EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT TO THE BOARD
April 8, 2015

Good evening, we are glad to be here at Staten Island Borough Hall.

My name is Mina Malik and I am the Executive Director of the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

I will first provide you with a highlight from our monthly statistical report, and then will discuss other matters pertaining to the operations of our agency. For a full review of the monthly statistics, please visit our web site.

The Executive Staff and I continue to implement the strategy of further reducing the number of old cases in our open docket.

Last month, I reported that the open docket was 1,514 cases at the end of February, which was a significant reduction from the 2,699 cases that were pending at the end of January 2014. This month we have further reduced the open docket by 97 cases, from a total of 1,514 cases to 1,417. This was another substantial reduction of our open docket in a month. All in all, our docket is 47% smaller than it was 15 months ago.

In March, the Board closed 488 cases. These 488 cases included a special panel of the Board with all 81 cases pending panel review that were 12 months or older in age in February. The goal was to eliminate the chance of any case being referred to the Police Department beyond the statute of limitations. For this reason, our statistics reflect a substantial reduction of cases 12 months and older pending panel review when compared to the prior month.

Presently, there are 450 cases pending panel review. Of these 450 cases, our investigators submitted 405 cases for panel review in March alone. The remaining 45 cases were submitted for review prior to March. This demonstrates the commitment, hard work and team effort of our investigators to ensure that cases are closed in a timelier and more effective manner without sacrificing the quality of the investigations.

We continue to reduce the number of cases in the open docket of the Investigations Division. Last month, I reported that the open docket of the Investigations Division decreased from 1,858
cases in January 2014 to 912 active cases in February 2015. By the end of March, it has been further reduced by 70 cases, to 842 cases.

We have focused particularly on cases 12 months or older. As of the end of March, we had only 4 cases in the Investigations Division that were 15 to 18 months old, and 18 cases that were 12 to 14 months old. There are 4 cases that are older than 18 months of age. The statute of limitations does not apply to three of these cases as they were or are on DA hold, and the SOL crime exception applies. The other case was filed after the SOL had expired.

With this strategy, the Executive Staff and I are minimizing the number of cases approaching the statute of limitations, and have made those remaining cases a high priority. Only 3% of all cases currently being investigated are 12 months or older.

I would like to point out that we have reached several milestones. For example, the Mayor’s Management Report shows that it took 324 days on average to investigate a complaint in Fiscal 2014. In March, on average, investigators submitted cases for Board review in 207 days. More importantly, cases submitted for review by the new investigative pods were submitted, on average, in 128 days. When we examine cases received after August 2014, when the new Chair began to focus his efforts on improving the Investigations Division, the average number of days to investigate a case decreased to 95 days.

Also, as I stated last month, the preliminary data for the new Pod system shows that it is more effective than the old CCRB Team system. The number of days it takes to interview a complainant has decreased from 31 days in January 2014 to 10 days in year-to-date 2015. We have come a long way, and are still in the process of creating the conditions for a more effective and efficient organization from the foundation and up.

Finally, I would also like to highlight statistics related to the disposition of cases:

1. The percentage of cases that are fully investigated has increased, from 44% in 2014 to 56%.
2. Year-to-date, the Board has substantiated 19% of all full investigations, which is slightly higher than data from last year when the Board substantiated 17% of the cases it fully investigated.
3. The percentage of cases referred to the Administrative Prosecution Unit is now 25% of all substantiated cases.
4. From January through March 2015 the discipline rate is 89% for cases handled by the Police Department Advocate Office.
5. Finally, with Charges and Specifications handled by the Administrative Prosecution Unit, the guilty-finding rate is 69% for cases brought to trial.