CITY of ALBUQUERQUE TWENTY SECOND COUNCIL

ENACTMENT NO. 0.2016.013 COUNCIL BILL NO. O-16-18 SPONSORED BY: **Pat Davis and Brad Winter** 1 **ORDINANCE** AMENDING CHAPTER 9, ARTICLE 4, PART 1 ROA 1994, THE POLICE 2 3 OVERSIGHT ORDINANCE. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF 4 5 **ALBUQUERQUE:** SECTION 1. SECTION 9-4-1-4(C) IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: 6 "(C) Responsibilities. The Civilian Police Oversight Agency is responsible 7 for civilian police oversight and has the following powers and duties: 8 Community Outreach. The CPOA shall develop, implement, 9 (1) and from time to time amend as necessary, a program of community outreach 10 aimed at soliciting public input from the broadest segment of the community 11 in terms of geography, culture, ethnicity, and socio-economics. The CPOA 12 shall employ or designate a full time staff member within the Administrative 13 Deletion Office dedicated to community outreach efforts. The CPOA shall report its [+Bracketed/Underscored Material+] - New 14 community outreach efforts to the City Council on an annual basis. 15 Promotion of Accountability. The CPOA shall promote a spirit of accountability and communication between the civilians and the Albuquerque Police Department while improving community relations and enhancing public confidence. Investigations. The Administrative Office shall independently (3)investigate all civilian complaints; shall audit and monitor all incidences of use of force by police and all matters under investigation by APD's Internal Affairs (IA) or other APD personnel tasked with conducting administrative investigations related to a use of force incident; and shall prepare proposed

uses of force as defined by Article III, Paragraph 12, Subsection (qq) of the

findings and recommendations on all officer involved shootings and serious

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court-approved DOJ Settlement Agreement with the City of Albuquerque ("Serious Uses of Force").

- Where an officer has engaged in conduct that may (a) reasonably lead to a criminal charge against the officer, IA and the CPOA have a shared interest in exercising care to avoid interfering with the criminal process while simultaneously maintaining the integrity of the disciplinary process for officers. Consistent with this shared interest, IA and the CPOA will regularly confer and take reasonable steps to coordinate the handling of investigations into matters that reasonably may lead to a criminal charge against an officer. Before taking action related to a serious use of force or officer involved shooting, the Director shall confer with the relevant prosecuting agency and/or federal law enforcement agency to assess the likelihood of an officer being criminally prosecuted based on the incident. The Director may delay or decline to proceed with any action related to a serious use of force or officer involved shooting until completion of the criminal investigation unless, after consultation with the prosecuting agency, the Director determines that proceeding is appropriate and will not compromise a criminal investigation. If the Director seeks to proceed with investigating or presenting to the POB a serious use of force or officer involved shooting despite a prosecuting agency or federal law enforcement agency indicating that doing so would interfere with a criminal investigation, the Director may proceed only after obtaining approval to do so through a 2/3 vote of the POB. The POB shall provide notice of any such vote permitting the Director to proceed in such circumstances to APD and the police officer involved.
- (b) APD shall provide POB members, the Director, and CPOA staff with reasonable access to APD premises, files, documents, reports and other materials that are reasonably necessary for the agency to perform thorough, independent investigations of civilian complaints and reviews of serious uses of force and officer-involved shootings. However, any material protected from disclosure by law shall remain within the custody and control of APD at all times and will be handled in accordance with the applicable legal restrictions.
 - (c) All complaints filed by police officers will be

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- 1 investigated by Internal Affairs. Internal Affairs shall provide a weekly update
- 2 to the Director on all open internal investigations. The Director's investigation
- 3 report and findings shall indicate whether within the past year there were any
- 4 IA investigations or supervisor generated complaints against the officer(s)
- 5 involved in the incident being investigated or that are otherwise relevant to the
- 6 subject matter of the investigation, the general nature of the prior
- 7 investigations or complaints, and whether they resulted in any discipline.
- 8 Redacted personnel records including those of the Internal Affairs Unit shall
- 9 be made available to the POB on demand.
 - Information that is covered by Garrity will be treated as (d) confidential to the extent permitted by law and may only be reviewed by members of the POB by application in writing, and by majority vote of the POB. If the POB votes to review Garrity material, members of the POB may only do so on APD property. The POB may not remove or make copies of such statements. If the POB desires to discuss the specific content of statements protected by Garrity, such discussion will occur only in closed session as permitted under the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(2). The POB shall only summarize conclusions reached after a review of a Garrity statement, but shall not disclose the statement. The POB shall maintain the confidentiality of any Garrity material or records that are made confidential to the extent permitted by law and is subject to the same penalties as the custodian of those records for violating confidentiality requirements. In addition to any other penalty, any POB member or other person who violates the confidentiality provisions of this section shall be removed from the POB, and shall be subject to prosecution for a misdemeanor subject to the penalty provisions set forth in §1-1-99. This provision shall apply to all aspects of the POB's work.
 - (e) Mediation First. Whenever possible, and as further described in § 9-4-1-6(C)(3) of this ordinance, mediation should be the first option for resolution of civilian police complaints.
 - (f) POB Audits; Access to Files. The POB may, by majority vote, perform an annual audit, or direct that an audit be performed, on a random sample of up to 10% of individual civilian police complaint

investigations involving allegations of use of force, or in exceptional circumstances, for the purpose of promoting an enhanced measure of quality assurance in the most challenging cases the POB may, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the POB, perform an audit, or direct that an audit be performed, on any individual Citizen Police Complaint Investigation completed by the Administrative Office. For purposes of its audit function, the POB shall have full access to investigation files and may subpoena such documents and witnesses as relevant to its audit function.

- (g) Disciplinary Recommendations. The POB may, in its discretion, recommend officer discipline from the Chart of Sanctions for investigations that result in sustained civilian police complaints; and may also recommend discipline based on any findings that result from review of internal affairs investigations of officer involved shootings and Serious Uses of Force. Imposition of the recommended discipline is at the discretion of the Chief of Police, but if the Chief of Police does not follow the disciplinary recommendation of the POB, the Chief of Police shall respond in writing, within thirty (30) days, with the reason as to why the recommended discipline was not imposed.
- (4) Reports to Mayor & Council. The CPOA shall submit a semi-annual written report to the Mayor and City Council according to § 9-4-1-10 herein. The CPOA Executive Director shall provide a quarterly oral report to the City Council at a regular or special meeting.
- (5) CPOA Policy Recommendations. The CPOA shall engage in a long-term planning process through which it identifies major problems or trends, evaluates the efficacy of existing law enforcement practices in dealing with the same, and establishes a program of resulting policy suggestions and studies each year. The CPOA's policy recommendation process shall be as follows:
- (a) The POB shall review and analyze policy suggestions, analysis, studies, and trend data collected or developed by the Administrative Office, and shall by majority vote recommend polices relating to training, programs and procedures or other matters relating to APD. The POB's policy recommendations shall be submitted to APD and to the City Council. The POB

shall dedicate a majority (more than 50%) of its time to the functions described

- the CPOA Executive Director (the "Director").
 - (B) In addition to any other duties expressed or implied by this ordinance the Director shall:
 - (1) Independently investigate, or cause to be investigated, all civilian police complaints and prepare findings and recommendations for review by the POB;
 - (2) Review and monitor all Internal Affairs investigations and other administrative investigations related to officer involved shooting investigations and Serious Uses of Force investigations. The Director shall prepare and submit findings and recommendations to the POB relating to officer involved shootings and Serious Uses of Force, and shall report on general trends and issues identified through monitoring or auditing of Internal Affairs;
 - (3) Provide staffing to the Police Oversight Board and ensure that the duties and responsibilities of the CPOA are executed in an efficient manner, and manage the day to day operations of the CPOA.
- (C) The Administrative Office will receive and process all civilian complaints directed against the Albuquerque Police Department and any of its officers. The Director shall independently investigate and make findings and recommendations for review by the POB for such civilian complaints, or assign them for independent investigation by CPOA staff or an outside independent investigator. If assigned to staff or an outside investigator, the Director shall oversee, monitor and review all such investigations and findings for each. All findings relating to civilian complaints, officer involved shootings, and Serious Uses of Force shall be forwarded to the POB for its review and approval. For all investigations, the Director shall make recommendations and give advice regarding Police Department policies and procedures to the POB as the Director deems advisable.
- (1) Investigation of all civilian complaints filed with the CPOA shall begin immediately after complaints are filed and proceed as expeditiously as possible, and if an investigation exceeds a timeframe of nine months the Director must report the reasons to the POB; and
 - (2) All civilian complaints filed with other offices within the

| City authorized to accept civilian complaints, including the Police Departmen |
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| shall be immediately referred to the Director for investigation; and |

- (3) Mediation should be the first option for resolution of civilian police complaints. Mediators should be independent of the CPOA, APD, and the City, and should not be former officers or employees of APD. At the discretion of the Director an impartial system of mediation should be considered appropriate for certain complaints. If all parties involved reach an agreement, the mediation is considered successful and no investigation will occur; and
- (4) The Director shall monitor all claims of officer involved shootings and Serious Uses of Force. No APD related settlements in excess of \$25,000 shall be made for claims without the knowledge of the Director. The Director shall be an ex-officio member of the Claims Review Board; and
- (5) All investigations shall be thorough, objective, fair, impartial, and free from political influence; and
- (6) The Director shall maintain and compile all information necessary to satisfy the CPOA's semi-annual written reporting requirements in § 9-4-1-10; and
- (7) If at any point during an investigation the investigator determines that there may have been criminal conduct by any APD personnel, the investigator shall immediately notify the APD Internal Affairs Bureau commanding officer and transfer the administrative investigation to the Internal Affairs Bureau. The CPOA may review the IA investigation and continue processing the complaint at any time upon the conclusion of any criminal proceeding.
- (D) The Director shall have access to any Police Department information or documents that are relevant to a civilian's complaint, or to an issue which is ongoing at the CPOA.
- (E) The Administrative Office shall staff, coordinate and provide technical support for all scheduled POB meetings, publicize all findings and reports, recommendations, and/or suggested policy changes.
- (F) The Director shall play an active public role in the community, and whenever possible, provide appropriate outreach to the community,

- publicize the civilian complaint process, and identify locations within the community that are suitable for civilians to file complaints in a non-police environment.
- (G) The Director shall be provided the necessary professional and/or clerical employees for the effective staffing of the Administrative Office, and shall prescribe the duties of these staff members. Such professional and clerical employees will be classified City employees. All CPOA staff with investigative duties shall be professional investigators trained in professional investigation techniques and practices.
- (H) The Director shall report directly to the POB and lead the Administrative Office; independently investigate or supervise all investigations of civilian complaints, audit all IA investigations of complaints, recommend and participate in mediation of certain complaints, and supervise all CPOA staff."
 - SECTION 4. SECTION 9-4-1-8 IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: "§ 9-4-1-8 CIVILIAN COMPLAINT PROCEDURES.
- (A) Any person claiming to be aggrieved by actions of the Police may file a written complaint against the department or any of its officers. The POB shall submit rules and regulations governing civilian complaint procedures to the City Council for approval, including rules and regulations relative to time limits, notice and other measures to insure impartial review of civilians' complaints against members of the police department. Anonymous complaints shall be accepted.
- (B) In cooperation with the POB, the Mayor shall designate civilian City staff to receive written civilian complaints at various locations throughout the City. The Police Department may also receive written complaints. The party who receives the complaint shall immediately transmit all civilian complaints for further investigation to the Director.
- (C) After the investigation of a civilian complaint is completed, the Director shall analyze all relevant and material circumstances, facts and evidence gathered under the investigation. For each investigation, the Director shall prepare investigation reports with proposed findings and recommendations and submit them to the POB for its review and

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consideration. The Director may share any disciplinary recommendations 1 with the Chief of Police in advance of their submission to the POB only as 2 necessary to help ensure timeliness pursuant to any applicable personnel or 3 union contract requirements. The POB shall review the proposed findings and 4 recommendations, and shall by majority vote of members present: 1) approve 5 the findings and recommendations as proposed; 2) approve other findings 6 and recommendations as determined by the POB and supported by the 7 investigation file; or 3) defer action on the matter to allow for further 8 investigation or analysis by the Director. As part of its review, the full 9 investigation file shall be made available to the POB. Upon approval of 10 findings and recommendations by the POB, the Director shall prepare and 11 submit a public record letter to the civilian complainant, with a copy to the 12 Chief of Police, that outlines the findings and recommendations as approved. 13 Unless a hearing is requested by the civilian complainant, within 30 days of 14 receipt of the decision of the POB, the Chief of Police shall notify the POB and 15 the original civilian complainant of his or her final disciplinary decision in this 16 17 matter in writing, by certified mail."

SECTION 5. SECTION 9-4-1-13, IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS: "§ 9-4-1-13 CONFIDENTIALITY.

The POB hearing process shall be open to the public to the extent legally possible so that it does not conflict with state or federal law. However, upon the opinion of the CPOA Attorney that the law permits such action, some of the details of the investigations of the Director, or the designated independent investigator, shall become privileged and confidential. The details of investigations should not be open to the public subject to the opinion of the CPOA Attorney and the Director. Compelled statements given to the Director, or the designated independent investigator, will not be made public. The Director may summarize conclusions reached from a compelled statement for the report to the POB and the Chief of Police, and in the public record letter sent to the complainant. Nothing in this ordinance affects the ability of APD to use a compelled statement in a disciplinary proceeding."

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, word or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or

unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not

affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this ordinance. The Council

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