POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD
POLICY AND PROCEDURE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE
Thursday, February 23, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.
Plaza Del Sol Building, 600 2nd Street NW
Basement Hearing Room #160

Members Present
Susanne Brown, Chair
Eric Cruz

Absent
Leonard Waites

Others Present
Edward Harness, Exec. Director
Miriam Verploeh
Diane McDermott
Matthew Jackson, Esq.
Michelle Contreras
Jim Larson

Minutes

I. Welcome and Call to Order: Subcommittee Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda: Copies of the agenda were distributed. Subcommittee Chair Brown made a motion to approve the agenda. Subcommittee member Cruz seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the following vote:

   For -2: Brown, Cruz

III. Approval of the Minutes: Copies of the October 26, 2016 minutes were distributed. Subcommittee Chair Brown made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Subcommittee Member Cruz seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the following vote:

   For -2: Brown, Cruz

IV. Public Comments: Mr. Jim Larson gave a presentation to the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee. (See attachment A).

V. Finalize changes to the Ordinance and plan our approach to getting these changes made. Discussed the changes in the ordinance in detail. For more information, see attached:
   A. Attachment B: Draft Police Oversight Board Ordinance.
   B. Attachment C: Final Police Oversight Board Ordinance.
   C. Attachment D: Summary of changes to the Police Oversight Ordinance made by the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee board.
   D. Attachment E: Jim Larson’s suggestions for the POB Ordinance (whole document).
   E. Attachment F: Jim Larson’s suggestions (Summary format)

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F. Member Cruz requested that before the revised POB Ordinance is submitted to the POB for their approval, that the names and their acronyms, e.g. Albuquerque Police Department (APD), be consistent within the document.

G. Member Cruz to accept the changes made here [at the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee]. Subcommittee Chair Brown seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the following vote:
   For -2: Brown, Cruz

H. Action item: Prior to sending to the POB, they will highlight the two new sections.

I. Mr. Jim Larson distributed a flow chart titled “Outline of the Civilian Police Oversight Agency Process in Albuquerque” to the Subcommittee members for their review. (See attachment G).

VI. How to proceed to obtain raw data on APD accidents results in tows.
   A. Discussed the process to obtain the raw data from APD regarding drug tests and accidents resulting in tows.

VII. Discussion of our priorities for research into policies and practices going forward.
   A. Discussed the priorities for research at the upcoming OPA meeting.
   B. Action item: Dr. Verploegh to draft a letter to Chief Eden regarding the purpose and function of the Office of Policy Analysis.
   C. Action item: Dr. Verploegh to send the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee members her drafted paragraphs regarding the projects that the CPOA/POB can move forward with.

VIII. Report from CPOA
   A. Edward Harness
      i. Director Harness has the same concerns about OPA.
      ii. Action item: Discussed adding an agenda item to the POB Agenda a discussion about the resolution being introduced by Councilor Pat Davis regarding the independent investigation of Officer Involved Shootings and In-Custody deaths. If the POB does vote to back the resolution, Director Harness will present the POB’s position about the resolution during public comment at the City Council meeting.
      iii. Director Harness is working on getting an appointment with Albuquerque District Attorney Raul Torrez.
      iv. Discussed that the CPOA is currently working on getting data from the New Mexico Department of Public Safety.
      v. Discussed body camera issue.
   B. Dr. Miriam Verploegh
      i. Dr. Verploegh did a presentation at UNM Sociology classes in order to recruit interns for the CPOA office.
      ii. Discussed that the CPOA’s annual report is complete.

IX. Other business. None.
X. Next Meeting: The next Policy and Procedure Subcommittee will be set every third Thursday of every month at 5 p.m.

XI. Adjournment: Subcommittee Member Cruz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Subcommittee Chair Brown seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the following vote:
For -2: Brown, Cruz

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Approved by:
Susanne Brown, Chair
Policy Review Subcommittee

CC: Julian Moya, City Council Staff
    Natalie Y. Howard, City Clerk
    Isaac Benton, City Council President

Date 4/15/17
I have high regard for the CPOA Director, staff and volunteer members of the POB. I respect and admire your willingness to undertake civilian oversight of APD. Since 1988 such efforts have largely proven unsuccessful. In fact, in April 2014 the DOJ found external oversight contributed to overall systemic problems with APD’s use of force in encounters with civilians.

POB members have expressed concerns regarding the City of Albuquerque and APD’s continuing actions to exclude, ignore, and directly thwart attempts to contribute to APD policy; as well as APD’s lack of responsiveness to civilian complaint investigation findings, and other substantive policy recommendations. APD’s actions not only obstruct your efforts to achieve the purpose of the ordinance but also leave you feeling your time is being wasted with few results and little impact.

It is my belief that many citizens share your frustrations and disappointments. At the last POB meeting there were four public members present.

This committee is deliberating amendments to the Police Oversight Ordinance. I provided some written comments regarding the proposals discussed at the last POB as well as a new suggested amendment. The new suggestion is intended to address the continuing failure of the Chief of Police to comply with the ordinance. He is to notify the POB and the original civilian complainant of his or her final disciplinary decision in writing, by certified mail within 30 days of receipt of the decision of the POB.

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I understand there is disagreement regarding the actual requirement in the current ordinance and the ordinance may be confusing.

However, rather than passively await some future resolution that the POB may or may not agree with, I suggest including a clarification revision be included in your deliberations. I am not an attorney and therefore the suggested language may not be adequate.

However, I do not think the POB should continue to accept the claims from APD command staff and the city attorney that they are working on these issues or that Dr. Ginger is aware of the issues. Transparency is an essential element of civilian police oversight and it has been over two years since the inception of the ordinance. This is a transparency issue and should not continue in abeyance.

Today, the CPOA website section: Chief of Police: Non-Concurrence Letters for 2016 has only three responses to complaint investigations and response to two recommendations.

The website section: Officer Involved Shootings (OIS) has only two cases and the Chief has responded to both (although his response to I-37-15 is acknowledged but has not been uploaded.)

The website section: Serious Use of Force – Interoffice memorandum’s to the Chief of Police identifies two cases, both of which are letters from CPOA to the Chief with recommendations, one dated July 7, 2016 and the other dated June 30, 2016. The website identified no reply from the Chief.
This data may not be current or accurate but I suspect the Chief has not replied to the vast majority of findings and recommendation letters with sustained findings.

I also have submitted a draft Oversight Process Flowchart. I included the Chief's response requirement that was omitted from the current flow chart.

Thank you.

Written by Jim Larson
PART 1: CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY
§ 9-4-1-1 SHORT TITLE.
   Sections 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 may be cited as the Police Oversight Ordinance.
   (Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-2 PURPOSE.
   The purpose of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 is to:
   (A) Foster and perpetuate policing policies and practices that effectively maintain social order and which at the same time foster mutual trust and cooperation between police and citizens;
   (B) Ensure that the civilian police oversight body functions as independently as possible from the executive and legislative branches of government of the City of Albuquerque;
   (C) Provide civilians and police officers a fair and impartial system for the investigations and determinations on civilian police complaints;
   (D) Gather and analyze raw data to analyze trends and potential issues concerning police conduct and practices and the related impacts on the community and individuals.
   (E) Provide City Council, Mayor, and Chief of Police input, guidance, and transparency for policy development.
   (Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-3 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.
   (A) The City of Albuquerque deserves a highly professional well trained Police Department; however, an effective oversight function has not yet evolved to the satisfaction of the community’s needs.
   (B) In 1996 the City Council initiated a process to independently review the City’s mechanisms of police oversight since the system had not been independently evaluated since 1988. As a result of that process, the City Council abolished the then existing Public Safety Advisory Board, and in lieu thereof established the current Police Oversight Commission (POC).
   (C) In 2013 the City Council initiated a new process aimed at evaluating potential improvements to the POC and its processes by establishing an Ad Hoc Police Oversight Task Force (POTF). The POTF evaluated the City’s current system, studied oversight options, held three Town Hall Meetings to receive input from the public, and presented their final recommendations.
   (D) On April 10, 2014, the City also received findings from the United States Department of Justice that in part concluded that the City’s external oversight system contributed to overall systemic problems with the Police Department’s use of force in encounters with civilians.
   (E) The Council understands that a properly conceived and functioning police oversight system is necessary to promote accountability of the police officers and protect the rights of civilians, and finds that adopting the recommendations of the POTF will advance these goals and will help respond to the shortcomings identified by the Department of Justice.
   (F) The Council hereby abolishes the POC and replaces it with a Civilian Police Oversight Agency as prescribed by this Article.
   (Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-4 CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY.
   There is hereby created a Civilian Police Oversight Agency (the "CPOA") as an independent agency of City Government, not part of either the City Administration or City Council that consists of a Police Oversight Board (the "POB") and an Administrative Office led by the CPOA Executive Director. In addition to any other duties, the Administrative Office, through the Executive Director and staff, shall
Investigate all civilian complaints relating to police conduct, monitor and report on police internal affairs matters, provide staffing to the POS, and manage the day to day operations of the CPOA. The POS shall provide policy guidance for, and civilian oversight of the Albuquerque Police Department and review and approve or amend the findings and conclusions of all investigations completed by the Administrative Office.

(A) Independence. The CPOA is independent of the Mayor’s Office, the City Council, and the Albuquerque Police Department with respect to the performance of its oversight role and duties under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14.

(1) Facility Location. The CPOA shall be housed in a facility that is separate from any police presence and is located outside of the Albuquerque/Santa Fe Government Center, the Police Department and/or all of the police substations.

(2) Budget. The CPOA shall have a dedicated and independent source of funding equal to, at a minimum, 3% of APD’s annual operation budget, administer its own budget and supervise its own staff in compliance with the City’s Merit Ordinance and contractual services policies and procedures. The CPOA shall recommend and propose its budget to the Mayor and City Council during the City’s budget process to carry out the powers and duties under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14, including the funding for staff, and all necessary operating expenses.

(3) Professional Legal Services. The CPOA may retain or employ independent legal counsel on a contractual basis to advise and represent the CPOA. If so retained, the CPOA’s legal counsel shall represent the CPOA in the courts, and shall advise the CPOA as to any legal matters relating to §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 and the CPOA’s duties, responsibilities, and procedures except for CPOA personnel matters which shall remain under the authority of the City Attorney’s Office.

(4) Applicability of City Policies and Ordinances. The CPOA shall comply with all City ordinances and policies dealing with administrative functions including but not limited to those dealing with personnel, the merit system, and procurements.

(B) Staff. The CPOA shall employ such staff as necessary to carry out its functions as prescribed by this Article, including but not limited to an executive director, professional investigative staff, and other staff as may be necessary, subject to budget sufficiency and City personnel policies and procedures.

(C) Responsibilities. The Civilian Police Oversight Agency is responsible for civilian police oversight and has the following powers and duties:

(1) Community Outreach. The CPOA shall develop, implement, and from time to time amend as necessary, a program of community outreach aimed at soliciting public input from the broadest segment of the community in terms of geography, culture, ethnicity, and socio-economics. The CPOA shall employ or designate a full time staff member within the Administrative Office dedicated to community outreach efforts. The CPOA shall report its community outreach efforts to the City Council on an annual basis.

(2) 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.

(3) Investigations. The Administrative Office shall independently 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 findings and recommendations on all officer involved shootings and serious uses of force as defined by Article III, Paragraph 12, Subsection (e) of the court-approved DOJ Settlement Agreement with the City of Albuquerque ("Serious Uses of Force").
(a) Provide thorough evaluation of data to support new and revised APD policies using APD raw data, national trends, and best practices.

(b) Where an officer has engaged in conduct that may reasonably lead to a criminal charge against the officer, IA and the CPDA 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 CPDA 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 the 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.

(c) APD shall provide POB members, the Director, and CPDA staff with reasonable access to APD premises, files, documents, reports, raw data 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.

(d) All complaints filed by police officers will be investigated by Internal Affairs. Internal Affairs shall provide a weekly update to the Director on all open internal investigations. The Director's investigation report and findings shall indicate whether within the past year there were any IA investigations or supervisor generated complaints against the officer(s) involved in the incident being investigated or that are otherwise relevant to the subject matter of the investigation, the general nature of the prior investigations or complaints, and whether they resulted in any discipline. Redacted personnel records including those of the Internal Affairs Unit shall be made available to the POB on demand.

(e) Information that is covered by Garrity will be treated as 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 decides 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 officer 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 30% 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 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 5-4-1-10 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, trends, and best practices to evaluate 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 policies 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 in this subsection.

(b) The Chief of Police shall respond in writing within 45 days to any such policy recommendations by the CPOA, and indicate whether they will be followed through standard operating procedures or should be adopted as policy by the City Council, or explain any reasons why such policy recommendations will not be followed or should not be adopted.

(c) Within six months of its appointment, the POB shall draft and approve policies, rules and procedures that ensure that the POB shall dedicate a majority of its time to the functions described in this subsection.

(d) POB and CPOA shall be voting members for all APD policy committees.


§ 9-1-1-S THE CPOA POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD.

(A) Composition. The POB shall be composed of nine at-large members who broadly represent the diversity and demographics of the City by way of, including but not limited to, cultural, gender and geographic diversity; and who are representative of the stakeholders of the police oversight process, and who reside within the City of Albuquerque.

(B) Qualifications. In addition to the composition standards set forth above, the following are the minimum qualifications for members of the POB:

(1) Have not been employed by law enforcement for one year prior to appointment; and

(2) Successfully pass a background check; and

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(3) Personal history lacking any pattern of unsubstantiated complaints against APD;
and
(4) A demonstrated ability to engage in mature, impartial decision making; and
(5) A commitment to transparency and impartial decision making; and
(6) Residency within the City of Albuquerque.

(C) Appointment of Members. The City Council shall establish a well-publicized, fair and equitable application process for appointment to the POB. The City Council, through its staff, shall accept applications from prospective POB members. Staff shall formulate recommendations for appointments based on evaluation of the qualification criteria listed in subsections (A) and (B) above and submit recommendations for appointment(s) to the City Council for its approval. If a member is eligible for reappointment, staff may suggest reappointment of that member without a formal application process and the City Council may reappoint accordingly.

(D) Membership Term. POB members shall serve a maximum of two three-year terms on a staggered basis so that no more than five of the members are eligible for reappointment or replacement each year.

(E) Removal of Members. Any POB member may be removed for cause by a two-thirds majority vote of either the POB itself or the City Council. The appointment of any member who has been absent and not excused from three consecutive regular or special meetings shall automatically expire effective on the date the fact of such absence is reported by the POB to the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall notify any member whose appointment has automatically terminated and report to the City Council that a vacancy exists requiring an appointment for the length of the unexpired term.

(F) Orientation and Training. Upon appointment or reappointment POB members shall complete an orientation and training program consisting of the following:

(1) Required Orientation. Prior to participation in any meeting of the POB, a newly appointed member must first:
   (a) Be trained by the CPDA staff or CPDA legal counsel on CPDA and APD rules, policies, and procedures; and
   (b) Attend at least one POB meeting as an observer (except initial appointees).
(2) Required Training. Each POB member shall complete a training program within the first six months of the member's appointment that consists, at a minimum, of the following:
   (a) Completion of those portions of the APD Civilian Police Academy that APD determines are necessary for the POB to have a sound understanding of the Department, its policies, and the work officers perform - for purposes of this training requirement, APD shall identify those portions of the standard APD Civilian Police Academy Program that are optional for POB members and shall make other aspects of the program available for POB members to complete independently;
   (b) Civil Rights training, including the Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures, including unreasonable use of force;
   (c) At least two APD ride-alongs;
   (d) Annual firearms simulation training;
   (e) Internal Affairs training;
   (f) Training provided to APD officers on use of force, including a review and familiarization with all APD policies relating to use of force, and including policies related to APD's Internal review of force incidents;
   (g) Equity and Cultural Sensitivity training;
   (h) Training on the 2014 DOJ Settlement Agreement with the City of Albuquerque (or any subsequent agreements), and Findings Letter of April 10, 2014 (or any subsequent findings letters);
(i) Training on this Police Oversight Ordinance;
(j) Training on state and local laws regarding public meetings and the
conduct of public officials; and
(k) A briefing that identifies and explains the curriculum of all training
received or to be received by APO officers, including any outside training not provided by the city.
(3) Required On-Going Training. POB members shall be provided with eight hours of
annual training on any changes in law, policy, or training in the areas outlined under subsection (2)
above, as well as developments in the implementation of the 2014 DOJ Settlement Agreement (or any
subsequent agreements) until such time as the terms of the agreement are satisfied. POB members shall
also participate in at least two police ride-alsongs for every six-months of service on the POB.
(4) Recommended Training. POB members are encouraged to attend conferences
and workshops relating to police oversight, such as the annual NACOLE conference at city expense
depending on budget availability.
(G) Chair. The POB shall elect one of its members as the Chairperson and one as Vice-
Chairperson, who shall each hold office for one year and until their successors are elected. No officer
shall be eligible to immediately succeed himself or herself in the same office. Officers shall be elected in
the month of March of each calendar year or upon vacancy of an office to fill the remaining term.
(H) Subcommittees. The POB may appoint such subcommittees as are deemed necessary or
desirable for the purposes of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-34, provided that, membership on such
subcommittees shall be limited to POB members.
(I) Meetings. The POB shall conduct regularly scheduled public meetings in compliance
with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, with a prepared agenda that is distributed in advance to the
Mayor, City Council, Police Chief, and City Attorney. Each POB meeting will begin with public comments.
Only the regularly scheduled monthly meetings and special meetings held pursuant to submission of
petitions will be televised live on the appropriate government access channel. All other meetings of the
POB shall be videotaped and aired on the appropriate government access channel; however, there is no
requirement for providing live television coverage.
1. Public Comment. The POB shall allow general public comment at each of its
meetings, and the POB shall also allow comment on each of its agenda items other than Citizen Police
Complaints. The complainant or complainant’s authorized representative in a Citizen Police Complaint
will be provided with a minimum of five minutes to address the POB relating to the complaint and
investigation.


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§ 9-4-1-6 CPOA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.

(A) The staff and administration of the CPOA shall be directed by 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 shootings 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 Department, 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.

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(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.

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(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.

(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2015-013)

§ 9-4-1-7 CPOA DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS, SELECTION, RETENTION AND EVALUATION.

(A) Qualifications for the position of Director shall minimally include the requirement of a law degree and experience in criminal investigations.

(B) The Director will be a full-time contractual city employee to be selected, removed, or reviewed as follows:

1) The POB, through CPOA staff, shall accept applications from candidates. The POB shall review the applications and interview candidates, and submit to the City Council a ranked list of the three candidates that it finds to be the best qualified to be the Director and the City Council shall appoint the Director from the three by majority vote. The POB’s recommendation to Council shall be based on the candidates' integrity, capability for strong management and abilities in investigations, law, management analysis, public administration, criminal justice administration or other closely related fields.

2) In lieu of recommending three candidates to the Council, the POB may recommend to the Council the reconfirmation of the incumbent Director. Should the Council decline to reconfirm the incumbent Director, the Council President shall notify the POB that it needs to provide the Council with three alternate candidates pursuant to the provisions of subsection (B)(1). Should the Director not be reconfirmed, the current Director may continue to serve in the same capacity until a new Director is selected and approved by the City Council. If for any reason there is a period of time during which there is no Director, the City Council may appoint a temporary Director of its choosing by a majority vote. A temporary Director shall serve in that capacity only for a period not to exceed six months.

3) The term of the Director shall be for three years. Once confirmed, the Director may be removed only upon: 1) a recommendation of removal to the City Council by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the POB; and 2) acceptance of the POB’s recommendation by a simple majority vote of the City Council.
(C) The POB shall annually review the performance of the Director taking into consideration the obligations and duties prescribed by this ordinance and the performance of the Administrative Office.  
(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2015-006)  
§ 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 consideration. The Director may share any disciplinary recommendations with the Chief of Police in advance of their submission to the POB only as necessary to help ensure timeliness pursuant to any applicable personnel or union contract requirements. The POB shall review the proposed findings and recommendations, and shall by majority vote of members present: 1) approve the findings and recommendations as proposed; 2) approve other findings and recommendations as determined by the POB and supported by the investigation file; or 3) defer action on the matter to allow for further investigation or analysis by the Director. As part of its review, the full investigation file shall be made available to the POB. Upon approval of findings and recommendations by the POB, the Director shall prepare and submit a public record letter to the civilian complainant, with a copy to the Chief of Police, that outlines the findings and recommendations as approved. Unless a hearing is requested by the civilian complainant within 30 days of receipt of the decision of the POB, the Chief of Police shall notify the POB and the original civilian complainant of his or her final disciplinary decision in this matter in writing, by certified mail.  
(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2016-013)  
§ 9-4-1-9 REQUESTS FOR HEARING; APPEALS OF DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS.  
(A) Requests for Hearing. Any person who has filed a civilian complaint and who is dissatisfied with the findings and/or recommendations approved by the POB may request reconsideration by the POB within 30 days (inclusive of weekends and holidays) of receipt of the public record letter. The POB may grant a request for reconsideration only upon a showing by the complainant that: 1) a policy was misapplied in the evaluation of the complaint; 2) that the findings or recommendations were arbitrary, capricious or constituted an abuse of discretion, or 3) that the findings and recommendations were not consistent with the record evidence. The POB shall notify the Chief of Police of the request for hearing and hold a hearing on the matter at its next regularly scheduled meeting provided that there is a period of at least ten days between the receipt of the request for hearing and the next POB meeting. Upon close of the hearing the POB may modify or change the findings and/or recommendations of the public record letter and may make further recommendations to the Chief of Police regarding the findings and/or recommendations and any discipline imposed by the Chief of Police or proposed by the Chief of Police. Within 20 days of receipt of the decision of the POB, the Chief of Police shall notify the POB and the original civilian complainant of his or her final disciplinary decision in this matter in writing, by certified mail.

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(B) Appeals of the Disciplinary Decision. If any person who has filed a civilian complaint under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 is not satisfied with the final disciplinary decision of the Chief of Police or any matter relating to the Chief of Police's handling of his or her complaint, he or she may request that the Chief Administrative Officer review the complaint, the findings of the POB and the action of the Chief of Police by requesting such review in writing within 30 days (inclusive of weekends and holidays) of receipt of the Chief of Police's letter pursuant to § 9-4-1-9(A). Upon completion of his or her review, the Chief Administrative Officer shall take any action necessary, including overriding the decision of the Chief of Police regarding disciplinary action, to complete the disposition of the complaint. The Chief Administrative Officer shall notify in writing, by certified mail, the complainant, the individual against whom the complaint was filed, the Chief of Police and the Director, of the results of his or her review and any action taken.

(Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-10 REPORTS.
The CPOA shall be responsible for regularly informing the Mayor, the City Council and the public by submitting semi-annual written reports that include but are not limited to the following information:

(A) Data relating to the number, kind and status of all complaints received including those complaints sent to mediation;

(B) Discussion of issues of interest undertaken by the POB which may include suggested policy and/or procedural changes, a listing of complaints and allegations by Council District, statistical ethnicity of subject officers, statistical ethnicity of complainants, and updates on prior issues and/or recommendations;

(C) The CPOA's findings and the Chief of Police's issuance of discipline on those findings and the ongoing disciplinary trends of the Police Department;

(D) Information on all public outreach initiatives undertaken by the POB or the Director such as speaking engagements, public safety announcements, and/or public information brochures on the oversight process;

(E) The status of the long-term planning process identifying major problems, policy suggestions, and studies as required by § 9-4-1-4(C)(5);

(F) Identification of any matters that may necessitate the City Council's consideration of legislative amendments to this Police Oversight Ordinance; and

(G) The amount of time that the POB dedicated to the policy activities prescribed by § 9-4-1-4(C)(5) relative to its other activities over the past quarter.

(Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-11 EVALUATION.
Contingent upon funding, in the first six months of 2016 and at least every four years thereafter, from adoption of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14, the City Council shall issue a Request for Proposal for an

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independent consultant to undertake a complete evaluation and analysis of the entire police oversight process, and recommend any necessary changes or amendments that would appropriately improve the process.
(Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-12 SPECIAL MEETINGS.
On the petition of 1,000 or more civilians in the City of Albuquerque filed in the Office of the City Clerk, the POB shall hold a special meeting for the purpose of responding to the petition and hearing and inquiring into matters identified therein as the concern of the petitioners. Copies of the petition shall be filed with the POB by the City Clerk. Notice of such meeting shall be given in the same manner as notice is given for other meetings of the POB and shall comply with the State Open Meetings Act.
(Ord. 2014-019)
§ 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 CPDA 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 CPDA 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.
(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2016-013)
§ 9-4-1-14 MANDATORY COOPERATION AGREEMENT.
The City Council believes that full participation and cooperation of all parties involved is essential to the success of the new police oversight process, and that APD hereby agrees and understands that its full cooperation is necessary, hereby agrees to mandate that its officers provide honest and truthful responses to all questions by the Director, CPDA staff or the designated independent investigator. If any officer refuses to answer the questions proposed to him or her by the Director, CPDA staff, or the Independent Investigator, he or she may be subject to termination or disciplinary action at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Compelled statements given to the Director, CPDA staff or the designated independent investigator, by a police officer will be used only for the Director's Investigation and the closed session review of the investigation file by the POB, if any. The actual statement will remain confidential and will not be included in a final report. The Director may summarize conclusions reached from a compelled statement for the investigation report and in the public record letter to the complainant. (Ord. 2014-019)
PART 1: CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY

§ 9-4-1-1 SHORT TITLE.
Sections 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 may be cited as the Police Oversight Ordinance.  
(Ord. 2014-019)

§ 9-4-1-2 PURPOSE.
(a) The purpose of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 is to:
(A) Foster and perpetuate policing policies and practices that effectively maintain social order and which at the same time foster mutual trust and cooperation between police and civilians;
(B) Ensure that the civilian police oversight body functions as independently as possible from the executive and legislative branches of government of the City of Albuquerque;
(C) Provide civilians and police officers a fair and impartial system for the investigations and determinations on civilian police complaints;
(D) Establish a process for ongoing, independent, and transparent oversight, analysis, and review to analyze trends and potential issues concerning police conduct and practices and the related impacts on the community and individuals.
(E) Provide for the cooperation of the Police Department with the Police Oversight Commission in the performance of its duties.

§ 9-4-1-3 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.
(a) The City of Albuquerque deserves a highly professional well trained Police Department; however, an effective oversight function has not yet evolved to the satisfaction of the community’s needs.
(b) In 1996 the City Council initiated a process to independently review the City’s mechanisms of police oversight since the system had not been independently evaluated since 1988. As a result of that process, the City Council abolished the then existing Public Safety Advisory Board, and in lieu thereof established the current Police Oversight Commission (POC).
(c) In 2013 the City Council initiated a new process aimed at evaluating potential improvements to the POC and its processes by establishing an Ad Hoc Police Oversight Task Force (POTF). The POTF evaluated the City’s current system, studied oversight options, held three Town Hall Meetings to receive input from the public, and presented their final recommendations.
(d) On April 10, 2014, the City also received findings from the United States Department of Justice that in part concluded that the City’s external oversight system contributed to overall systemic problems with the Police Department’s use of force in encounters with civilians.
(e) The Council understands that a properly conceived and functioning police oversight system is necessary to promote accountability of the police officers and protect the rights of civilians, and finds that adopting the recommendations of the POTF will advance these goals and will help respond to the shortcomings identified by the Department of Justice.
(f) The Council hereby abolishes the POC and replaces it with a Civilian Police Oversight Agency as prescribed by this Article.

§ 9-4-1-4 CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY.
There is hereby created a Civilian Police Oversight Agency (the "CPOA") as an independent agency of City Government, not part of either the City Administration or City Council that consists of a Police Oversight Board (the "POB") and an Administrative Office led by the CPOA Executive Director. In
addition to any other duties, the Administrative Office, through the Executive Director and staff, shall investigate all civilian complaints relating to police conduct, monitor and report on police internal affairs matters, provide staffing to the POB, and manage the day to day operations of the CPOA. The POB shall provide policy guidance for, and civilian oversight of the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) and review and approve or amend the findings and conclusions of all investigations completed by the Administrative Office.

(A) Independence. The CPOA is independent of the Mayor's Office, the City Council, and the APD with respect to the performance of its oversight role and duties under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14.

(1) Facility Location. The CPOA shall be housed in a facility that is separate from any police presence and is located outside of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo Government Center, the Police Department and/or all of the police substations.

(2) Budget. The CPOA shall have a dedicated and independent source of funding equal to, at a minimum, 10% of APD's annual operation budget, administer its own budget and supervise its own staff in compliance with the City's Merit Ordinance and contractual services policies and procedures. The CPOA shall recommend and propose its budget to the Mayor and City Council during the City's budget process to carry out the powers and duties under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14, including the funding for staff, and all necessary operating expenses.

(3) Professional Legal Services. The CPOA may retain or employ independent legal counsel on a contractual basis to advise and represent the CPOA. If so retained, the CPOA's legal counsel shall represent the CPOA in the courts, and shall advise the CPOA as to any legal matters relating to §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 and the CPOA's duties, responsibilities, and procedures except for CPOA personnel matters which shall remain under the authority of the City Attorney's Office.

(4) Applicability of City Policies and Ordinances. The CPOA shall comply with all City ordinances and policies dealing with administrative functions including but not limited to those dealing with personnel, the merit system, and procurements.

(B) Staff. The CPOA shall employ such staff as necessary to carry out its functions as prescribed by this Article, including but not limited to an executive director, professional investigative staff, and other staff as may be necessary, subject to budget sufficiency and City personnel policies and procedures.

(C) Responsibilities. The CPOA is responsible for civilian police oversight and has the following powers and duties:

(1) Community Outreach. The CPOA shall develop, implement, and from time to time amend as necessary, a program of community outreach aimed at soliciting public input from the broadest segment of the community in terms of geography, culture, ethnicity, and socio-economics. The CPOA shall employ or designate a full time staff member within the Administrative Office dedicated to community outreach efforts. The CPOA shall report its community outreach efforts to the City Council on an annual basis.

(2) Promotion of Accountability. The CPOA shall promote a spirit of accountability and communication between the civilians and the APD improving community relations and enhancing public confidence.

(4) Investigations. The Administrative Office shall independently 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 oversight.
investigations related to a use of force incident; and shall prepare proposed findings and recommendations on all officer involved shootings and serious uses of force as defined by Article III, Paragraph 12, Subsection (q) of the court-approved DOJ Settlement Agreement with the City of Albuquerque ("Serious Uses of Force").

(a) Where an officer has engaged in conduct that may 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 investigated by IA. IA shall provide a weekly update to the Director on all open internal investigations. The Director's Investigation report and findings shall indicate whether within the past year there were any IA investigations or supervisor generated complaints against the officer(s) involved in the incident being investigated or that are otherwise relevant to the subject matter of the investigation, the general nature of the prior investigations or complaints, and whether they resulted in any discipline. Redacted personnel records including those of the IA Unit shall be made available to the POB on demand.

(d) Information that is covered by Garritly will be treated as 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 Garritly 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 Garritly, 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 Garritly statement, but shall not disclose the statement. The POB shall maintain the confidentiality of any Garritly 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 or subject to the penalty provisions set forth in § 1-1-99. This provision shall apply to all aspects of the POB's work.

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(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 Audit; 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 30% 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 IA 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 30 days, with the reason as to why the recommended discipline was not imposed.

(5) 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.

(6) CPOA Policy Recommendations. The CPOA shall engage in a long-term planning process through which it identifies major problems, trends, and best practices to evaluate 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 in this subsection.

(b) The Chief of Police shall respond in writing within 45 days to any such policy recommendations by the CPOA, and indicate whether they will be followed through standard operating procedures or should be adopted as policy by the City Council, or explain any reasons why such policy recommendations will not be followed or should not be adopted.

(c) Within six months of its appointment, the POB shall draft and approve policies, rules and procedures that ensure that the POB shall dedicate a majority of its time to the functions described in this subsection.

(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2015-006; Am. Ord. 2016-013)
§ 9-4-1.5 THE CPOA POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD.

(A) Composition. The POB shall be composed of nine at-large members who broadly represent the diversity and demographics of the City by way of, including but not limited to, cultural.
gender and geographic diversity; and who are representative of the stakeholders of the police oversight process, and who reside within the City of Albuquerque.

(B) Qualifications. In addition to the composition standards set forth above, the following are the minimum qualifications for members of the POB:

    (1) Have not been employed by law enforcement for one year prior to appointment; and
    (2) Successfully pass a background check; and
    (3) Personal history lacking any pattern of unsubstantiated complaints against APD; and
    (4) A demonstrated ability to engage in mature, impartial decision making; and
    (5) A commitment to transparency and impartial decision making; and
    (6) Residency within the City of Albuquerque.

(C) Appointment of Members. The City Council shall establish a well-publicized, fair and equitable application process for appointment to the POB. The City Council, through its staff, shall accept applications from prospective POB members. Staff shall formulate recommendations for appointments based on evaluation of the qualification criteria listed in subsections (A) and (B) above and submit recommendations for appointment(s) to the City Council for its approval. If a member is eligible for reappointment, staff may suggest reappointment of that member without a formal application process and the City Council may reappoint accordingly.

(D) Membership Term. POB members shall serve a maximum of two three-year terms on a staggered basis so that no more than five of the members are eligible for reappointment or replacement each year.

(E) Removal of Members. Any POB member may be removed for cause by a two-thirds majority vote of either the POB itself or the City Council. The appointment of any member who has been absent and not excused from three consecutive regular or special meetings shall automatically expire on the date the fact of such absence is reported by the POB to the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall notify any member whose appointment has automatically terminated and report to the City Council that a vacancy exists requiring an appointment for the length of the unexpired term.

(F) Orientation and Training. Upon appointment or reappointment POB members shall complete an orientation and training program consisting of the following:

    (1) Required Orientation. Prior to participation in any meeting of the POB, a newly appointed member must first:
        (a) Be trained by the CPOA staff or CPOA legal counsel on CPOA and APD rules, policies, and procedures; and
        (b) Attend at least one POB meeting as an observer (except initial appointees).

    (2) Required Training. Each POB member shall complete a training program within the first six months of the member's appointment that consists, at a minimum, of the following:
        (a) Completion of those portions of the APD Civilian Police Academy that APD determines are necessary for the POB to have a sound understanding of the Department, its policies, and the work officers perform; for purposes of this training requirement, APD shall identify those portions of the standard APD Civilian Police Academy Program that are optional for POB members and shall make other aspects of the program available for POB members to complete independently;
        (b) Civil Rights training, including the Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures, including unreasonable use of force;
        (c) At least two APD ride-alongs;
        (d) Annual firearms simulation training;
        (e) IA training;

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(f) Training provided to APD officers on use of force, including a review and familiarization with all APD policies relating to use of force, and including policies related to APD's internal review of force incidents;

(g) Equity and Cultural Sensitivity training;

(h) Training on the 2014 DOJ Settlement Agreement with the City of Albuquerque (or any subsequent agreements), and Findings Letter of April 10, 2014 (or any subsequent findings letters);

(i) Training on this Police Oversight Ordinance;

(j) Training on state and local laws regarding public meetings and the conduct of public officials; and

(k) A briefing that identifies and explains the curriculum of all training received or to be received by APD officers, including any outside training not provided by the city.

(3) Required On-Going Training. POB members shall be provided with eight hours of annual training on any changes in law, policy, or training in the areas outlined under subsection (2) above, as well as developments in the implementation of the 2014 DOJ Settlement Agreement (or any subsequent agreements) until such time as the terms of the agreement are satisfied. POB members shall also participate in at least two police ride-alongs for every six-months of service on the POB.

(4) Recommended Training. POB members are encouraged to attend conferences and workshops relating to police oversight, such as the annual NACOLE conference at city expense depending on budget availability.

(G) Chair. The POB shall elect one of its members as the Chairperson and one as Vice-Chairperson, who shall each hold office for one year and until their successors are elected. No officer shall be eligible to immediately succeed himself or herself in the same office. Officers shall be elected in the month of March of each calendar year or upon vacancy of an office to fill the remaining term.

(H) Subcommittees. The POB may appoint such subcommittees as are deemed necessary or desirable for the purposes of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14, provided that, membership on such subcommittees shall be limited to POB members.

(I) Meetings. The POB shall conduct regularly scheduled public meetings in compliance with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, with a prepared agenda that is distributed in advance to the Mayor, City Council, Police Chief, and City Attorney. Each POB meeting will begin with public comments. Only the regularly scheduled monthly meetings and special meetings held pursuant to submission of petitions will be televised live on the appropriate government access channel. All other meetings of the POB shall be video taped and aired on the appropriate government access channel; however, there is no requirement for providing live television coverage.

1. Public Comment. The POB shall allow general public comment at each of its meetings, and the POB shall also allow comment on each of its agenda items other than Citizen Police Complaints. The complainant or complainant's authorized representative in a Citizen Police Complaint will be provided with a minimum of five minutes to address the POB relating to the complaint and investigation.
(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2015-006; Am. Ord. 2016-013)
§ 9-4-1-6 CPOA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.
(A) The staff and administration of the CPOA shall be directed by 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 IA investigations and other administrative investigations
related to officer involved shootings 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 IA;
3. Provide staffing to the POB 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 APD 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 Department, 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 IA Bureau commanding officer and transfer the administrative investigation to the IA 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.

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(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.

(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2016-013)
$ 5-4-1 CPOA DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS, SELECTION, RETENTION AND EVALUATION

(A) Qualifications for the position of Director shall minimally include the requirement of a law degree and experience in criminal investigations.

(B) The Director will be a full-time contractual city employee to be selected, removed, or reviewed as follows:

(1) The POB, through CPOA staff, shall accept applications from candidates. The POB shall review the applications and interview candidates, and submit to the City Council a ranked list of the three candidates that it finds to be the best qualified to be the Director and the City Council shall appoint the Director from the three by majority vote. The POB’s recommendation to Council shall be based on the candidates’ integrity, capability for strong management and abilities in investigations, law, management analysis, public administration, criminal justice administration or other closely related fields.

(2) In lieu of recommending three candidates to the Council, the POB may recommend to the Council the reconfirmation of the Incumbent Director. Should the Council decline to reconfirm the incumbent Director, the Council President shall notify the POB that it needs to provide the Council with three alternate candidates pursuant to the provisions of subsection (B)(1). Should the Director not be reconfirmed, the current Director may continue to serve in the same capacity until a new Director is selected and approved by the City Council. If for any reason there is a period of time during which there is no Director, the City Council may appoint a temporary Director of its choosing by a majority vote. A temporary Director shall serve in that capacity only for a period not to exceed six months.

(3) The term of the Director shall be for three years. Once confirmed, the Director may be removed only upon: 1) a recommendation of removal to the City Council by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the POB; and 2) acceptance of the POB’s recommendation by a simple majority vote of the City Council.

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(C) The POB shall annually review the performance of the Director taking into consideration the obligations and duties prescribed by this ordinance and the performance of the Administrative Office.
(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2015-006)

§ 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 consideration. The Director may, in his/her discretion, share any disciplinary recommendations with the Chief of Police in advance of their submission to the POB.

(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2016-013)

§ 9-4-1-9 REQUESTS FOR HEARING; APPEALS OF DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS.

(A) Requests for Hearing. Any person who has filed a civilian and who is dissatisfied with the findings and/or recommendations approved by the POB may request reconsideration by the POB within 30 days (inclusive of weekends and holidays) of receipt of the public record letter. The POB may grant a request for reconsideration only upon a showing by the complainant that: 1) a policy was misapplied in the evaluation of the complaint; 2) that the findings or recommendations were arbitrary, capricious or constituted an abuse of discretion, or 3) that the findings and recommendations were not consistent with the record evidence. The POB shall notify the Chief of Police of the request for hearing and hold a hearing on the matter at its next regularly scheduled meeting provided that there is a period of at least ten days between the receipt of the request for hearing and the next POB meeting. Upon close of the hearing the POB may modify or change the findings and/or recommendations of the public record letter and make further recommendations to the Chief of Police regarding the findings and/or recommendations and any discipline imposed by the Chief of Police or proposed by the Chief of Police. Within 20 days of receipt of the decision of the POB, the Chief of Police shall notify the POB and the

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original civilian complainant of his or her final disciplinary decision in this matter in writing, by certified mail.

(B) Appeals of the Disciplinary Decision. If any person who has filed a civilian complaint under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 is not satisfied with the final disciplinary decision of the Chief of Police or any matter relating to the Chief of Police's handling of his or her complaint, he or she may request that the Chief Administrative Officer review the complaint, the findings of the POB and the action of the Chief of Police by requesting such review in writing within 30 days (inclusive of weekends and holidays) of receipt of the Chief of Police's letter pursuant to § 9-4-1-9(A). Upon completion of his or her review, the Chief Administrative Officer shall take any action necessary, including overriding the decision of the Chief of Police regarding disciplinary action, to complete the disposition of the complaint. The Chief Administrative Officer shall notify in writing, by certified mail, the complainant, the individual against whom the complaint was filed, the Chief of Police and the Director, of the results of his or her review and any action taken.

(Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-10 REPORTS.

The CPOA shall be responsible for regularly informing the Mayor, the City Council, and the public by submitting semi-annual written reports that include but are not limited to the following information:

(A) Data relating to the number, kind and status of all complaints received including those complaints sent to mediation;

(B) Discussion of issues of interest undertaken by the POB which may include suggested policy and/or procedural changes, a listing of complaints and allegations by Council District, statistical ethnicity of subject officers, statistical ethnicity of complainants, and updates on prior issues and/or recommendations;

(C) The CPOA's findings and the Chief of Police's issuance of discipline on those findings and the ongoing disciplinary trends of the Police Department;

(D) Information on all public outreach initiatives undertaken by the POB or the Director such as speaking engagements, public safety announcements, and/or public information brochures on the oversight process;

(E) The status of the long-term planning process identifying major problems, policy suggestions, and studies as required by § 9-4-1-4(C)(5);

(F) Identification of any matters that may necessitate the City Council's consideration of legislative amendments to this Police Oversight Ordinance; and

(G) The amount of time that the POB dedicated to the policy activities prescribed by § 9-4-1-4(C)(5) relative to its other activities over the past quarter.

(Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-11 EVALUATION.

Contingent upon funding, in the first six months of 2015 and at least every four years thereafter, from adoption of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14, the City Council shall issue a Request for Proposal for an independent consultant to undertake a complete evaluation and analysis of the entire police oversight process, and recommend any necessary changes or amendments that would appropriately improve the process.

(Ord. 2014-019)
§ 9-4-1-12 SPECIAL MEETINGS.

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On the petition of 1,000 or more civilians in the City of Albuquerque filed in the Office of the City Clerk, the POB shall hold a special meeting for the purpose of responding to the petition and hearing and inquiring into matters identified therein as the concern of the petitioners. Copies of the petition shall be filed with the POB by the City Clerk. Notice of such meeting shall be given in the same manner as notice is given for other meetings of the POB and shall comply with the State Open Meetings Act. (Ord. 2014-019)

§ 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. (Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2016-013)

§ 9-4-1-14 MANDATORY COOPERATION AGREEMENT.

The City Council believes that full participation and cooperation of all parties involved is essential to the success of the new police oversight process, and that APD hereby agrees and understands that its full cooperation is necessary, hereby agrees to mandate that its officers provide honest and truthful responses to all questions by the Director, CPOA staff or the designated independent investigator. If any officer refuses to answer the questions proposed to him or her by the Director, CPOA staff or the independent investigator, he or she may be subject to termination or disciplinary action at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Compelled statements given to the Director, CPOA staff or the designated independent investigator, by a police officer will be used only for the Director’s investigation and the closed session review of the investigation file by the POB, if any. The actual statement will remain confidential and will not be included in a final report. The Director may summarize conclusions reached from a compelled statement for the investigation report and in the public record letter to the complainant. (Ord. 2014-019)

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Summary of changes to the ordinance made by the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee for board review (All changes reviewed and vetted by legal council):

1. Addition of language requiring POD and CPOA to have access to raw unanalyzed data [Page 1 (D), Page 2 (3), and Page 3 (b)]
2. Addition of language requiring APD to take input from CPOA and POD on Policy, including seats on the policy writing bodies [Page 1-(E), Page 4 (6)]
3. Increase of the CPOA budget from 0.7% to 0.8% [Page 2 (2)]
4. Addition of the Data Analyst and Community Engagement Specialist positions to the Ordinance [Page 2 (b)]
5. Requirement of APD to participate in a hearing on non-concurrences for policy and investigation findings [Page 4 (b), and Page 10 (c)]
6. Change allowing POD to have Subpoena power [Page 6 (1)]
7. Addition of language requiring the Chief of Police to notify the CPOA and the Complainant of final findings and discipline. [Page 9 (c)]

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PART 1. CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY
§ 9-4-1-1 SHORT TITLE.
Sections 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-3-14 may be cited as the Police Oversight Ordinance.

[Ord. 2014-019]
§ 9-4-1-2 PURPOSE.
The purpose of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-3-14 is to:
(A) Foster and perpetuate policing policies and practices that effectively maintain social order and which at the same time foster mutual trust and cooperation between police and civilians;
(B) Ensure that the civilian police oversight body functions as independently as possible from the executive and legislative branches of government of the City of Albuquerque;
(C) Provide civilians and police officers a fair and impartial system for the investigations and determinations on civilian police complaints;
(D) Fix and Publicly and Accurately Communicate, Report, and Publicize Complaints
§ 9-4-1-3 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.
(A) The City of Albuquerque deserves a highly professional and trained Police Department, however, an effective oversight function has not yet evolved to the satisfaction of the community’s needs.
(B) In 1996 the City Council initiated a process to independently review the City’s mechanisms of police oversight; since the system had not been independently evaluated since 1988. As a result of this process, the City Council abolished the then existing Public Safety Advisory Board, and in lieu thereof established the current Police Oversight Commission (POC).
(C) In 2013 the City Council initiated a new process aimed at evaluating potential improvements to the POC and its processes by establishing an Ad Hoc Police Oversight Task Force (POTF). The POTF evaluated the City’s current system, studied oversight options, held three Town Hall Meetings to receive input from the public, and presented their final recommendations.
(D) On April 10, 2014, the City also released findings from the United States Department of Justice that, in part concluded that the City’s internal oversight systems contributed to systemic problems with the Police Department’s use of force in encounters with civilians.
(E) The Council understands that a properly conceived and functioning police oversight system is necessary to promote accountability of the police officers and protect the rights of civilians, and finds that adopting the recommendations of the POTF will advance these goals and help respond to the shortcomings identified by the Department of Justice.
(F) The Council hereby abolishes the POC and replaces it with a Civilian Police Oversight Agency as prescribed by this Article.
[Ord. 2014-019]
§ 9-4-1-4 CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY.
There is hereby created a Civilian Police Oversight Agency (the “CPOA”) as an independent agency of City Government, not part of either the City Administration or City Council, that consists of a Police Oversight Board (the "POB") and an Administrative Office led by the CPOA Executive Director. In addition to any other duties, the Administrative Office, through the Executive Director and staff, shall investigate all civilian complaints relating to police conduct, monitor and report on police internal affairs matters, provide staffing to the POB, and manage the day to day operations of the CPOA. The POB shall provide policy guidance for, and civilian oversight of the Albuquerque Police Department and review and

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approve or amend the findings and conclusions of all investigations completed by the Administrative Office.

(A) Independence. The CPOA is independent of the Mayor’s Office, the City Council, and the Albuquerque Police Department with respect to the performance of its oversight role and duties under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14.

(1) Facility Location. The CPOA shall be housed in a facility that is separate from any police presence and is located outside of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo Government Center, the Police Department and/or all of the police stations.

(2) Budget. The CPOA shall have a dedicated and independent source of funding equal to, at a minimum, 2.5% of APD’s annual operation budget, administer its own budget and supervise its own staff in compliance with the City’s merit system and contract services policies and procedures. The CPOA shall recommend and propose its budget to the Mayor and City Council during the City’s budget process to carry out the powers and duties under §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14, including the funding for staff, and all other necessary operating expenses.

(3) Professional Legal Services. The CPOA may retain or employ independent legal counsel on a contractual basis to advise and represent the CPOA. If so retained, the CPOA’s legal counsel shall represent the CPOA in the courts, and shall advise the CPOA as to any legal matters relating to §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 and the CPOA’s duties, responsibilities, and procedures except for CPOA personnel matters which shall remain under the authority of the City Attorney’s Office.

(4) Applicability of City Policies and Ordinances. The CPOA shall comply with all City ordinances and policies dealing with administrative functions including but not limited to those dealing with personnel, the merit system, and procurement.

(B) Staff. The CPOA shall employ such staff as necessary to carry out its functions as prescribed by this Article, including but not limited to an executive director, professional investigative staff, data research analysts, and other staff as may be necessary, subject to budget sufficiency and City personnel policies and procedures.

(C) Responsibilities. The Civilian Police Oversight Agency is responsible for civilian police oversight and has the following powers and duties:

(1) Community Outreach. The CPOA shall develop, implement, and from time to time amend as necessary, a program of community outreach aimed at soliciting public input from the broadest segment of the community in terms of geography, culture, ethnicity, and socio-economics. The CPOA shall employ or designate a full-time community outreach staff member within the Administrative Office dedicated to community outreach efforts. The CPOA shall report its community outreach efforts to the City Council on an annual basis.

(2) 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.

(a) Provide thorough investigations of police misconduct to determine whether APD’s policy, procedure, or protocol was violated, and shall provide recommendations for changes to policy, procedure, or protocol based upon the evidence and findings of the investigation.

(b) Investigations. The Administrative Office shall independently 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 in order to improve the quality and effectiveness of police investigations; and shall prepare proposed findings and recommendations on all officer-involved shootings and serious uses of force as defined by Article III, Paragraph 11, Subsection (c) of the...
court approved DU Settlement Agreement with the City of Albuquerque ("Serious Uses of Force").

(a) Where an officer has engaged in conduct that may 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 be provided 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, raw data 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 investigated by Internal Affairs. Internal Affairs shall provide a weekly update to the Director on all open internal investigations. The Director’s Investigation report and findings shall indicate whether within the past year there were any IA investigations or supervisor generated complaints against the officer(s) involved in the incident being investigated or that are otherwise relevant to the subject matter of the investigation, the general nature of the prior investigations or complaints, and whether they resulted in any discipline. Redacted personal records including those of the Internal Affairs Unit shall be made available to the POB on demand.

(d) Information that is covered by Garnty will be treated as 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 Garnty material, members of the POB may only do so at 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 Garnty, such discussion will occur only in closed session as permitted under the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 10-16-1(H)(2).

The POB shall only summarize conclusions reached after a review of a Garnty statement, but shall not disclose the statement. The POB shall maintain the confidentiality of any Garnty 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 § 16-19-99. This provision shall apply to all aspects of the POB’s work.

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(e) Mediation First. Whenever possible, and as further described in § 9-4.1-6(C)(1) 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 recommendations of the POB, the Chief of Police shall respond in writing, within 30 days, with the reason as to why the recommended discipline was not imposed.

(h) Reports to Mayor & Council. The CPDA shall submit a semi-annual written report to the Mayor and City Council according to § 9-4.1-10 herein. The CPDA Executive Director shall provide a quarterly oral report to the City Council at a regular or special meeting.

(i) CPDA Policy Recommendations. The CPDA shall engage in a long-term planning process through which it identifies major problems, trends, and best practices to evaluate 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 CPDA’s policy recommendation process shall be as follows:

(i) 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 policies 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 in this subsection.

(ii) The Chief of Police shall respond in writing within 45 days to any such policy recommendations by the CPDA, and indicate whether they will be followed through standard operating procedures or should be adopted as policy by the City Council, or explain any reasons why such policy recommendations will not be followed or should not be adopted.

(iii) Within six months of its appointment, the POB shall draft and approve policies, rules and procedures that ensure that the POB shall dedicate a majority of its time to the functions described in this subsection.

(1) (d) One POB member and the CPDA Executive Director or his/her designee shall be ex-officio members for all APD policy committees.

(2) (i) § 9-4.1-5, THE CPDA POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD.

(3) (a) Composition. The POB shall be comprised of nine at-large members who broadly represent the diversity and demographics of the City by way of, including but not limited to, cultural, gender and geographic diversity, and who are representative of the stakeholders of the police oversight process, and who reside within the City of Alabaster.

(b) Qualifications. In addition to the composition standards set forth above, the following are the minimum qualifications for members of the POB:

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(1) Have not been employed by law enforcement for one year prior to appointment; and
(2) Successfully pass a background check; and
(3) Personal history lacking any pattern of unsubstantiated complaints against APO, and
(4) A demonstrated ability to engage in mature, impartial decision making; and
(5) A commitment to transparency and impartial decision making; and
(6) Residency within the City of Albuquerque.

(C) Appointment of Members. The City Council shall establish a well-publicized, fair and equitable application process for appointment to the POS. The City Council, through its staff, shall accept applications from prospective POS members. Staff shall formulate recommendations for appointments based on evaluation of the qualifications criteria listed in subsections (A) and (B) above and submit recommendations for appointment(s) to the City Council for its approval. If a member is eligible for reappointment, staff may suggest reappointment of that member without a formal application process and the City Council may reappoint accordingly.

(D) Membership Term. POS members shall serve a maximum of two three-year terms on a staggered basis so that no more than five of the members are eligible for reappointment or replacement each year.

(E) Removal of Member. Any POS member may be removed for cause by a two-thirds majority vote of either the POS itself or the City Council. The appointment of any member who has been absent and not excused from three consecutive regular or special meetings shall automatically expire effective on the date the fact of such absence is reported by the POS to the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall notify any member whose appointment has automatically terminated and report to the City Council that a vacancy exists requiring an appointment for the length of the unexpired term.

(F) Orientation and Training. Upon appointment or reappointment POS members shall complete an orientation and training program consisting of the following:

(1) Required Orientation. Prior to participation in any meeting of the POS, a newly appointed member must first:
(a) Be trained by the CPD/A staff or CPD/A legal counsel on CPD/A and APD rules, policies, and procedures; and
(b) Attend at least one POS meeting as an observer (except initial appointee).

(2) Required Training. Each POS member shall complete a training program within the first six months of the member’s appointment that consists, at a minimum, of the following:
(a) Completion of those portions of the APD Civilian Police Academy that APD determines are necessary for the POS to have a sound understanding of the Department’s policies, and the work officers perform— for purposes of this training requirement, APD shall identify those portions of the standard APD Civilian Police Academy Program that are optional for POS members and shall make the other aspects of the program available for POS members to complete independently;
(b) Civil Rights training, including the Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures, including unreasonable use of force;
(c) At least two APD ride-alongs;
(d) Annual firearms training;
(e) Internal Affairs training;
(f) Training provided to APD officers on use of force, including a review and familiarization with all APD policies relating to use of force, and including policies related to APD’s internal review of force incidents;
(g) Equity and Cultural Sensitivity training;

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(B) Training on the 2014 DOI Settlement Agreement with the City of Albuquerque (or any subsequent agreements, and Findings Letter of April 30, 2014 (or any subsequent findings letters).

(i) Training on this Police Oversight Civilian;  
(ii) Training on state and local laws regarding public meetings and the conduct of public officials; and  
(iii) A briefing that identifies and outlines the curriculum of all training received or to be received by APO officers, including any outside training not provided by the city.

(3) Required On-Going Training. POB members shall be provided with eight hours of annual training on any changes in law, policy, or training in the areas outlined under subsection (2) above, as well as developments in the implementation of the 2014 DOI Settlement Agreement (or any subsequent agreements) until such time as the terms of the agreement are satisfied. POB members shall also participate in at least two police ride-along for every six months of service on the POB.

(4) Recommended Training. POB members are encouraged to attend conferences and workshops relating to police oversight, such as the annual NACOPO conference at city expense depending on budget availability.

[H] Chair. The POB shall elect one of its members as the Chairperson and one as Vice-Chairperson, who shall each hold office for one year and until their successors are elected. No officer shall be eligible to immediately succeed himself or herself in the same office. Officers shall be elected in the month of March of each calendar year or upon vacancy of an office to fill the remaining term.

(iii) Subcommittees. The POB may appoint such subcommittees as it deems necessary or desirable for the purposes of §§ 9-4-1-3 through 9-4-1-15, provided that membership on such subcommittees shall be limited to POB members.

(4) Meetings. The POB shall conduct regularly scheduled public meetings in compliance with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act with a prepared agenda that is distributed in advance to the Mayor, City Council, Police Chief, and City Attorney. Each POB meeting will begin with public comments. Only the regularly scheduled monthly meetings and special meetings held pursuant to submission of petitions will be televised live on the appropriate government access channel. All other meetings of the POB shall be video taped and aired on the appropriate government access channel; however, there is no requirement for providing live television coverage.

1. Public Comment. The POB shall allow general public comment at each of its meetings, and the POB shall also allow comment on each of its agenda items other than Citizen Police Complaints. The complainant or complainant’s authorized representative in a Citizen Police Complaint will be provided with a minimum of five minutes to address the POB relating to the complaint and investigation.


§ 9-4-3-6 CPDA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.

(A) The staff and administration of the CPDA shall be directed by the CPDA 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 citizen police complaints and prepare findings and recommendations for review by the POB; and

(2) Review and monitor all Internal Affairs investigations and other administrative investigations related to officer involved shootings 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 Officer 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 Department, 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, APO, and the City, and should not be former officers or employees of APO. 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 APO-related settlements in excess of $15,000 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 § 9-4.1-1.D, and

(7) If at any point during an investigation the investigator determines that there may have been criminal conduct by any APO personnel, the investigator shall immediately notify the APO 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.

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(1) The Director shall play an active public role in the community and whenever possible, provide appropriate outreach to the community, publicize the complaint process, and identify locations within the community that are suitable for civilians to file complaints in a non-police environment.

(2) 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 investigations of complaints, recommend and participate in mediation of certain complaints, and supervise all CPOA staff.

§ 9-4.1-7 CPOA DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS, SELECTION, RETENTION AND EVALUATION.

(4) Qualifications for the position of Director shall minimally include the requirement of a law degree and experience in criminal investigations.

(b) The Director will be a full-time contractual city employee to be selected, removed, or reviewed as follows:

(3) The POB, through CPOA staff, shall accept applications from candidates. The POB shall review the applications and interview candidates, and submit to the City Council a ranked list of the three candidates that it finds to be the best qualified to be the Director and the City Council shall appoint the Director from the three by majority vote. The POB’s recommendation to Council shall be based on the candidates’ integrity, capability for strong management and abilities in investigations, law, management analysis, public administration, criminal justice administration or other closely related fields.

(2) In lieu of recommending three candidates to the Council, the POB may recommend to the Council the reconfirmation of the incumbent Director. Should the Council decline to reconfirm the incumbent Director, the Council President shall notify the POB that it needs to provide the Council with three alternate candidates pursuant to the provisions of subsection (e)(2). Should the Director not be reconfirmed, the current Director may continue to serve in the same capacity until a new Director is selected and approved by the City Council. If for any reason there is a period of time during which there is no Director, the City Council may appoint a temporary Director or its choosing by a majority vote. A temporary Director shall serve in that capacity only for a period not to exceed six months.

(5) The term of the Director shall be for three years. Once confirmed, the Director may be removed only upon: 1) a recommendation of removal to the City Council by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the POB; and 2) acceptance of the POB’s recommendation by a simple majority vote of the City Council.

(c) The POB shall annually review the performance of the Director taking into consideration the obligations and duties prescribed by this ordinance and the performance of the Administrative Office.

(Ord. 2014-013; Am. Ord. 2015-008)
§ 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 ensure impartial review of civilian 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.
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 consideration. The Director may share any disciplinary recommendations with the Chief of Police in advance of their submission to the POB only if necessary to help ensure timeliness pursuant to any applicable personnel or union contract requirements. The POB shall review the proposed findings and recommendations, and shall by majority vote of members present: 1) approve the findings and recommendations as proposed; 2) approve other findings and recommendations as determined by the POB and supported by the investigation file, or 3) defer action on the matter to allow for further investigation or analysis by the Director. As part of its review, the full investigation file shall be made available to the POB. Upon approval of findings and recommendations by the POB, the FCDA Director shall prepare and submit a public record letter to the earlier complainant, with a copy to the Chief of Police, that outlines the findings and recommendations as approved. Within 90 days of receipt of the letter, the POB findings and recommendations unless a hearing is requested by the civilian complainant, the Chief of Police shall notify both the POB and the original civilian complainant in writing, by certified mail of his or her final decisions regarding the complaint, exculpated, exonerated, sustained, or not sustained findings in the particular complaint.

§ 9-4-1.9 REQUESTS FOR HEARING; APPEALS OF DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS.

(A) Requests for Hearing. Any person who has filed a civilian complaint and who is dissatisfied with the findings and/or recommendations approved by the POB may request reconsideration by the POB within 90 days (inclusive of weekends and holidays) of receipt of the public record letter. The POB may grant a request for reconsideration only upon a showing by the complainant that: 1) a policy was misapplied in the evaluation of the complaint; 2) that the findings or recommendations were arbitrary, capricious or constituted an abuse of discretion; or 3) that the findings and recommendations were not consistent with the record evidence. The POB shall notify the Chief of Police of the request for hearing and hold a hearing on the matter at its next regularly scheduled meeting provided that there is a period of at least ten days between the receipt of the request for hearing and the next POB meeting. Upon close to the hearing the POB may modify or change the findings and/or recommendations of the public record letter and may make further recommendations to the Chief of Police regarding the findings and recommendations and any disciplinary imposed by the Chief of Police or proposed by the Chief of Police. Within 20 days of receipt of the decision of the POB, the Chief of Police shall notify the POB and the original civilian complainant of his or her final disciplinary decision in this matter in writing, by certified mail.

(B) Appeals of the Disciplinary Decision. If any person who has filed a civilian complaint under §§ 9-4-1.3 through 9-4-1.14 is not satisfied with the final disciplinary decision of the Chief of Police or any matter relating to the Chief of Police’s handling of his or her complaint, he or she may request that the Chief Administrative Officer review the complaint, the findings of the POB and the action of the Chief of Police by requesting such review in writing within 30 days (inclusive of weekends and holidays) of receipt of the Chief of Police’s letter pursuant to § 9-4-1.9(A). Upon completion of his or her review, the Chief Administrative Officer shall take any action necessary, including overriding the decision of the Chief of Police regarding disciplinary action, to complete the disposition of the complaint. The Chief Administrative Officer shall notify in writing, by certified mail, the complainant, the individual against whom the complaint was filed, the Chief of Police and the Director, of the results of his or her review and any action taken.

[Ord. 2014-013]
§ 9-4-1.10 REPORTS.
The CPDA shall be responsible for regularly informing the Mayor, the City Council, and the public by submitting semi-annual written reports that include but are not limited to the following information:

(A) Data relating to the number, kind and status of all complaints received including those complaints sent to mediation;

(B) Discussion of issues of interest undertaken by the POB which may include suggested policy and/or procedure changes, a listing of complaints and allegations by Council District, statistical ethnicity of subject officers, statistical ethnicity of complainants, and updates on prior issues and/or recommendations;

(C) The CPDA’s findings and the Chief of Police’s issuance of discipline on those findings by the Police Department;

(D) Information on all public outreach initiatives undertaken by the POB or the Director such as speaking engagements, public safety announcements, and/or public information brochures on the oversight process;

(E) The status of the long-term planning process identifying major problems, policy suggestions, and studies as required by § 9-4-1-1(C)(5);

(F) Identification of any matters that may necessitate the City Council’s consideration of legislative amendments to this Police Oversight Ordinance; and

(G) The amount of time that the POB dedicated to the policy activity prescribed by § 9-4-1-1(C)(5) relates to its other activities over the past quarter.

(Ord. 2014-015)

§ 9-4-1-11 EVALUATION.

Contingent upon funding, in the first six months of 2016 and at least every four years thereafter, from adoption of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14, the City Council shall issue a Request for Proposal for an independent consultant to undertake a complete evaluation and analysis of the entire police oversight process, and recommend any necessary changes or amendments that would appropriately improve the process.

(Ord. 2014-016)

§ 9-4-1-12 SPECIAL MEETINGS.

On the petition of 1,000 or more civilians in the City of Albuquerque listed in the Office of the City Clerk, the POB shall hold a special meeting for the purpose of responding to the petition and hearing and comment on issues identified therein as the concern of the petitioners. Copies of the petition shall be filed with the POB by the City Clerk. Notice of such meeting shall be given in the same manner as required for regular meetings of the POB and shall comply with the State Open Meeting Acts.

(Ord. 2014-039)

§ 9-4-1-12 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 CPDA Attorney, that the law permits such action, some of the details of the investigations of the District, 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 CPDA Attorney and the Director. Completed statements given to the Director, or the designated independent investigator, will not be made public. The Director may summarize conclusions reached from a completed statement for the report to the POB and the Chief Police, and in the public record letter sent to the complainant. Nothing in this ordinance affects the ability of APD to use a completed statement in a disciplinary proceeding.

(Ord. 2014-039; Am. Ord. 2016-013)

§ 9-4-1-14 MANDATORY COOPERATION AGREEMENT.

The City Council believes that full participation and cooperation of all parties involved is essential to the success of the new police oversight process, and that APD hereby agrees and

Attachment “E”

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understands that his full cooperation is necessary, hereby agrees to mandate that its officers provide honest and truthful responses to all questions by the Director, CPDA staff or the designated independent investigator. If any officer refuses to answer the questions proposed to him or her by the Director, CPDA staff, or the independent investigator, he or she may be subject to termination or disciplinary action at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Compelled statements given to the Director, CPDA staff or the designated independent investigator, by a police officer will be used only for the Director's investigation and the closed session review of the investigation file by the POR, if any. The actual statement will remain confidential and will not be included in a final report. The Director may summarize conclusions reached from a compelled statement for the investigation report and in the public record letter to the complainant. (Ord. 2014-029)

Attachment “E”
§ 9-4-1-1 PURPOSE.

The purpose of §§ 9-4-1-1 through 9-4-1-14 is to:

(D) Gather and analyze information, reports, and raw data to identify trends and potential issues concerning police conduct and practices and the related impacts on the community and individuals. Raw data is defined as facts and statistics or other data that has not been processed or analyzed.

§ 9-4-1-4 CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY.

(B) Staff. The CPOA shall employ such staff as necessary to carry out its functions as prescribed by this Article, including but not limited to an executive director, professional investigative staff, and authorized full-time personnel.

(C) Responsibilities. The Civilian Police Oversight Agency is responsible for civilian police oversight and has the following powers and duties:

1. Community Outreach. The CPOA shall develop, implement, and from time to time amend as necessary, a program of community outreach aimed at soliciting public input from the broadest segment of the community in terms of geography, culture, ethnicity, and socio-economics. The CPOA shall employ or designate a full time community engagement specialist staff member within the Administrative Office dedicated to community outreach efforts. The CPOA shall report its community outreach efforts to the City Council on an annual basis.

Note: Original placement of change as section (4) interfered with the subsections of (3) investigations.

(3) Provide thorough evaluation of data to support new and revised APD policies using APD raw data, national trends, and best practices. Best practice is defined as effective law enforcement methods, techniques, and management implemented in other departments that consistently demonstrate superior results compared to other practices.

(C) (5) CPOA Policy Recommendations

(d) One POB member and the CPOA Executive Director or his/her designee shall be voting members for all APD policy committees.
§ 9-4-1-8 CIVILIAN COMPLAINT PROCEDURES.

(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 consideration. The Director may share any disciplinary recommendations with the Chief of Police in advance of their submission to the POB only as necessary to help ensure timeliness pursuant to any applicable personnel or union contract requirements. The POB shall review the proposed findings and recommendations, and shall by majority vote of members present: 1) approve the findings and recommendations as proposed; 2) approve other findings and recommendations as determined by the POB and supported by the investigation file; or 3) defer action on the matter to allow for further investigation or analysis by the Director. As part of its review, the full investigation file shall be made available to the POB. Upon approval of findings and recommendations by the POB, the CPOA Director shall prepare and submit a public record letter to the civilian complainant, with a copy to the Chief of Police, that outlines the findings and recommendations as approved. Within 30 days of receipt of the letter outlining the POB findings and recommendations unless a hearing is requested by the civilian complainant, the Chief of Police shall notify both the POB and the original civilian complainant in writing, by certified mail of his or her final decisions regarding any unfounded, exonerated, sustained, or not sustained findings, and any disciplinary actions taken in the particular complaint.

(Ord. 2014-019; Am. Ord. 2016-013)