

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in response to the discipline report regarding the NYPD's lack of accountability for actions that have resulted in bodily harm and, in some cases, the tragic loss of life—particularly impacting residents of color in New York City. It is crucial that we address these systemic issues with a commitment to transparency, justice, and true accountability.

The recent pattern of harmful actions and repeated offenses by NYPD officers has demonstrated the urgent need for a structure that prioritizes the safety and well-being of all residents. Given the severity and frequency of these incidents, I strongly support the proposal for the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), or a non-NYPD employee (such as a commissioner), to have the final say in disciplinary decisions regarding the NYPD.

Having an independent authority make these decisions would eliminate any potential conflicts of interest and foster greater trust in the disciplinary process. It is essential that those entrusted with law enforcement are held to the highest standards, especially when their actions cause irreversible harm to our communities. By empowering an independent body, we would ensure that those who have committed repeated or extreme offenses are held accountable in a way that reflects the gravity of their actions.

The people of New York deserve justice, safety, and a system that works for all residents, not just a select few. It is time to implement meaningful change by ensuring that disciplinary actions against the NYPD are in the hands of those who can make impartial, unbiased decisions.

Thank you for considering this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Catherine Buccello