6 and what the Department said to the CCRB  
7 about his status because it sure looks  
8 like something squirrely happened here.

9 CHAIR RICE: Thank you for that  
10 comment, and, unfortunately, I think  
11 we're about to get to the end of your  
12 time, but want to make sure that we do  
13 handle that.

14 It's my understanding that he was in  
15 the category of a -- a civilian rather  
16 than a member of service.

17 I'd like to -- want Jon to be able  
18 to respond to your question.

19 MR. DARCHE: So, when a member of  
20 service goes from being an active member  
21 of service to an inactive member of  
22 service, there are a variety of reasons  
23 that could happen.

24 They can retire. They can separate  
25 or resign from the Department without a

1 pension, or sometimes they can go from  
2 being the -- a member of service to a  
3 civilian employee.

4 For example, the Police  
5 Commissioner, before he was the Police  
6 Commissioner, was the First Deputy  
7 Commissioner, and when he got promoted  
8 to be First Deputy Commissioner, he went  
9 to this inactive list.

10 And so our case tracking when that  
11 promotion happened, marked Police  
12 Commissioner Caban as inactive and our  
13 case tracking system did the same thing  
14 with Deputy Commissioner Daughtry.

15 So, I don't -- I don't -- I think  
16 the characterization of a fast one, or  
17 that that was done for the purpose of  
18 closing the open CCRB allegations is a  
19 step -- is several steps further than --  
20 than that I think we have evidence for  
21 and -- and we don't, as the agency,  
22 decide whether someone is a member of  
23 service. We have jurisdiction over  
24 members of service.

25 So -- so, to us, once we were

1 informed he was no longer an active  
2 member of service, that he no longer was  
3 in our jurisdiction.

4 MR. DUNN: I get all that. I  
5 appreciate you. All I'm saying is it's  
6 important to get to the bottom of it.

7 And then finally, Arva, if you'll  
8 allow me, because I think I've been  
9 talking probably for less than three  
10 minutes.

11 I want to talk about you just for a  
12 moment. It's not typically the role of  
13 the NYCLU to be praising government  
14 officials, but I want to make an  
15 exception here and I'll be brief.

16 You have been a voice of conscience  
17 for police accountability. When the  
18 occasion has presented itself or that  
19 has required you to be critical of the  
20 Police Department, you have been open in  
21 doing so and you get enormous credit for  
22 doing that.

23 And the integrity, and the  
24 commitment, and the passion, and the  
25 dignity that you brought to your

1 position is something that everybody  
2 sees and we appreciate that.

3 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

4 Mr. Myers.

5 MR. MYERS: Yes, I'm Michael Myers,  
6 the President of the New York Civil  
7 Rights Coalition.

8 There seems to be a public comment  
9 for favorites of the CCRB that was done  
10 at the last meeting when City Council  
11 members were called on and given  
12 preferential status to address this  
13 Board at its public meeting.

14 Rather than amend the agenda to have  
15 these public officials comment as a part  
16 of the agenda item, precious time was  
17 taken away from the public comment  
18 section placing public officials ahead  
19 of the ordinary members of the public --  
20 the people -- when you're supposed to  
21 hear from us and I don't understand  
22 what's going on in this -- in this  
23 organization anymore.

24 This is manifestly unfair. It is,  
25 as a matter of fact, discourteous and

1 offensive to the public comment  
2 section -- section of the CCRB meetings.

3 Secondly, representatives and  
4 individuals favored by the CCRB have  
5 been given a total of four minutes to  
6 address the public meeting, but towards  
7 the end or middle of their comments,  
8 they have been allowed to put questions  
9 to the CCRB, the answers to which the  
10 CCRB takes a precious time from the  
11 public comment section to "answer" --  
12 and I'm going to put that in quotes.

13 What is the rule? Do members of the  
14 public have four minutes to speak or may  
15 they also, hog the microphone, with  
16 their personal agendas and the so-called  
17 agenda -- their so-called organizations?

18 This is outrageous in my view. You  
19 got to have fair treatment. You got to  
20 have rules that apply to everybody. If  
21 the rules don't apply to everybody, then  
22 there are no rules and I find that  
23 objectionable.

24 Why are the members of the public  
25 online given the preference to address

1 the public meeting ahead of members of  
2 the public who are present at the  
3 meeting? Nobody ever explained that to  
4 me. We are here. We need to address  
5 this Board, but we have to wait for all  
6 kinds of comments -- sundry comments and  
7 questions of all the Board members who  
8 then take their time to address those  
9 questions, even as we wait to address  
10 you.

11 This is uncalled for. This is not  
12 in the rules. You need to see those  
13 rules again, where the -- where the  
14 Board speaks to every question either  
15 from online and in-person before the  
16 comment section is even concluded. We  
17 are supposed to have this time to talk  
18 to the Board, not the Board to talk to  
19 us.

20 When The rules of the CCRB are  
21 flagrantly violated or ignored, does a  
22 member of the public have the right to  
23 make a point of order to the Chair of  
24 the CCRB and seek an immediate ruling on  
25 the point of order or does that

1 privilege belong only to CCRB Board  
2 members; to CCRB members who themselves  
3 may favor or disfavor that particular  
4 speaker, or speaker, or cause?

5 Finally -- and I'm outraged. I'm  
6 upset about this whole process. I think  
7 it's out of order. I want to see the  
8 rules again. You got to republish those  
9 rules, and you got to read them, and  
10 understand when you are violating those  
11 rules, ignoring the public comment,  
12 transgressing the public comment rules.

13 Finally, the problems with your  
14 WebEx service have been persistent,  
15 notwithstanding our complaints and our  
16 comments rendered inaudible -- the fault  
17 not being on our side -- the question  
18 must be addressed and must be raised,  
19 why does the CCRB insist on WebEx?

20 Is this a City requirement? Are  
21 there any conflicts of interest  
22 protocols established over this  
23 communication system? By conflict of  
24 interest, you know exactly what I mean  
25 and what I'm inquiring about. I want to

1 know. I think this Board and the public  
2 ought to know about how in the hell you  
3 have WebEx. It doesn't work and you  
4 keep it despite complaints.

5 The hour is late. CCRB must reorder  
6 its agendas, and priorities, and systems  
7 so as to function as a fair and neutral  
8 investigative body and public commission  
9 with a reputation for integrity; not  
10 partisanship or favor for one side or  
11 the other of a public concern.

12 So, I also congratulate, again, the  
13 Chair of the committee -- of the Board,  
14 but you were not really explicit or  
15 clear about why you are leaving the  
16 Board, Madam Chair.

17 You know the Mayor asked for your  
18 resignation and you have to say that  
19 again, and again, and again for the  
20 record because it was an outrageous  
21 request, and this Board didn't say  
22 anything about it in terms of  
23 responding.

24 CHAIR RICE: Thank you, Mr. Myers.  
25 I appreciate your comment.



1 I do believe that WebEx is the  
2 official communication of the New York  
3 City and I don't know if you wanted  
4 to -- I don't know if you wanted to  
5 respond to any of the other comments  
6 that were raised, Jon.

7 MR. DARCHE: So, I will check with  
8 our IT department about whether we can  
9 not use WebEx because I believe I was on  
10 a Zoom with City folk earlier today, and  
11 if it is possible for us to switch to  
12 Zoom, I have no problem with that.

13 With regard to why we go for people  
14 who are online first and then in-person,  
15 is when we first started experimenting  
16 with these hybrid meetings, we would  
17 have an issue where people who were  
18 present would hear a -- would give their  
19 comment and then later there would be  
20 someone who was virtual who would then  
21 comment on their comment, and the person  
22 who was in-person would then want to  
23 respond.

24 And so it is easier for us to  
25 structure the meeting to allow the

1 people who are online to go first, and  
2 then the people who are here in-person  
3 get the benefit, in our view, of  
4 responding to the people who are online  
5 and then not having the people who are  
6 online use their words without them  
7 having a chance to respond.

8 And, finally, on the favoritism  
9 allegation, I remember the two elected  
10 officials last month criticizing the  
11 agency and I would like to think that if  
12 I was going to play favorites, I would  
13 actually play favorite for someone who  
14 was not going to criticize the agency,  
15 and so I just think it's not -- that is  
16 just not a fair criticism of our agency.

17 CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

18 MR. ROBINSON: Okay. So, it's  
19 pretty hard to follow that, but I'm  
20 going to definitely try.

21 So, Rick Robinson. I am the Manager  
22 for the Newark, New Jersey CCRB. So, my  
23 last time here was in 2016 when I was a  
24 Board Chair. So, Madam Chair, I  
25 actually applaud your efforts.

1                   But first, let me give a Newark  
2                   greeting from Mayor Ras Jua Baraka, and  
3                   the Municipal Council, and the residents  
4                   of Newark, New Jersey. I serve as the  
5                   Manager.

6                   And Director Darche, Madam Chair  
7                   Rice, and Board members, and staff, and  
8                   residents, first of all, I want to say  
9                   thank you. We have been -- well, a lot  
10                  of you do not know, so I will actually  
11                  make it clear. The Newark, New Jersey  
12                  CCRB has restarted.

13                  We had a death -- an unfortunate  
14                  matter regarding our former director. I  
15                  met Jon when Jon was actually the AP?

16                  MR. DARCHE: Chief prosecutor.

17                  MR. ROBINSON: Chief prosecutor --  
18                  years ago. He still hasn't fed me, but  
19                  it's okay.

20                  But I want to let everybody know,  
21                  including who's on this call -- what  
22                  stream or whatever vehicle you're using  
23                  -- the New York City CCRB has been  
24                  instrumental in the actual building for  
25                  the Newark, New Jersey CCRB. We are

1 actually scheduled to launch in October  
2 and on behalf of my staff, I want to  
3 actually send out this note to  
4 everybody:

5 I would be far behind with my  
6 process if it wasn't for Director  
7 Darche, Chair Arva Rice, Board members,  
8 and the CCRB staff. So, I actually am  
9 here in-person to thank you because I am  
10 very, very grateful, along with staff,  
11 and we could not have been actually  
12 ready for our launch, which is going to  
13 be in October.

14 So, I think the other thing is --  
15 Director Darche already knows -- we have  
16 been dealing with legislation. We have  
17 been dealing with police. We have been  
18 dealing with City officials. So, your  
19 presence and your visibility is pivotal  
20 and essential.

21 I say that because without this  
22 vehicle, people would not have the voice  
23 to actually address matters that we know  
24 about. So, you should be applauded.  
25 You really should.

1                   My situation over across the  
2                   waters -- or I should say our situation  
3                   across the waters is we're looking to  
4                   actually somewhat be honored by you  
5                   because you have been doing this for  
6                   years, and as I mentioned earlier, I met  
7                   Jon in 2016 and I am so grateful for our  
8                   relationship.

9                   Our investigators speak to the CCRB  
10                  investigators. Our General Counsel  
11                  speak with the CCRB General Counsel. I,  
12                  of course, speak with Jon, back and  
13                  forth, and Ms. Alvarez -- hi, Ms.  
14                  Alvarez.

15                 MS. ALVAREZ: Hi.

16                 MR. ROBINSON: But the thing is that  
17                 you need -- you need to know that this  
18                 vehicle is exceptional and you have to  
19                 treat it with all the actual assistance  
20                 that they can actually muster to  
21                 actually address matters.

22                 And I really, really, really applaud  
23                 your efforts, Board members because it  
24                 is a thankless job. It really is and  
25                 you are not appreciated. I feel I'm not

1 going to be appreciated in the future,  
2 but it's a situation where it's needed.

3 I also serve as the Chairman for the  
4 New Jersey State Conference, NAACP, and  
5 in Newark, New Jersey NAACP for criminal  
6 justice matters. So, I am all over the  
7 place regarding trying to put together  
8 an effective vehicle and I want to  
9 actually thank you for that.

10 CHAIR RICE: Thank you -- thank you.  
11 We appreciate you Mr. Robinson.

12 MR. DARCHE: If I could just say,  
13 Mr. Robinson and his team for years have  
14 been working so hard to build the Newark  
15 CCRB and it has been our pleasure and  
16 our honor to work with them to help them  
17 move forward in that goal.

18 MS. ROSS: You all are so  
19 appreciated.

20 My name is Maureen Ross. I serve in  
21 various capacities in the City,  
22 including the Board that gives funding  
23 to the SYEP. So, I'm glad that the  
24 young people did an excellent job this  
25 summer and I just wanted to speak to

1 express my sincere sadness over Chair  
2 Arva Rice leaving this post.

3 I heavily advocated. I came up in  
4 the NAACP at 8-years-old. My aunt said,  
5 "You all will not be statistics. You  
6 all will start a club. I don't care  
7 what you call it, but it's going to be  
8 the NAACP". So, I became Chair -- or  
9 no -- Vice President of the NAACP Youth  
10 Chapter when I was 16-years-old for the  
11 entire state because of my aunt.

12 But I just want to say that you have  
13 -- Ms. Rice -- I have great admiration  
14 and respect for your example of  
15 excellence in this position.

16 I've known you for over 14 years  
17 when I started the -- when I was hoping  
18 to develop the Foundation for the  
19 Advancement of Women with Mary J. Blige  
20 and you have done excellent work for the  
21 -- for the New York Urban League, as  
22 well as the CCRB, and the many other  
23 amazing things that you do throughout  
24 community, in your service.

25 And, also, as former Girl Scouts, we

1           were always told that you have to leave  
2           something better than you left it and --  
3           when you got there, and you definitely  
4           have done that. I think that Mayor  
5           David Dinkins, who was instrumental in  
6           beginning the CCRB, would be extremely  
7           proud of the work that you've done and  
8           that was beyond full-time.

9           I mean, you said it was part-time.  
10          You've done more than I think most  
11          people who have done full-time work have  
12          done in this organization. You  
13          increased the budget; you increased the  
14          staff to 19 new staff members. You  
15          decreased the backlog.

16          I don't need to repeat everything  
17          that you said, but you accomplished a  
18          lot in a short amount of time and I  
19          think that holding people accountable  
20          going forward is going to be the biggest  
21          thing that needs to be done.

22          I often say, I feel like I was  
23          spoiled, you know, being in the  
24          Bloomberg administration in the Mayor's  
25          Office. I did not like the



1 stop-and-frisk policy, but he taught us  
2 that every single New Yorker is our  
3 constituent; that we were getting paid  
4 taxpayer dollars to serve the people,  
5 and in service to the people, we were to  
6 give them our best at everything that we  
7 did.

8 And, you know, metrics, measuring  
9 those results and how we were able to  
10 give measurable deliverable outcomes for  
11 the people of this City, you've done  
12 that here.

13 So, I just want to say thank you for  
14 your service. I'm really sad --  
15 desperately sad to see you go because  
16 you were example of excellence again,  
17 and I hope that this is a model for  
18 other, you know, new Chairs to take when  
19 they come into this position, but it's  
20 going to be big shoes to fill, so --

21 CHAIR RICE: Wow. Thank you --  
22 thank you very much, Maureen, for those  
23 comments and the thank you goes to the  
24 incredibly hardworking staff of the  
25 CCRB. I cannot claim credit for the

1           accomplishments that this agency has  
2           done and the hard work of this Board as  
3           well. So, thank you.

4           Ma'am.

5           MS. JAMES: Hello. Good evening.  
6           My name is Princess Benn James. I'm a  
7           member of Community Board 8. I'm very  
8           active in my community.

9           The last time I really stand and  
10          spoke is when you guys were located on  
11          Dey Street. So, that's years ago.

12          The reason why I'm standing here in  
13          the presence this evening, it has to do  
14          with -- an incident occurred in July the  
15          12th and this has to do with a tenant  
16          who's a school crossing guard, but my  
17          problem is, this young lady weaponized  
18          her uniform. She used her uniform as a  
19          weapon and the 73rd Precinct is helping  
20          her to do that.

21          There's an incident that occurred  
22          with her daughter, and her friend, and  
23          the landlord threatened my life. I call  
24          911. It was 8:53 at night. She  
25          literally put on her uniform and came

1           downstairs. The first thing she said to  
2           the officer, "Oh, you know me", and the  
3           officer went from listening to say, "I  
4           cannot stop nobody from sitting on my  
5           steps".

6           What I'm saying is they already  
7           picked sides and she had done this  
8           before and I observed it when my son was  
9           living there, who was a 26-year-old  
10          veteran, where she called her daughter,  
11          create problems, and she called the  
12          precinct.

13          I don't understand how this young  
14          lady can call the precinct -- the 73rd  
15          Precinct and they can come at the drop  
16          of a dime, and if I call them when my  
17          cameras were violate -- vandalized, I'm  
18          still waiting for them to come.

19          So, my question is that -- she's a  
20          school crossing guard. I know she falls  
21          under the police -- 1 Police Plaza. How  
22          come a school crossing guard can use her  
23          uniform weaponized as a weapon when the  
24          police officers cannot use it -- but  
25          also the 73rd Precinct -- which I went

1           there and I told them -- they are  
2           helping her to do this because -- and  
3           this is what -- I don't know what step I  
4           can take.

5           So, that's why I'm here, to find out  
6           what step I can take because she is  
7           being allowed to use her uniform as a  
8           weapon against my son and I, and the  
9           73rd -- some -- not all the officers --  
10          some of the -- I really don't want to  
11          make an ambiguous statement. Some of  
12          the officers, especially the one who  
13          came a few times, I have them on camera.  
14          They are allowing her to do this.

15          Thank you.

16          CHAIR RICE: Thank you.

17          MR. DARCHE: So, ma'am, I wanted to  
18          say, first, the CCRB does not have  
19          jurisdiction over school safety agents  
20          even though they are in New York City  
21          Police Department. As we discussed  
22          earlier, not every employee of the NYPD  
23          is in the CCRB jurisdiction.

24          But I'm hoping you could stay and  
25          talk to one of our investigators because

1           it may be that something that happened  
2           is in our jurisdiction, and if it turns  
3           out that all the things that you bring  
4           up are not in our jurisdiction, we can  
5           still refer it to the right agency.

6           MS. JAMES: That's the reason why  
7           I'm standing here.

8           MR. DARCHE: Excellent, ma'am.

9           MS. JAMES: Okay. Thank you.

10          CHAIR RICE: Are there any other  
11          comments?

12          (No response.)

13          CHAIR RICE: Any other comments?

14          MR. DARCHE: Come on up.

15          MR. ANDREW: Hello. My name is  
16          Andrew. I've been coming here for years  
17          saying that law enforcement is attacking  
18          and terrorizing me, and so far, nothing  
19          has been done.

20          Just recently, I sent text messages  
21          to my -- to one of my ministers saying  
22          that they're blocking me from getting a  
23          job until they (indiscernible) my  
24          cellphone, and when they did steal my  
25          cellphone at the Department of Labor, I

1           called 911, and they refused to come  
2           out.

3           So, this has been going on for  
4           years, that law enforcement has been  
5           terrorizing me. Can I give this to  
6           somebody?

7           MR. DARCHE: Yes, you can give it to  
8           me, sir.

9           MR. ANDREW: Mr. Bishop is not here?

10          MR. DARCHE: Mr. Bishop isn't here.

11          MR. ANDREW: (Handing.)

12          Okay. The first one talks about how  
13          -- according to the Department of  
14          Justice, law enforcement is terrorizing  
15          the American public by getting revenge  
16          upon the people.

17          The second one is talking about --  
18          just let me take a look. (Perusing.)  
19          The second one is (indiscernible).  
20          According to the New York Times, this  
21          guy was followed around for 13 years and  
22          he was executed by the police. Again,  
23          Department of Justice, law enforcement,  
24          they like to get revenge upon people.

25          The third one is talking about how

1 law enforcement -- if you witness or  
2 eyewitness law enforcement murder  
3 somebody, they could get us not to  
4 testify against them somehow by tossing  
5 us in the sidewalk against our will.  
6 That's what it says here according to  
7 the newspaper.

8 So, if you have evidence against law  
9 enforcement, they can toss in the  
10 sidewalk like New York City Police  
11 Officer Adrian Schoolcraft, Police  
12 Detective Nela Gomez, Los Angeles Police  
13 Officer Christopher Dorner. So, these  
14 people identify as crazy because they  
15 have evidence against law enforcement  
16 for their criminal activity.

17 The other one is talking about how  
18 police ambushed me, and the last one is  
19 talking about how law enforcement is  
20 getting people fired and making them  
21 homeless. That's according to the court  
22 case.

23 So, if anybody wants to get a copy  
24 of these, they could email me at  
25 corruptcopsattackingme, or

1           policattackinamerica, the number "2"  
2           @gmail.com -- policattackinamerica, the  
3           number "2" @gmail.com. I'm more than  
4           only happy to send my evidence, the  
5           copies of the court cases.

6           Law enforcement is terrorizing the  
7           American public, not just in New York  
8           City, but they're doing this throughout  
9           America, and every time I came here,  
10          nobody has done nothing against these  
11          cops attacking me ever. So, I come here  
12          again.

13          CHAIR RICE: Do we have anyone else  
14          making a public comment this evening?

15          MR. JAMES: Good afternoon. I'm  
16          Anthony James. I have a young man here  
17          who was stopped by A police officer on  
18          his daughter's birthday in the 67th  
19          Precinct.

20          He's a little nervous -- first time,  
21          so --

22          UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good afternoon,  
23          everybody.

24          UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (Indiscernible.)

25          UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I said, Good



1                   afternoon, everybody.

2                   Well, on May 24th me and my cousin,  
3 we had went to Brooklyn. I'm not from  
4 Brooklyn. I'm from Queens County, so I  
5 was driving casually, you know.

6                   I didn't have anything -- no music  
7 playing. I didn't have any weed in my  
8 possession. Didn't have anything  
9 unusual, basically.

10                  So, I'm driving. I see that it was  
11 a grey detective behind me. I look. I  
12 seen him. I told my cousin, but we  
13 wasn't scared or anything, you see what  
14 I'm saying, cause I didn't have anything  
15 on me.

16                  So, I moved up just a little bit.  
17 He put his lights on me. Me,  
18 personally, I felt like they were  
19 antagonizing me, so I jumped out the car  
20 immediately. You see what I'm saying.  
21 Maybe that was a red flag for me, but I  
22 jumped out the car because I felt like  
23 they were coming for me -- understand  
24 what I'm saying.

25                  Now, the first thing I said to them,

1 was, "What is the reason for you  
2 stopping me". You see what I'm saying.  
3 The fact that I jumped out the car, I  
4 guess they were aggressive and they came  
5 and they grabbed me up. I told them,  
6 "Don't touch me. What is the reason for  
7 you stopping me". But I continued to  
8 ask them.

9 Now, they're getting physical. As  
10 they're getting physical -- meaning they  
11 took my cousin out the car. I see that.  
12 Now, they grab me up. There's a Chinese  
13 guy and then there's a sergeant.

14 The sergeant, he's not really  
15 touching me, but the Chinese guy is more  
16 like -- he's using force and he's trying  
17 to break my arm at the same time. So,  
18 now he's trying to break my arm. I'm  
19 basically starting to tell him, like,  
20 "Don't touch him". You see what I'm  
21 saying. "Don't touch me. Don't touch  
22 me. Don't touch me", and now the  
23 sergeant is like, "Oh, I understand",  
24 this, that, and the third.

25 Basically, he's not trying to tell

1 me what happened. "We're gonna tell you  
2 what's going on at the precinct. So,  
3 I'm asking them to tell me what I did  
4 wrong and after that, the Chinese -- the  
5 Chinese police officer, he grabbed and  
6 put me in the back of my car and he kind  
7 of, like, pulled my arm this way, and he  
8 bent it, and he just started twisting it  
9 this way, and trying to break my  
10 wrist -- (indicating) -- and I still  
11 have -- like, right here, you can still  
12 see. It's kind of, like, messed up  
13 right here. (Indicating.) See what I'm  
14 saying.

15 So, I'm still going through things,  
16 you know, every day with the New York  
17 Police Department, you know, just trying  
18 to stay out of their way, but, you know,  
19 I feel like I'm antagonized.

20 But I -- I tried to sue them, but  
21 they told me I need a lawyer -- CCRB  
22 told me that I needed the lawyer and I'm  
23 not sure. Like, they said they had an  
24 investigation -- they had to make an  
25 investigation and I just --

1 MR. DARCHE: Sir, do you mind if I  
2 ask you a few questions?

3 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Of course.

4 MR. DARCHE: Did you file a  
5 complaint with the agency?

6 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I had to file a  
7 complaint.

8 MR. DARCHE: You did. But --

9 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So, I went to the  
10 hospital -- I went to the hospital so  
11 they have all the information, you know.

12 MR. DARCHE: But have you filed a  
13 complaint with us yet?

14 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No, I haven't come  
15 and -- they called me first -- an  
16 investigator had called me --

17 MR. DARCHE: Okay.

18 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: -- and he told me  
19 I needed a lawyer.

20 MR. DARCHE: So, just to be clear,  
21 there are two things.

22 One, the CCRB, we investigate and  
23 see if the officer committed misconduct,  
24 and if the officer did commit  
25 misconduct, we recommend that the

1 Department discipline the officer. But  
2 that doesn't get you money.

3 So, if you want compensation for  
4 damages that you -- you have to get a  
5 lawyer and sue. But they're two  
6 separate processes.

7 So, we can still investigate if you  
8 don't have a lawyer, but it won't get  
9 you personally any money.

10 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, that's what  
11 I was told -- I was told that --

12 MR. DARCHE: Okay.

13 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: -- first  
14 conversation I had.

15 MR. DARCHE: So, did you -- did you  
16 follow-up with our agency?

17 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: My phone is  
18 broken. I have a lot of things going  
19 on, so --

20 MR. DARCHE: Would you mind giving a  
21 statement today before you went home?

22 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Sure.

23 MR. DARCHE: Appreciate it.

24 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I got you.

25 MR. DARCHE: Thank you.

1 CHAIR RICE: Are there any other  
2 public comments?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIR RICE: Okay -- all righty.  
5 Thank you.

6 Do we have any old business to come  
7 before the Board?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIR RICE: Any old business?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIR RICE: Do we have any new  
12 business to come before the Board.

13 MR. SMITH: I would ask if someone  
14 more senior than I on this Board  
15 introduce the resolution for this  
16 occasion with our commendation and  
17 gratitude to our Chair -- and if not, I  
18 will.

19 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I will second it.  
20 (Laughter.)

21 MR. SMITH: Anybody else want to  
22 move that? I mean, I'm the junior guy,  
23 so --

24 CHAIR RICE: All those in favor?

25 MR. HOGAN: Definitely aye.

1 (Chorus of "Ayes".)

2 CHAIR RICE: All those opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIR RICE: Okay. Unanimous.

5 I'm going to move now that we break  
6 into executive session.

7 The agenda for executive session is  
8 the Board will consider one full Board  
9 case. The Executive Director will  
10 discuss pending personnel actions and  
11 the general counsel will provide updates  
12 regarding pending litigation.

13 I'd like to make a motion for the  
14 Board meeting to be adjourned.

15 Do I have a second?

16 MS. NORTHERN: I second.

17 CHAIR RICE: All right. All those  
18 in favor?

19 (Chorus of "Ayes".)

20 CHAIR RICE: So moved. The August  
21 Board meeting of the CCRB is adjourned.

22 Thank you.

23 (Time noted: 5:15 p.m.)

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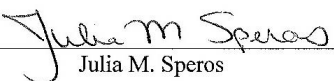
CERTIFICATION

I, JULIA M. SPEROS, a Notary Public for and within the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the witness whose testimony as herein set forth, was duly sworn by me; and that the within transcript is a true record of the testimony given by said witness.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of August, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julia M. Speros