

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY IN ROCHESTER, NY

CURRENT SYSTEM

VS.

A BETTER WAY

POLICE LEAD

CIVILIAN LEAD

INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS
AND DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS
ARE NOT WORKING

AN INDEPENDENT
POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

CIVILIAN ALLEGATIONS OF EXCESSIVE FORCE
FROM 2001 - 2016*



TOTAL = **923**

TOTAL SUSTAINED AFTER
INTERNAL INVESTIGATION &
CRB REVIEW = **43**

SUSTAINED BY CHIEF
2%



TOTAL SUSTAINED
BY CHIEF = **16**

TOTAL DISCIPLINARY
SANCTIONS 2002-2016** = **13**

COST OF SETTLEMENTS & LEGAL FEES***
RELATED TO OFFICER MISCONDUCT
2015/16 - 2016/17 = **\$2.2 MILLION**

BARRIERS TO ACCOUNTABILITY

- RPD CONTROL OF THE INVESTIGATION, EVIDENCE, AND WITNESS INTERVIEWS
- INEFFECTIVE REVIEW AND RUBBER STAMP FROM CRB
- RPD CONTROL OF DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS
- LACK OF SYSTEMIC EVALUATION AND CHANGE

POWERS AND DUTIES

- INDEPENDENTLY INVESTIGATES COMPLAINTS OF MISCONDUCT*
- ISSUES SUBPOENAS TO COMPEL THE PRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE AND WITNESSES
- CONDUCTS HEARINGS
- DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY**
- EVALUATES SYSTEMIC PATTERNS AND PRACTICES OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

STRUCTURE

- **11 MEMBER BOARD:** 4 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTEES, 1 MAYORAL APPOINTEE, 6 COMMUNITY APPOINTEES***
- **TRAINING** PROVIDED TO BOARD AND STAFF
- BOARD APPOINTEES REFLECT THE **DIVERSITY** OF THE COMMUNITY
- STAFF INCLUDES **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** AND **INVESTIGATORS**
- **FUNDING** TO ENSURE THAT COMPLAINTS ARE INVESTIGATED AND ADJUDICATED WITHIN 90 DAYS

*ALL STATS FROM CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD (CRB) ANNUAL REPORTS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SECTION REPORTS

***CENTER FOR GOV. RESEARCH REPORT AND RPD / CITY RECORDS OBTAINED VIA FOIL

*AS AN AGENCY OF CITY GOVERNMENT, INVESTIGATIONS WILL COMPLY WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAW 50-A AND THE DUE PROCESS RIGHTS OF CIVIL SERVICE LAW ART. 75

**ALL DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS MADE IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CHIEF PURSUANT TO A PRE-ESTABLISHED DISCIPLINARY MATRIX

*** COMMUNITY APPOINTEES ARE NOMINATED BY A COLLECTION OF COMMUNITY GROUPS, THE POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD ALLIANCE. COMMUNITY NOMINEES ARE THEN APPOINTED TO THE BOARD WITH CITY COUNCIL'S CONSENT.

JUSTICE REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY. ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIRES
INDEPENDENCE.