

**Recommendations by:**  
**WFP Hartford City Councilors**  
**Wildaliz Bermudez & Joshua Michtom**  
**CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD ORDINANCE**

Section 2-196 Established composition, meetings; functions

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**UPDATE:**

\*\*Everything that's highlighted in **yellow** is what was  
**REMOVED** by  
**Democrats & John Gale,**  
as part of their Amended CPRB Ordinance  
voted on at the September 28th Council Meeting\*\*

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**1. COMPOSITION - PAGE 1 & 2**

(b) The Civilian Police Review Board shall be composed of nine (9) regular voting members and two (2) alternates who shall be regular voting members when they sit. The mayor shall appoint eight (8) of the nine (9) regular members, pursuant to Section 2(d) of Chapter IV of the City Charter, no more than two (2) of whom may be non-residents of the city, and the mayor shall appoint both of the alternates.

**CHANGE TO:**

(b) The Civilian Police Review Board shall be composed of nine (9) regular voting members and two (2) alternates who shall be regular voting members when they sit. **Eight (8) CPRB members and two (2) alternates, both of which should be residents of the City of Hartford, shall be nominated through an open citizen and community organization nomination process that provides guiding information for nominating institutions and groups, identifies member/alternate qualifications, and outlines participation expectations. It is encouraged that at least one (1) or two (2) of the nominees are between the ages of eighteen (18) to twenty-six (26), in an effort to include younger residents of Hartford. For all qualified nominations, the Mayor shall appoint members and alternates from the pool of candidates generated through a citizen nomination process. The Mayor shall make public the rubric process utilized to select a nominee, such rubric shall be made available alongside nominees resume.**  
**(WAS REMOVED)**

## 2. COMPOSITION - PAGE 2 (Protecting Civilian Representation)

### ORIGINAL:

No civilian member of the Civilian Police Review Board shall be an officer of the Hartford Police Department or employee of the City of Hartford, or an immediate family member of an officer of the Hartford Police Department or employee of the City of Hartford, as governed and defined by the City of Hartford Code of Ethics.

### CHANGE TO:

No civilian member of the Civilian Police Review Board shall be a current, former or retired officer of the Hartford Police Department or other law enforcement agency, or employee of the City of Hartford, or an immediate family member of a current, former, or retired officer of the Hartford Police Department or other law enforcement agency, or employee of the City of Hartford, as governed and defined by the City of Hartford Code of Ethics. (WFP Change they Kept)

## 3. POLICE CHIEF DESIGNEES - PAGE 2

### ORIGINAL:

The Police Chief shall designate one (1) non-voting member and one (1) non-voting alternate from the Hartford Police Department who shall be available to advise the civilian police review board as to police policies, training and procedures. The said designees, each to be of a rank of at least Lieutenant, shall have first undergone diversity and cultural sensitivity training.

### CHANGE TO:

The Police Chief shall designate one (1) non-voting member and one (1) non-voting alternate from the Hartford Police Department who shall be available to attend civilian police review board meetings on a case by case basis if invited by the civilian police review board. (WFP Change they kept)

The members of the Civilian Police Review Board shall have access to all Hartford Police Department policies to be made available to CPRB members in real time as allowed by existing statues or requirements of law. HPD policies, including numbers for HPD excessive use of force cases, will

**also be accessible to the public, made available online through the city website. Hartford Police Department information on trainings and procedures shall be made available to the Civilian Police Review Board members in writing.”**  
**(WAS REMOVED)**

#### **4. FILLING MEMBER VACANCIES - PAGE 3**

**ORIGINAL:**

Any member of the Civilian Police Review Board who misses, without excuse or permission, three (3) consecutive meetings or four (4) meetings in a twelve (12) month period of the Civilian Police Review Board’s regularly scheduled meetings shall be considered to have resigned.

**CHANGE TO:**

Any member of the Civilian Police Review Board who misses, without excuse or permission, **two (2) consecutive meetings or three (3) meetings in a twelve (12) month period of the Civilian Police Review Board’s regularly scheduled meetings shall be considered to have resigned.**  
**(WAS REMOVED)**

#### **5. FILING COMPLAINTS - PAGE 3**

**ORIGINAL:**

**(c) *Jurisdiction-***

“...Complaints may be filed directly with the (Office of Equity and Opportunity) the civilian police review board or with the police department or with community-based agencies, registered by the (Office of Equity and Opportunity) civilian police review board and the police department...”

**CHANGE TO:**

**(c) *Jurisdiction.***

“...Complaints may be filed directly with the (Office of Equity and Opportunity) the civilian police review board or with the police department or with community-based agencies, registered **either** by the (Office of Equity and

Opportunity) civilian police review board, Corporation Counsel's Office or the police department.

**ADD: All community-based agencies will be listed online on the city's website and shall also be made available to the public as part of regularly printed material on where to file complaints. As well as but not limited to offering complaints via 311 mobile app. Complaints filed electronically shall automatically generate a case number immediately after submission of complaint.**

**The Inspector General may also undertake reasonable investigations or audits of police practices, based on community complaints not specific to a particular incident detailed in a civilian complaint, provided that such investigations of audits do not take priority over the investigation of civilian complaints concerning specific instances of alleged misconduct."**

**(WAS REMOVED)**

## **6. EXTEND LIST FOR CITIZEN COMPLAINTS - PAGE 3 & 4**

### **ORIGINAL:**

The Civilian Police Review Board shall have jurisdiction over citizen complaints against police officers related to, but not limited to, the following:

1. Slow or poor service.
2. Discourteous attitude.
3. Profane language.
4. Improper handling of citizen's property.
5. False arrest, improper detention.
6. Violation of the code of conduct.
7. Excessive Use of Force.
8. Civil rights violation.
9. Illegal search and seizure.
10. Failure to provide medical attention.
11. Harassment.
12. Use of racial or ethnic slurs/discriminatory language.
13. Crime committed by police.
14. Abuse of authority.
15. Retaliation for filing a complaint."

### **ADD:**

1. **Lying about policies, rights and/or reason for arrest to a citizen**
2. **Racial Profiling (WFP Change they Kept)**
3. **Misleading the public regarding information on investigations, policies and/or incidences (WAS REMOVED)**

## DEMOCRATS & JOHN GALE ADDED:

“Allegations in a complaint of slow or poor service, discourteous attitude or use of profane language shall be investigated by Police/Internal Affairs...”

## ORDINANCE USED TO SAY:

Citizen complaints of a less serious nature, as determined by the Director of the Office of Human Relations, or her/his designee, including complaints such as slow or poor service, or for discourteous attitude, shall be offered for voluntary mediation to all parties. Said mediation will be conducted at the Office of Human Relations. If mediation is not agreed to or is not successful in resolving the complaint, it shall be investigated.

## FILING COMPLAINTS- PAGE 4 (CONTINUED)

### ORIGINAL:

Within fifteen (15) days of the conclusion of any discipline or disciplinary proceeding by the police department with respect to a sustained citizen complaint, the Office of Equity and Opportunity shall be notified and shall promptly notify the civilian police review board and any community-based agencies involved.

### CHANGE TO:

Within fifteen (15) days of the conclusion of any discipline or disciplinary proceeding by the police department with respect to a sustained citizen complaint, the police department shall notify the Civilian Police Review Board AND the Office of Equity and Opportunity. The Office of Equity and Opportunity shall notify any community-based agencies involved.  
**(WAS REMOVED)**

### ORIGINAL:

A notice and summary report of all citizen complaints investigated by the Hartford Police Department's Internal Affairs Division shall be forwarded to the Office of Equity and Opportunity for transmittal to the Civilian Police Review Board.

### CHANGE TO:

A notice and summary report of all citizen complaints investigated by the Hartford Police Department's Internal Affairs Division shall be forwarded to the Office of Equity and Opportunity AND to the Civilian Police Review Board.  
**(WAS REMOVED)**

## 7. OPERATIONS- PAGE 5

### ORIGINAL:

#### **(d) Operations-**

(5) The civilian police review board shall meet monthly. A quorum of five (5) members is required to convene a regularly scheduled or specially called meeting and conduct business.

### ADD:

**(6) Meeting minutes for the Civilian Police Review Board shall be made available at the Town and City Clerks office and as well as online for the public to access.**

**(WFP CHANGE THEY KEPT)**

## OPERATIONS - PAGE 6 - (PARAGRAPH 11)

### ORIGINAL:

(11) In the event that the police chief adopts the findings or accepts the recommendations from the Civilian Police Review Board, she/he shall promptly notify in writing the civilian police review board of the same. The Police Chief shall cause notice of the decision to be given to the citizen complainant and to the relevant community-based agency, if applicable.

### CHANGE TO:

(11) In the event that the police chief adopts the findings or accepts the recommendations from the Civilian Police Review Board, they shall notify in writing the civilian police review board of the same **within 4 weeks of the findings or recommendations.** The police chief shall cause notice of the decision to be given to the citizen complainant and to the relevant community-based agency, if applicable.

**The Police Chief shall then have 30 days, after the notice, to enforce any reprimands placed upon the offending officer. The police chief shall utilize a matrix of possible disciplinary actions when enforcing any reprimands. This matrix will be created and agreed upon by the civilian police review board in compliance with any existing requirements of law.**  
**(WAS REMOVED)**

### ORIGINAL:

(11) The Chief of Police shall promptly review the findings and determinations of the civilian police review board and consider the recommendations of internal affairs. Any proposed action by the Chief that substantially differs from the findings of the civilian police review board shall be the subject of review by the three-member panel established herein.

### CHANGE TO:

(11) The Chief of Police shall promptly review the findings and determinations of the civilian police review board and consider the recommendations of internal affairs. **Any proposed action by the Chief that**

**substantially differs from the findings of the civilian police review board shall be submitted to an independent arbitrator, as set forth herein.  
(WAS REMOVED)**

#### OPERATIONS - PAGE 6 - (PARAGRAPH 12)

**ORIGINAL:**

(12) (i) There is hereby established a three-member panel, which shall include, the chief of police, the chair of the civilian police review board or a member designee, and an independent member selected by the chief of police and the chair of the Civilian Police Review Board from a list of qualified individuals approved by the selection panel established herein. The three-member panel shall be empaneled to review any citizen complaint in which the findings and determinations of the Civilian Police Review Board and those of the chief of police differ. The inspector general, or designee, and the commander of internal affairs, or designee, shall present the respective findings and recommendations.

(ii) The independent panel member may be a retired judge, including a judge referee, or a retired judge of probate. Such independent member may be entitled to a daily stipend for participating in a review.”

**CHANGE TO:**

**(i) Whenever the action proposed by the Chief of Police substantially differs from the findings and determinations of the Civilian Police Review Board, the matter shall be submitted to an independent arbitrator, selected by the Chief of Police and the chair or the Civilian Police Review Board from the list of qualified individuals approved by the selection panel established herein. The inspector general, or designee, and the commander of internal affairs, or designee, shall each present the respective findings. The arbitrator, after reviewing all the facts, reports and findings, shall render a decision that either upholds the findings and proposed actions of the chief of police or civilian police review board. The decision of the arbitrator shall be reduced to writing and shall become a public document. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and the chief of police shall proceed in conformance therewith.**

**(ii) The arbitrator may be a retired judge, including a judge referee or a retired judge of probate. Such arbitrator may be entitled to a daily stipend for participating in a review.**

**(WAS REMOVED)**

#### OPERATIONS - PAGE 7

**ORIGINAL:**

(13) There is hereby established a selection committee consisting of the Council President or their designee, the chief of police, the chair of the civilian police review

board, the president of the Hartford Police Union, and the inspector general, which shall generate a list of candidates qualified to serve as independent members of the three-member panel established herein. To be eligible for inclusion on the list of qualified candidates, an individual must be a retired state or federal judge or state referee.

**CHANGE TO:**

**(13) There is hereby established a selection committee consisting of the Council President or their designee, the Chief of Police, the Chair of the Civilian Police Review Board, which shall generate a list of candidates qualified to serve as independent members of the three-member panel established herein. To be eligible for inclusion on the list of qualified candidates, an individual must be a retired state or federal judge or state referee.**

**(WAS REMOVED)**

**OPERATIONS- PAGE 7 (CONTINUED)**

**ORIGINAL:**

(15) The Office of Equity and Opportunity shall monitor the activities of the Civilian Police Review Board and make recommendations to improve its operations. The Civilian Police Review Board may also make recommendations to the Office of the Mayor for revisions of specific police department policies and procedures related to civilian complaint process.

**CHANGE TO:**

**(15) The Office of Equity and Opportunity shall monitor the activities of the Civilian Police Review Board and make recommendations to improve its operations. The Civilian Police Review Board may also make recommendations to the Office of the Mayor and City Council for revisions of specific police department policies and procedures related to the civilian complaint process. (WFP CHANGE THEY KEPT)**

**8. ACCOUNTABILITY- PAGE 7**

***Accountability-***

**ORIGINAL:**

(e) The Civilian Police Review Board shall prepare an annual report to the Office of the Mayor and the court of Common Council indicating:

1. The type and number of complaints filed,



2. The number of police officer(s) complained against and the number of police officer(s) and members for the police department against whom multiple complaints were received, and the disposition of the complaints,..."

3. The dollar value, if any, of settlements ordered and/or paid arising out of the citizen complaints, provided such disclosure does not violate a confidentiality requirement the chief of police shall prepare an annual report to the office of the Mayor and the Court of Common Council indicating disciplinary actions taken and assistance offered to police officer(s) and members of the Hartford Police Department against whom multiple civilian complaints were received."

**CHANGE TO:**

The Civilian Police Review Board shall prepare an annual report to the Office of the Mayor and the Court of Common Council indicating:

1. The type and number of complaints filed,

2. (a.) The number and name(s) of the Police Officer(s) complained against and the number, and names of officers and members of the police department against whom multiple complaints were received, and the disposition of the complaints,..."

(WFP CHANGE THEY KEPT)

**2. (b.) The names of police officers with recurring sustained complaints**  
**For purposes of this section, recurring means more than 2 complaints in the span of a year (not a calendar year) or more than 5 total in a career, and**  
**(WAS REMOVED)**

3. The dollar value, if any, of settlements ordered and/or paid arising out of the citizen complaints, provided such disclosure does not violate a confidentiality requirement the chief of police shall prepare an annual report to the office of the Mayor and City Council indicating disciplinary actions taken and assistance offered to Police Officer(s) and members of the Hartford Police Department against whom multiple civilian complaints were received. This annual report shall be posted to the City's website and also made available to the public at the office of the Town and City Clerk. (WFP CHANGE THEY KEPT)