

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS

ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL

Civilian Police Review Board and Department of the Inspector General

Overview by Board Member Mary Younger and
Inspector General Jacqueline Hendricks



AGENDA

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- Board Member Younger
 - How Did the Board Originate
 - What Does the Board Look Like and What Can It Do
 - Why Be A Member On The Board
- Inspector General Hendricks
 - Who We Are...What We Do
 - City Charter... City Code
 - How To File A Complaint
 - The Process and Investigations
- What Have We Accomplished
- Questions

Who We Are and What We Do

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CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS

Chair, Brooke Burns, Chief Counsel,
Office of the Ohio Public Defender

Vice Chair, Dr. Chenelle Jones,
Assistant Dean/Chair of Public
Safety Programs, Franklin University

Josue' Vicente, Executive Director
at Ohio Hispanic Coalition

Dr. James Ford, Owner/Dentist,
James B. Ford, D.D.S. Inc

Pastor Rich Nathan, Minister for
Vineyard Columbus

Kyle Strickland, attorney, The Ohio
State University Roosevelt Institute

Mary Younger, retired Franklin
County Public Defender

Crystal Jackson, Assistant Director
for the Office of Safety and Security
for Columbus City Schools

Who we are and, what do we do... In 2020, the Columbus Charter established the Civilian Police Review Board (CPRB) and the Department of the Inspector General (DIG) for the City of Columbus.

The two entities work in tandem to provide independent oversight for the Columbus Division of Police's sworn officers in administrative investigations into allegations of misconduct and/or excessive use of force.

City Charter Sec. 215

Establishing the CPRB

There shall be a Civilian Police Review Board which shall be comprised of an odd number of members, a majority of whom shall constitute a quorum. The members shall be representatives of the diverse communities within the City of Columbus on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic status, and geographic region.

City Charter Sec. 216

CPRB Powers & Duties

The Civilian Police Review Board shall receive, initiate, cause investigation of, and recommend resolution of complaints filed with it or initiated by the Board alleging misconduct by sworn members of the Columbus Division of Police. Upon completion of an investigation, the Board shall make recommendations to the Division of Police regarding resolution of the complaint and, where warranted by the facts, may make recommendations pertaining to discipline.

City Code

235.03 CPRB Duties

- Receive, initiate, review, and, if appropriate, direct the IG to investigate and prepare a report, complaints alleging misconduct and/or excessive use of force by sworn personnel of the Columbus Division of Police
- Make recommendations on resolutions of complaints to the Chief of Police and/or the Director of Public Safety
- Make recommendations on discipline to the Chief of Police and/or Director of Public Safety
- Evaluate and identify complaint patterns & make recommendations to reduce complaints
- Review and make recommendations regarding police policies & procedures

City Charter Sec. 217

Formation of the DIG

There shall be a Department of the Inspector General for the Division of Police, consisting of an Inspector General, one or more investigators, administrative support staff, and the Civilian Police Review Board. The Inspector General shall be appointed by a two-thirds vote of the Civilian Police Review Board and confirmed by the Mayor. The Department of the Inspector General shall be independent from the Department of Public Safety and the Inspector General shall serve under the guidance of the Civilian Police Review Board.

Independent & Distinct Roles of the CPRB & DIG

The CPRB can:

- Initiate a complaint to forward to the DIG for investigation
- Direct the complaints of citizens to the DIG for investigation
- Review complaints/reports/recommendations provided by the DIG
- Forward recommendations to Director of Public Safety and/or the Chief of Police
- Conduct hearings to gather more information about a report
- Refer a report back to the DIG for further investigation

Independent & Distinct Roles of the CPRB & DIG

The DIG can:

- Accept complaints from the CPRB and/or citizens
- Investigate complaints to determine the appropriate course of action
- Provide reports with recommendations to the CPRB for review
- Recommendations may be related to:
 - Resolving complaints
 - Suggested discipline
 - Policies & procedures of the Division of Police
- Conduct follow up investigations at the direction of the CPRB

How to File A Complaint

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QR Code:



Hotline:
(614) 645-9600

Website:
[new.columbus.gov/Government/
Inspector-General](https://new.columbus.gov/Government/Inspector-General)

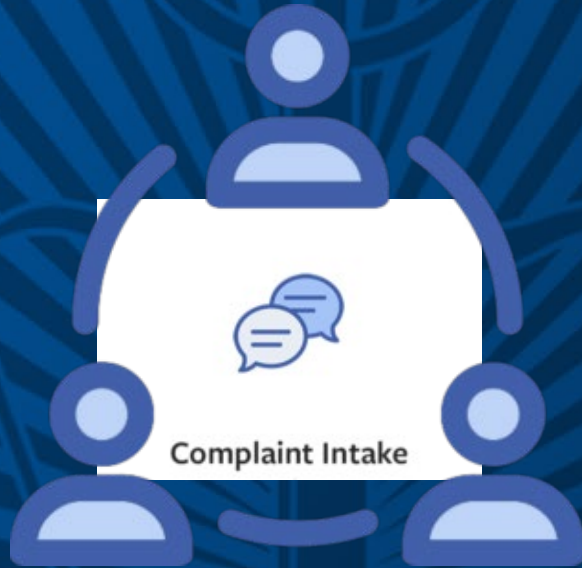
E-Mail:
DIG@Columbus.gov

In-Person or Mail:
50 West Town Street
Suite 100, 43215

The Process

Not a regulatory or disciplinary entity

- File complaint (citizen)
- Preliminary investigation occurs
- Full investigation occurs
- Evidence review and interviews
- Submit final report to CPRB
- Send findings to Public Safety/Police in accordance with CBA
- Chain of command review
- Determination of outcome
- Returned to IAB for recording of final outcome



Investigations

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The CBA between the FOP and City governs how investigations are to be conducted by the Department of Inspector General. The DIG can only investigate complaints filed within 90 days of the alleged incident that occurred. The investigation must be completed with 90 days of the date the complaint was filed with the DIG. There are some exceptions.

The CBA FOP effective date is December 9, 2024 to December 8, 2027.

Investigations Cont'd

Disposition of Citizen Complaint Allegations' Findings

- **Administration Closure:** The complaint was closed for reasons such as a noninvolved CPD Officer, a duplicate complaint, or insufficient information to investigate the complaint, etc.
- **Exonerated:** The investigation found evidence that the alleged incident(s) happened, and the incident(s) are supported by CPD policies, procedures and/or laws.
- **Not Sustained / Inconclusive:** The investigation revealed insufficient evidence to determine that the alleged incident occurred.
- **Sustained:** The investigation found evidence that substantiated the complainant's allegation and the alleged incident violated CPD policies, procedures and/or law.
- **Unfounded:** The investigation found no evidence that substantiated the complainant's allegation.
- **Withdrawn:** The complainant withdrew their complaint.

CPRB and Columbus DIG

What Have We Accomplished

- Recommendation for Body Worn Camera (BWC) all CPD officers working special duty. CPD estimated the purchase of an additional 200 BWC's would cost about \$900,000 and they have initiated a process to secure funding.
- Several recommendations that CPD's policies be reviewed and updated.
 - Example: How officers are to treat unclothed individuals being detained or arrestee. CPD is currently revising it's policies to specify officers should cover unclothed individuals being detained or arrested when safe to do so. Also, the policy will include instructions that the officer in the absence of more suitable alternatives should use the emergency blanket kept in every cruiser.
 - Example: How officers are to handle the storage of a BB gun[airsoft] for safekeeping when found on an individual being transported and admitted to a Medical facility. CPD is currently revising it's policies to advise if the receiving facility for the individual has property that could potentially harm facility personnel or that resembles a weapon. If the facility refuses to accept the property, officers will turn it in for safekeeping, as outlined in the "Property and Evidence Handling" directive."

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QUESTIONS

