

# POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY IN ROCHESTER, NY

## CURRENT SYSTEM

VS.

## A BETTER WAY

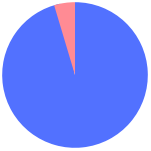
POLICE LEAD

CIVILIAN LEAD

INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS  
AND DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS  
ARE NOT WORKING

### CITIZEN ALLEGATIONS OF EXCESSIVE FORCE FROM 2001 - 2016\*

SUSTAINED  
5%

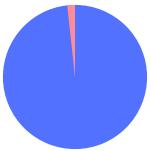


NOT SUSTAINED  
95%

TOTAL = **929**

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

SUSTAINED BY CHIEF  
2%



NOT SUSTAINED BY CHIEF  
98%

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**

\*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

### AN INDEPENDENT POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

#### 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

\*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.