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MAYA D. WILEY, ESQ.  
CHAIR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CCRB Welcomes Deborah N. Archer, Esq. as Acting Chair**

### **Outgoing Chair Maya D. Wiley, Esq. Continues on at The New School**

**New York, NY** – The Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), the nation's largest independent police oversight entity, announced today the departure of Maya D. Wiley, Esq. as Chair of the Board. Deborah N. Archer, Esq. assumes the role of Acting Chair as Ms. Wiley continues in her role as Senior Vice President for Social Justice and Henry Cohen Professor of Urban Policy and Management at The New School. Ms. Wiley's departure is effective August 31, 2017.

During her tenure, Ms. Wiley presided over widely attended community Board Meetings with law enforcement, community members, elected officials, and advocates. For the first time, Ms. Wiley used public Board Meetings to facilitate meaningful conversations between leaders in the New York City Police Department and members of the community. In particular, Ms. Wiley aided staff in developing processes to review trends in police conduct and identifying retraining needs of officers based on the Agency's analysis. Ms. Wiley increased confidence in the CCRB's ability to provide fair, impartial, and effective investigations, prosecutions, and mediations of civilian complaints. Most significantly, Ms. Wiley raised the visibility and accessibility of the Agency through key investments in public education, intergovernmental affairs, and outreach. While she chaired the CCRB, the outreach staff dramatically expanded the Agency's presence in New York City communities, conducting 977 presentations in 2016 alone—more than in all of the previous four years combined.

**Statement from Mayor Bill de Blasio:**

"Under Maya Wiley's steady, effective leadership, the CCRB has entered a new era of openness and engagement, bringing police, communities and advocates together in pursuit of justice for every New Yorker," said Mayor Bill de Blasio. "Maya has been an important partner as we continue to strengthen the bonds between police and those they protect. Maya has served our city with distinction since this administration took office, first as my Counsel and then as CCRB Chair. I join all New Yorkers in thanking her and wishing her the best as she moves on and Deborah Archer steps in to continue her own great work on the CCRB in the role of Acting Chair."

**Statement from Maya D. Wiley, Esq.:**

“I have been greatly privileged to have served the city I love as the Chair of the Board that has made such a difference in police oversight and accountability. This is a tremendously hardworking Agency, and the Board and staff are deeply committed to its mission and effectiveness. I leave because the necessary time commitment is one I can no longer make in light of my responsibilities as Senior Vice President of Social Justice at The New School; that role is critical. I make way for a Chair who can devote the time to this position that the Board, CCRB staff, and all New Yorkers deserve. All who call on the Agency when they experience or witness misconduct by police officers should be secure in the knowledge that the Chair of the Board is giving the Agency the attention necessary to ensure impartial investigations of police misconduct, and is advancing all of the policies that support that mission. With issues including the Board’s call for reforms to Civil Rights Law 50-a, and strengthening accountability, I know the Board and staff will be unyielding in fulfilling these goals. I am thrilled that my friend and fellow civil rights advocate, Ms. Archer, will carry the Agency forward as Acting Chair.”

Deborah N. Archer, Esq., while serving the Board since October 2014 as an appointee by Mayor de Blasio, returns to this role after previously leading the Board as Acting Chair prior to Ms. Wiley’s appointment. Ms. Archer is the Visiting Professor of Clinical Law at New York University School of Law and Professor of Law and Director of the Racial Justice Project at New York Law School. Prior to that, Ms. Archer served as Counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund where she litigated at the trial and appellate level in cases involving affirmative action, employment discrimination, school desegregation, and voting rights. She has also participated as *amicus* counsel in several cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals including *Ricci v. DeStefano*, *Fisher v. University of Texas*, and *Shelby County v. Holder*.

**Statement from Deborah N. Archer Esq.:**

“I have had the fortune of serving the Board with Ms. Wiley and I am inspired by her profound commitment to justice and her leadership. Ms. Wiley has been selfless in her efforts, raising the profile of the Agency; her compassion and knowledge of the law will be missed by the Board. I assume this role eager to continue the progress she has made while leading the Agency in advancing meaningful transparency that restores public trust in policing. In the last several years, the Agency has become a true national model for independent civilian oversight of police, and I remain optimistic that its path forward is brighter than ever.”

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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 receive each year.*