

The City of New York Department of Investigation

JOCELYN E. STRAUBER COMMISSIONER

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## DOI'S OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT MARKING TEN YEARS OF POLICE OVERSIGHT

Today, the Department of Investigation's ("DOI") Office of the Inspector General for the New York City Police Department ("OIG-NYPD") released its Tenth Annual Report marking a decade of police oversight in New York City. DOI established OIG-NYPD in 2014 as the result of <u>Local Law 70</u>, which passed in 2013 and is now a part of DOI's City Charter mandate. The Annual Report discusses each of OIG-NYPD's 21 investigative reports, including one Statement of Findings, and the status of the 231 recommendations issued to the New York City Police Department ("NYPD") and the two recommendations issued to the Civilian Complaint Review Board ("CCRB") over the past decade. To date, NYPD has accepted in principle, partially implemented, or fully implemented approximately 67 percent of the 231 recommendations issued by OIG-NYPD. CCRB implemented both recommendations issued to it as part of the 2019 Complaints of Biased Policing in New York City report. A copy of OIG-NYPD's Annual Report is attached to this release and can be found at the following link: <u>https://www.nyc.gov/site/doi/oignypd/web/report.page</u>

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, "OIG-NYPD's Tenth Annual Report exemplifies the breadth, scope, and impact of OIG-NYPD's work on policing in New York City. This Report highlights OIG-NYPD's 21 investigative reports, including three in 2023 and the wide array of areas that OIG-NYPD has studied and recommendations that it has issued over the past decade, deepening the public's understanding of the New York City Police Department's practices, and leading to meaningful reform."

Inspector General Jeanene L. Barrett said, "This year marks a ten-year milestone for OIG-NYPD police oversight work in New York City and I am proud of the accomplishments and impact we have had in the past decade. This Annual Report demonstrates that OIG-NYPD's commitment to following the facts and conducting independent investigations that examine NYPD's policies and procedures, and to making recommendations aimed at creating lasting, fundamental change, have enhanced public understanding of policing and police-community relationships. The Tenth Annual Report shines a light on the different policing topics that our office has tackled and the tangible results our reports have had on policing in New York City."

In 2023, highlights of OIG-NYPD's work include the following:

 A Statement of Findings regarding <u>"NYPD's Technical Assistance and Response Unit ("TARU")</u> and the Revised Handschu Guidelines." This investigation examined policies and procedures for retention of audio, photographs, and video captured by the NYPD's Technical Assistance and Response Unit ("TARU") at protests and public demonstrations. As part of the investigation, OIG-NYPD examined the relationship between NYPD's Intelligence Bureau ("Intel") and the multimedia materials collected and stored by TARU. OIG-NYPD determined that while Intel's access to TARU's materials complies with the Revised Handschu Guidelines, NYPD lacked written policies or procedures governing that access. OIG-NYPD also found that TARU retained such materials indefinitely, though the Patrol Guide does not require such retention. OIG-NYPD made eight recommendations, including suggesting that the Patrol Guide be amended to describe the additional permissible grounds and rationales for lengthier retention periods.

- o Of the eight issued recommendations, NYPD accepted five and rejected three.
- A report examining, <u>"Overtime Under Review: NYPD Overtime and the Increased Risk of Negative Policing Outcomes.</u>" Using a sample of NYPD officers between 2019 and 2021, OIG-NYPD examined the relationship between NYPD's overtime hours and various Negative Policing Outcomes ("NPOs"), including complaints of misconduct from members of the public, uses of force, vehicle collisions, workplace injuries, lawsuits, and other direct sources of liability risk to the City. OIG-NYPD's analysis found that overtime has a statistically significant relationship with a number of NPOs, such that for each hour of overtime worked per day there is an increased likelihood the following day that the officer will be named in a lawsuit, the subject of a substantiated or partially substantiated CCRB complaint, suffer a workplace injury, or be involved in an incident requiring a Threat, Resistance, or Injury Interaction Report. OIG-NYPD issued six recommendations that included developing effective risk management strategies, conducting a full assessment of risk, and developing policies related to fatigue in its written overtime procedures.
  - o Of the six issued recommendations, NYPD accepted two and rejected four.
- A report on <u>"An Investigation into NYPD's Criminal Group Database," which examined NYPD's use and operation of the Criminal Group Database ("CGD"),"</u> its value in crime control and prevention activities, the potential harms of inclusion, and the risks and costs of maintaining the database. OIG-NYPD's findings included that there is uncertainty and fear about CGD inclusion and its consequences in certain communities in New York City, and that this fear decreases public confidence in NYPD and strains community-police relations; NYPD has not provided consistent, specific guidance as to the amount or nature of evidence required to add individuals to the database; and many key policies and practices relating to the CGD are not memorialized in writing.
  - Of the 17 recommendations issued, NYPD has implemented two recommendations, partially implemented five, accepted four, rejected five, and continues to consider one.

The Tenth Annual Report was compiled by Investigative Policy Analysts Ilea Franklin, Lasse de Graaf, and Olivia Sykes, and Senior Investigative Analyst Dominic Hart in DOI's Office of the Inspector General for the NYPD, under the supervision of Deputy Inspectors General Percival Rennie and Lesley Bedeau, First Deputy Inspector General Annette B. Almazan, Special Counsel to the Inspector General Maria Paolillo, Inspector General Jeanene L. Barrett, Associate Commissioner of Training and Investigations Laura Bowman, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives Christopher Ryan, and Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella.

Special thanks are given to OIG-NYPD's Director of Outreach Claire Fleischer, Assistant Inspector General Adrian Amador, Investigative Project Analyst Crystal Ynoa, and Special Investigator Shivana Subir for contributing to advancing implementation of OIG-NYPD's recommendations and development of this Report.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and New York City's corruption watchdog. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City. DOI's strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to high-impact arrests, preventive internal controls and operational reforms that improve the way the City runs.

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