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FREDERICK DAVIE
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CCRB Announces Appointment of Herman Merritt to the Board

Herman Merritt, long time city servant, will join the CCRB as the Brooklyn City Council Appointee.

New York, NY – The New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), announced the appointment of Herman Merritt, Assistant Political Director for the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators, to its 15-member board. Mr. Merritt is the Brooklyn City Council’s appointee.

Herman Merritt is a lifelong New Yorker who has served the city throughout his career. Mr. Merritt worked for the Department of Education (DOE) for 36 years, first as a teacher, then an assistant principal and finally served as an elementary school principal for 18 years. After leaving the DOE, Mr. Merritt joined the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators as their Political Director, where he is currently the Assistant Political Director.

Statement from CCRB Chair Fred Davie:

“Mr. Herman Merritt has been a public servant for nearly 5 decades and we are very lucky to have him join the CCRB. His commitment to bettering his community and his passion for social justice will be great assets and we look forward to working with him.

Statement from Herman Merritt:

“I am honored to continue my work in public service by joining the CCRB. I have spent my entire life trying to better the City of New York and I am thrilled to continue my mission of reform with the CCRB. I plan to bring a fair and open perspective to this board and help increase awareness of the agency. All New Yorkers should know the resources available to them so we can create a just system.”

About the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board.

The CCRB is an independent agency that is empowered to receive, investigate, mediate, hear, make findings, and recommend action on complaints against New York City police officers

alleging the use of excessive or unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, or the use of offensive language. The Board's investigative staff, composed entirely of civilian employees, conducts investigations in an impartial fashion. The Board has 15 members who must all live in the city and reflect the diversity of the city. This 15-member Board governs the CCRB, with five seats appointed by the Mayor, five appointed by the NYC City Council, three designated by the Police Commissioner and appointed by the Mayor, one appointed by the Public Advocate, and the Chair, who is jointly appointed by the Mayor and City Council Speaker. No member of the board may have a law enforcement background, other than those designated by the police commissioner, and none may be public employees or serve in public office.

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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.