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CCRB Introduces Rivadeneyra as Bronx Board Member

Michael Rivadeneyra, Senior Director of Government Relations at YMCA of Greater New York, Succeeds Youngik Yoon on 13-Member Board

New York, NY – The Civilian Complaint Review Board, the nation’s largest independent police oversight entity, today welcomed Michael Rivadeneyra as a member of the Agency’s 13-member Board. Following an appointment by Mayor Bill de Blasio, Rivadeneyra, senior director of government relations at the YMCA of Greater New York, will serve as the Board’s City Council designee from the Bronx.

Rivadeneyra, a graduate of the City University New York School of Law at Queens College, previously served as chief of staff to Council Member James Vacca. He succeeds Youngik Yoon, who will continue to practice as an attorney at Yoon & Hong.

Yoon, the longest-serving member of the Board, was appointed City Council designee from the Bronx by Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Statement from CCRB Acting Chair Fred Davie:

“After almost 15 years on the Board, Youngik Yoon is the elder statesman of the CCRB. His institutional knowledge certainly has been a resource for me as the Board’s Acting Chair, but even before I took on this new role, I valued Youngik’s friendship. Youngik served the CCRB with distinction for many years and the Agency and New Yorkers are better for it. The Board appreciates his service and wishes our esteemed colleague well in all his future endeavors.

“Michael Rivadeneyra, Youngik’s successor, comes to the Board with the perspective of a former chief of staff to a City Council Member as well as that of a father who wants a better New York for the next generation. The CCRB will benefit from his bringing this combination of experience to the Board. I look forward to working with Michael in ensuring that complaints of misconduct are given a fair review.”

Statement from CCRB Executive Director Jonathan Darche, Esq.:

“In his 15 years with the CCRB, Youngik Yoon has been a stalwart contributor to the Board. Although his time at the Agency has come to a close, I value Youngik’s service and have confidence that, even after his departure, his knowledge of the Agency will be an asset to the CCRB.

“While succeeding Youngik is no small feat, Michael Rivadeneyra’s talent and dedication to the City of New York more than equip him to be the Board’s next Bronx designee. Michael is a New Yorker through and through and has demonstrated a strong commitment to public service during his career. On behalf of the Agency’s staff, I’d like to extend a warm welcome as he joins the Board.”

Statement from Youngik Yoon, Esq.:

“Serving on the Board of the CCRB has been a high honor. Over the course of my 15 years with the Agency, much has changed, but the CCRB has been consistent in its commitment to thoroughly investigating police misconduct.

“My colleagues on the Board and the staff at the Agency are hard-working and dedicated, and I am fully confident that they will continue to push for more accountability in policing in the months and years to come. I will remain a friend and supporter of the CCRB, an Agency that makes this City a better place for all New Yorkers.”

Statement from Michael Rivadeneyra, Esq.:

“I’m grateful to have the confidence of the Mayor and the City Council as I begin my tenure at the Civilian Complaint Review Board. From serving on Community Board 11 to working at the YMCA to working for the City Council, I’ve always sought out ways to be of service to my fellow New Yorkers. At a moment when the City is implementing new policing strategies—including moving toward full deployment of body-worn cameras for every NYPD officer—I consider it an honor to be afforded this new opportunity to serve.”

Statement from Public Safety Committee Chair Donovan Richards:

“A major element of keeping New York City safe is working to ensure that police officers treat civilians with respect and to improve police-community relations in our neighborhoods. I look forward to continued work with the Civilian Complaint Review Board—and its newest Board member, Michael Rivadeneyra—to improve accountability in the NYPD.

“In addition to his commitment to social justice, Mike’s legal background and City Council experience make him the ideal person to serve on the Board of the CCRB. He certainly will be an asset to one of the most important agencies in the City of New York.”

Statement from Bronx Borough Delegation Chair Andrew Cohen:

“The Bronx Delegation is proud to have nominated Michael Rivadeneyra, a lawyer and lifelong Bronxite, to the CCRB. Michael’s vast experience in the government and the non-profit sector qualifies him to fairly make judgments on cases brought before the Board.”

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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.