

**New York City  
Department of Investigation's  
Office of the Inspector General  
for the NYPD**

February 16, 2016

Commissioner Mark G. Peters  
Inspector General Philip K. Eure





## Agenda

- I. Overview of Citizen Oversight of the Police
- II. OIG-NYPD Creation and Background
- III. OIG-NYPD Organizational Structure and Mission
- IV. OIG-NYPD 2015 Reports
- V. Police Oversight in Modern Policing



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## Citizen Oversight of the Police

- Goals: Provide independent review of complaints, police practices and policies—all necessary to achieve and foster police accountability and confidence in the police, which leads to more effective policing.
- Models range from Individual Investigative/Board Commissions, to Auditor/Ombudsman/Inspector General with focus on systemic reviews.
- Over 200 oversight agencies across the United States.
- There is insufficient research to support the superiority of any particular model.



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# Citizen Oversight in NYC



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## NYPD

### New York City Police Department

- Largest Police Department in the United States--34,500 uniformed members.
- Several specialized services and units, including emergency services, counter-terrorism, criminal intelligence, narcotics, transit and public housing, school safety, traffic control, etc.
- The Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) is NYPD's internal watchdog, aiming to prevent, uncover, and investigate allegations of corruption and serious misconduct against police officers.



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## CCRB

### Civilian Complaint Review Board

- Investigates incident-based complaints of misconduct involving individual New York City police officers.
- Examines complaints by the public involving use of excessive or unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, or the use of offensive language—"FADO".
- Prosecutes substantiated cases where the most serious discipline is recommended.



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## CCPC

### Commission to Combat Police Corruption

- **Independent of the NYPD.**
- Created to monitor and evaluate NYPD IAB's handling of corruption investigations involving police officers.



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- The mission of the Office of the Inspector General for the NYPD (OIG-NYPD) is 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, thereby building stronger police-community relations.
- The Office is made up of a team of investigators, attorneys, policy analysts, auditors, and administrative employees, and will have 41 employees when fully staffed. (Currently at 36 employees).
- OIG-NYPD is not meant to replicate the functions of other oversight entities like CCRB or IAB; it largely focuses on systemic issues.

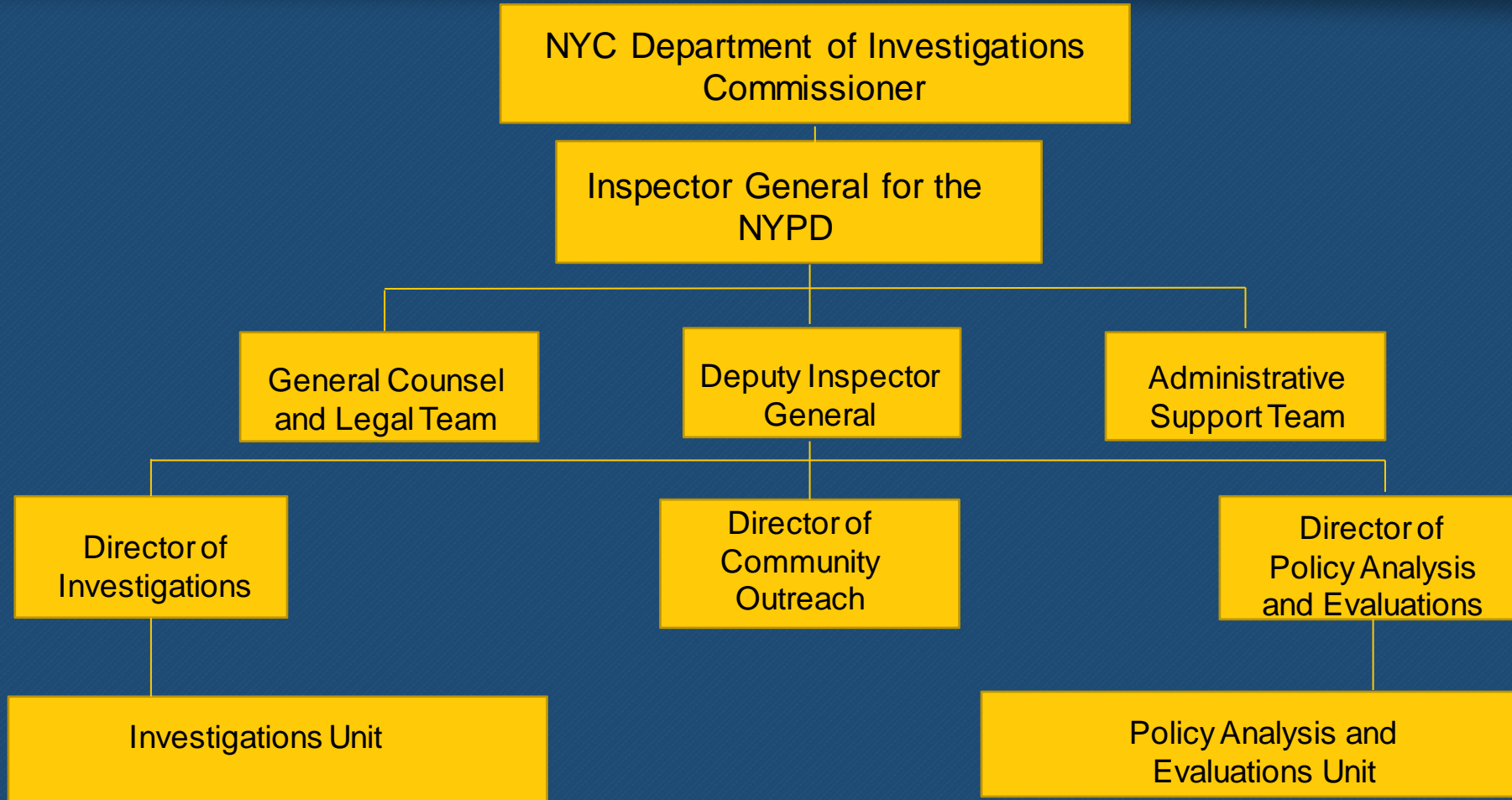
## Local Law 70

“Investigate, review, study, audit and make recommendations relating to the operations, policies, programs and practices, including ongoing partnerships with other law enforcement agencies, of the New York City Police Department, with the goal of enhancing the effectiveness of the department, increasing public safety, protecting civil liberties and civil rights and increasing the public’s confidence in the police force, thus building stronger police-community relations.”



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## Inaugural Investigative Report: *Observations on Accountability and Transparency in Ten NYPD Chokehold Cases*

- Following creation of OIG-NYPD, the tragic death of a man from Staten Island, NY in July 2014 cast a spotlight on use of chokeholds by police officers. Chokeholds are strictly forbidden by NYPD Patrol Guide.
- OIG-NYPD conducted preliminary analyses of 10 substantiated chokehold cases from 2009-2014 where the CCRB determined that NYPD officers used “chokeholds.”
- Examination raised questions about training of officers, and revealed gaps in discipline and communication.
- Chokehold Report findings: Lack of communication between agencies and inconsistency defining chokeholds; Disconnect in disciplinary process; needs for improved officer training on communication skills and de-escalation tactics.



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## OIG-NYPD 2015 Reports

- *Police Use of Force in New York City: Findings and Recommendations on NYPD's Policies and Practices*—October 2015
- *Body-Worn Cameras in NYC: An Assessment of NYPD's Pilot Program and Recommendations to promote Accountability*—July 2015
- *Using Data from Lawsuits and Legal claims Involving NYPD to Improve Policing*—April 2015
- *Observations on Accountability and Transparency in Ten NYPD Chokehold cases*—January 2015

## 2016 Investigations

- Enforcement of Quality of Life Offenses
- Police Surveillance of Political and Religious Groups
- Officer Training on how to deal with the mentally ill



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## Body-Worn Cameras

In July 2015, OIG-NYPD issued a report on the use of body cameras by NYPD officers:

- Report focused on the NYPD's small-scale (54 cameras) volunteer pilot program and Operations Order 48, drafted to govern it.
- We reviewed body camera policies of over 20 police departments across the U.S., probed the perspectives of NYC's five District Attorneys, listened to first-hand accounts of NYPD officers participating in the program, and interviewed police accountability partners across the country who have wrestled with body camera policy for years.
- We also solicited input from the CCRB, the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association and various civil rights organizations to recommend informed and practical reforms.

As a result, we made 23 recommendations for improving Operations Order 48 and officers' use of body cameras during a transition from the current small-scale pilot to an anticipated broader rollout by NYPD. Highlighting issues such as transparency, privacy, and data accessibility and retention.



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## Use of Force Report

- **Used a Collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach in systemic review that included:**
  - Analysis of 179 CCRB investigative case files to make determinations on use of force, and review of final disciplinary dispositions
  - An assessment of NYPD's Patrol Guide procedures for use of force, and training for recruits and in service training for active officers
  - Research on best practices in de-escalation training
  - Mixed methods approach is the best
- **Report highlighted:**
  - Need for clarity regarding definitions of force
  - Need for more and better training in de-escalation
  - Need to track and report data
  - Need for greater consistency between CCRB and NYPD on officer accountability



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## OIG-NYPD a Component for Reform

- **Regardless of arguments for or against oversight or in support of particular models of oversight, one fact is indisputable:**
  - The political will has to exist in order for citizen oversight to work effectively. A willingness to examine, critique, implement mechanisms of accountability, and seek reform are all necessary elements to ensure that oversight works.
- **NYC is well-positioned for reform: Mayor, Police Commissioner and NYPD have set up processes to work with Inspector General's Office:**
  - OIG-NYPD is part of the government structure
  - Has direct access to government officials, including Mayor, Speaker and City Council
  - Has direct access to Police Commissioner and NYPD Brass (including documents and other resources necessary to complete investigations)



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## Police Oversight & Research

- More research is needed on what works in police oversight, and this research needs to be collected and disseminated among a wide variety of stakeholders
- **President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing calls for research on external oversight, funding for the development of such systems at the local level, and more collaborative work among agencies and partnerships among stakeholders for the collection and use of data:**
  - (1) Calls on U.S. DOJ's research arm – National Institute of Justice – to research the field of independent police review.
  - (2) Also calls on U.S. DOJ's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) to provide technical assistance and collect best practices from existing external oversight offices.
- **More working partnerships are needed among law enforcement agencies, academics, oversight practitioners, and policy makers**
  - Example: Upcoming NACOLE/John Jay College of Criminal Justice Symposium, April 22, 2016





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## Contact Information OIG-NYPD

- **Online Complaint Form:** [www.nyc.gov/oignypd](http://www.nyc.gov/oignypd)
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