



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](http://www.nyc.gov/ccrb)

RICHARD D. EMERY, ESQ.  
CHAIR

MINA Q. MALIK, ESQ.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Remarks as Written for Delivery**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**  
**September 9, 2015**

Good evening. My name is Mina Malik and I am the Executive Director of the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB). I would like to thank Council Member Robert Cornegy, his Chief of Staff of Stefani Zinerman, and Community Board 3 for assisting us in being here tonight.

I will first provide you with highlights from our monthly statistical report, and then will discuss other matters pertaining to the operations of our agency. For a full review of the Agency's monthly statistics, please visit our website.

**Year-to-date civilian complaints against the police have decreased by 18%.** From January through August 2015, the CCRB received 2,889 complaints, as compared to 3,512 complaints for the same time period in 2014. By category of allegation, discourtesy complaints have decreased by 27%, force complaints by 19%, offensive language complaints by 20%, and abuse of authority complaints by 11%.

From January through August of 2014, the CCRB received an average of 439 complaints per month. In the same period of 2015, there have been two distinct patterns. From January through March 2015, the Agency has received an average of 291 monthly complaints. From April through August 2015, the Agency received an average of 403 monthly complaints.

**In August, case processing times continued to improve even with an increase of cases in the open docket of the Investigations Division.** In December of last year, we implemented a strategy which was designed to further reduce both the number of old cases in our open docket and the average time to complete an investigation. We continue to achieve the targets we set forth. In August, the total open docket -- cases in investigations, mediation, and pending board review -- was 1,288 cases.

**Despite an increase in the number of cases in the open docket, the number of cases in the open docket continues to be lower than at any point in the last decade.** A year ago, in August 2014, the open docket of the Investigations Division was 1,834 cases; the open docket in August 2015 was 658 cases. This is a 64% reduction.

In August, we continued to focus on cases 9 months or older in order to minimize the number of cases approaching the statute of limitations. At the end of August, there were only three cases that were 18 months or older. In addition, there were four cases that were 15 to 18 months old, and 19 cases that were 9 to 14 months old. Only 4.0% of all cases under investigation in August 2015 were 9 months or older, as compared to 15% in August of last year. In August 2015, 89% of the cases in the open docket of the Investigation Division were four months or younger, which was 28 percentage points better than in August 2014.

These docket numbers continue to be the best docket numbers since the creation of this office as an independent agency from the New York Police Department.

By the end of August, there were 482 cases pending Board and/or Executive Staff review, or 37% of the open docket. One-hundred-forty-eight (148) cases were in the Mediation Program. There were also ten cases on DA hold.

**Our statistics show that month after month we continue to meet the new benchmarks and goals that we have set for ourselves in terms of timeliness.** We have reviewed the productivity of the Investigations Division from January through August, and we continue to find that investigators under the new smaller squad structure were able to close cases in substantially less time that it took investigators to close cases under the former, larger team structure.

Investigators closed 1,550 full investigations from January through August 2015, as compared to 1,321 last year, 15% more full investigations. Of the total full investigations closed from January through August 2015, 886 cases were filed prior to the implementation of the reforms. These cases were closed at an average of 274 days, which was the same average as before the reforms (January through August 2014). There are still eight cases under investigation filed prior to the reforms. Of the cases filed after the implementation of the reforms, the Investigations Division has closed 664 investigations. These cases were closed at an average of 86 days. This is a 70% reduction in the number of days to close full investigations compared to a year ago.

The average time to investigate a substantiated complaint has also decreased from 343 days before the reforms to 101 days after the reforms, which is a 71% reduction.

There are also other statistics showing that the new squad structure is far more effective than the former, larger team structure. The number of days it takes to interview a complainant has decreased from 31 days in the first half of 2014 to 12 days year-to-date in 2015. The number of days it takes to interview the first officer in a case has decreased from 182 days from January through August 2014 to 56 days year-to-date in the same period of 2015.

From January through August 2015, investigators interviewed 1,816 complainants and witnesses: 1,617 civilians were interviewed at the CCRB and 199 civilians were interviewed at other locations. This means that we conducted 89% of interviews at the CCRB and 11% of interviews at other locations. By comparison, in 2012 and in 2013, we conducted 93% of civilian interviews at the CCRB and 7% of all interviews at other locations (234 out of 3,336 in 2013 and 223 out of 3,122). In 2010, 96% of all interviews took place at the CCRB.

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

- (1) The case resolution rate is 49% year-to-date. In terms of cases not fully investigated, 6% were complaint withdrawn, 32% were complainant and/or victim uncooperative, 8.5% were complainant and/or victim unavailable, 0.4% was victim unidentified, and 3.3% were administratively closed cases.
- (2) With respect to truncated cases and the reasons for civilians withdrawing their complaints, 58% of civilians withdrew because they had no desire to follow through; 11% of civilians stated that they did not have time for an interview; 8% withdrew upon advice of counsel; and 6% feared retaliation. In 16% of cases, civilians withdrew the complaint without providing other reasons or for no reason at all.
- (3) Year-to-date, the Board has substantiated 22% of all full investigations, which is higher than the percentage for the same period last year when the Board substantiated 15% of the cases it fully investigated.
- (4) The Board substantiated 6% of all fully investigated force allegations; 18% of all fully investigated abuse of authority allegations; 9% of all fully investigated discourtesy allegations; and 3% of all fully investigated offensive language allegations. Notably, the Board substantiated 34% of all fully investigated frisk allegations.
- (5) Year-to-date, the percentage of cases referred to the Administrative Prosecution Unit is 25% of all substantiated cases, a decrease of 61% during the same period in 2014.
- (6) Year-to-date 2015, the CCRB has resolved 235 cases through the Mediation Program, whereas 240 cases were resolved for the same time period in 2014.
- (7) The CCRB's Administrative Prosecution Unit (APU) conducted 7 trials against 10 members of service in July 2015.
- (8) From January through July 2015, the discipline rate was 89% for cases in which police misconduct was substantiated by the Board and sent to the Police Department Advocate's Office with penalty recommendations. The Department decline-to-prosecute rate was 10% from January through July. From January through August 2015, the discipline rate for cases resolved by the Administrative Prosecution Unit was 56%.