



Join the Civilian Review Board

Provide oversight of law enforcement agencies in the City of Baltimore.

What is the Civilian Review Board?

The Civilian Review Board (CRB) of Baltimore City was established by Subtitle 16 of Article 1 of the Code of Local Laws of Baltimore City. The Civilian Review Board serves an independent agency in the city through which members of the public can issue a complaint against officers of various law enforcement units. The Civilian Review Board takes complaints that allege the use of excessive force, abusive language, harassment, false arrest, and false imprisonment. The law enforcement units that the Civilian Review Board handles complaints for are: the Baltimore City Police Department, the Baltimore City School Police, the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office, the Baltimore Environmental Police, the Police Force of the Baltimore City Community College, and the Police Force of Morgan State. The Civilian Review Board also reviews Police Department Procedures and makes recommendations to the Commissioner.

The Civilian Review Board is an opportunity for community members to play a critical role in oversight and reform of policing in Baltimore City. In addition to reviewing individual cases, Board members may take an active role in serving as community liaisons and keeping abreast of events and issues in the City that impact civilian oversight, especially the Consent Decree. Civilian oversight is an evolving process, as recent events in Baltimore and beyond have emphasized the need for civilian input in law enforcement and community policing, making the Board's work more important than ever.

The Civilian Review Board is housed within the Baltimore City Office of Civil Rights & Wage Enforcement. The Office of Civil Rights and Wage Enforcement is a city agency devoted to upholding the federal and local civil rights laws, as well as the local minimum, living, and prevailing wage laws. The overarching mission of the Office of Civil Rights is to carry out activities to eliminate discrimination and protect individuals' civil rights

BOARD:

The Board is composed of:

- i. One member of the public from each of the nine police districts in Baltimore City, appointed by the Mayor, subject to the advice and consent of the City Council. The following seats are available: **East, West, Central, Northeast, and Southeast.** (<https://www.baltimorepolice.org/districts/find-my-district>)

- ii. One representative of the Fraternal Order of Police;
- iii. One representative of the Vanguard Justice Society;
- iv. The Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee;
- v. One representative of the American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland; and
- vi. One representative of the Baltimore City Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

DUTIES:

- Serve as the community liaison between the police district represented and the Board.
- Review all complaints alleging police misconduct as described in Subtitle 16 of Article 1 of the Baltimore City Code
- At times, investigate, simultaneously with the Internal Investigative Division, each complaint in deems appropriate and report its findings to the Internal Investigative Division
- Issue subpoenas to compel the attendance and testimony of a witness other than the accused officer and any books, records, or other documents
- The Chairman or the Secretary of the Board may administer oaths in connection with any proceeding of the Board
- Make recommendations to the head of the appropriate law enforcement unit for one of the following actions:
 - i. Sustain the complaint and may recommend the appropriate disciplinary action against the police officer';
 - ii. Not sustain the complaint;
 - iii. Exonerate the police officer;
 - iv. Find that the complaint is unfounded; or
 - v. Require further investigation by the Internal Investigative Division.

****Board members can expect to commit approximately 40 hours per month completing the essential duties of the position.**

MEMBERSHIP:

The term of a public member of the Board is three years. The Commission meets as often as necessary to perform its functions and duties, at a minimum meeting at least once a month. Each year at least four meetings of the Board shall be held in locations rotated throughout different police districts in the City. Board members are unpaid volunteers. Currently, The Civilian Review Board meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Office of Civil Rights and Wage Enforcement: 7 E. Redwood Street, 9th Floor, Baltimore MD, 21202.



Each member of the Board shall receive mandatory, extensive training on the issues of abusive language, false arrest, false imprisonment, harassment, and excessive force. Public members may not be current employees of a municipal, county, state, or federal law enforcement agency. Each member shall be a resident of Baltimore City.

To apply to serve on the Civilian Review Board, interested individuals must submit the following information: Name, contact information, which Board position you are applying for, copy of CV or résumé, and a written explanation as to why you would like to serve on the Civilian Review Board. This information can be submitted via email to CivilRights@Baltimorecity.gov or mailed or hand delivered to: 7 E. Redwood Street, 9thFloor, Baltimore, MD 21202.

To be considered for a position, you must reside in the police district that you will represent. Please call your closest district station to determine your police district.

