



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

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MEDIA CONTACT

Ethan Teicher
press@ccrb.nyc.gov
212-912-7210

CCRB Report Offers Analysis of NYPD Taser Use

Report Examines Fully-Investigated Taser Allegations Between 2014 and 2017

New York, NY – Today, the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) released a [report](#) on the New York City Police Department’s use of Taser devices. Key observations within the report are as follows:

- There is a higher-than-average exoneration rate in Taser-related complaints.
- The CCRB substantiated seven Taser-related complaints over the time period observed.
- A substantial number of complainants/victims in Taser-related cases were experiencing mental health crisis at the time of the incident.
- Requiring X26P Tasers to wirelessly report their status and enable body-worn cameras to begin recording during critical situations would ensure the creation of video evidence in Taser-related complaints, thus facilitating the CCRB’s evaluation of misconduct allegations.

In addition to analysis of Taser use, the report offers recommendations regarding ways in which the NYPD may improve how it employs the technology.

CCRB Chair Fred Davie:

“As is the case with any law enforcement technology, public safety requires that Tasers are used judiciously, that their operation is scrutinized, and that our city prioritizes accountability for misconduct when it occurs.

“The CCRB’s analysis identified ways in which New York can work to ensure Taser use is as infrequent and safe as possible. We look forward to working with the NYPD toward

implementing recommendations within the report and holding officers accountable when we determine Taser-related misconduct has occurred.”

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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.