



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

MARK G. PETERS
COMMISSIONER

**Inspector General Philip K. Eure
Office of the Inspector General for the NYPD**

80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

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nyc.gov/oigny whole

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CONTACT: NICOLE TURSO
DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931

**DOI'S OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
RELEASES SECOND ANNUAL REPORT**

The Department of Investigation's ("DOI") Office of the Inspector General for the New York City Police Department ("OIG-NYPD") today released its Second Annual Report, discussing the Office's efforts and recommendations made in Calendar Year 2015. The City Charter requires that such Report be produced each year on or before April 1st. As a result of OIG-NYPD's four major studies and policy reviews, highlighting prominent and timely issues facing policing in New York City, the Office made 47 recommendations to improve NYPD policies, procedures and accountability last year. According to the Report, nearly 75% of those recommendations have been implemented or accepted in principle by the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"). This Annual Report outlines those recommendations and analyzes how OIG-NYPD's reforms have been implemented and its concerns addressed by NYPD.

DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, "Over the past year, OIG-NYPD has provided critical analysis of policing in New York City and proposed meaningful reforms to NYPD resulting in tangible change, including a commitment from the Department to release – for the first time – an annual use-of-force report based on data culled from tracking force incidents."

Inspector General Philip K. Eure said, "OIG-NYPD has built upon its mission to bring significant, permanent oversight to NYPD, with reports and recommendations that get at the root of systemic issues, towards the goal of improving transparency, accountability and an increased confidence in the police force. We look forward to expanding on this work, issuing additional comprehensive reports in the coming months."

OIG-NYPD released four detailed reports in 2015, which included:

- ***Observations on Accountability and Transparency in Ten NYPD Chokehold Cases:*** OIG-NYPD conducted a targeted review of ten substantiated cases where NYPD officers used chokeholds on members of the public. The investigation found deficiencies in how NYPD determines discipline, communication road-blocks between agencies in the review of use-of-force complaints, and questions regarding the effectiveness of officer training. OIG-NYPD's recommendations called for NYPD to adopt a more transparent process for handing down discipline and for NYPD to share information related to use-of-force cases.
- ***Using Data From Lawsuits and Legal Claims Involving NYPD to Improve Policing:*** OIG-NYPD released findings on how NYPD can better use data from police litigation to improve officer performance and identify trends of police misconduct. After assessing NYPD's current approach to mining litigation data, the review

identified several categories of information that NYPD should be better analyzing and proposed the creation of an interagency working group to coordinate the organization and exchange of litigation information.

- ***Body-Worn Cameras in New York City: An Assessment of NYPD's Pilot Program and Recommendations to Promote Accountability:*** A comprehensive review of NYPD's volunteer body-worn camera ("BWC") pilot-program, this report incorporated interviews with dozens of stakeholders, including police officers who used BWCs and all five District Attorney's Offices. The review focused on officer discretion regarding when to activate BWCs; officer compliance with NYPD's BWC policies; NYPD, government, and public access to video footage; and retention and purging of footage.
- ***Police Use of Force in New York City: Findings and Recommendations on NYPD's Policies and Practices:*** OIG-NYPD's comprehensive investigation into NYPD use-of-force encounters, policies, and training revealed an inability to track use-of-force encounters by officers, a failure to properly instruct officers to use de-escalation tactics, and a lack of discipline imposed on officers involved in substantiated force allegations—even when NYPD was provided with evidence that excessive force was used.

The vast majority of OIG-NYPD's recommendations – 35 of the 47 or nearly 75%—have been implemented or accepted in principle by NYPD, meaning the Department has agreed with the general purpose of the recommendation but has yet to complete its implementation. NYPD is considering eight other recommendations and rejected four. For example, NYPD declined to adopt two recommendations regarding the Department's disciplinary process, including OIG-NYPD's call for NYPD to clearly state the penalty for specific acts of misconduct and to analyze the effect of disciplinary penalties on the frequency of excessive force incidents. The Office will monitor NYPD's progress in implementing the accepted recommendations and continue to evaluate the areas where NYPD has declined to adopt the recommended reforms.

In addition to issuing substantive policy reports, OIG-NYPD has received and addressed individual complaints. By reviewing complaints, investigating allegations, speaking to complainants, and communicating with other government agencies, OIG-NYPD continues to address specific concerns raised by New Yorkers while identifying potential systemic issues facing NYPD.

OIG-NYPD also made strides in outreach to a broad spectrum of communities, addressing an equally broad range of issues. Over the past year, OIG-NYPD has hosted, visited, spoken to, and held meetings with representatives of over 60 organizations and groups. These representatives include local community advocates, organizations interested in criminal justice reform, civil rights groups, and police officers themselves.

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The Office of the Inspector General for the NYPD (OIG-NYPD) is an oversight office charged with investigating, reviewing, studying, auditing, and making recommendations relating to the operations, policies, programs, and practices of the New York City Police Department (NYPD). The goals of OIG-NYPD are to enhance the effectiveness of the Police Department, increase public safety, protect civil liberties and civil rights, and increase the public's confidence in the police force, thus building stronger police-community relations. OIG-NYPD is part of the New York City Department of Investigation and is independent of NYPD. Inspector General Eure reports to DOI Commissioner Peters.

The New York City Department of Investigation (DOI) is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and is New York City's corruption watchdog. DOI investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official, or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City. DOI's strategy attacks corruption comprehensively, through systemic investigations that lead to high-impact arrests, preventive internal controls, and operational reforms that improve the way the City runs. Learn more at www.nyc.gov/doi.

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Contact OIG-NYPD at (212) 806-5200