

Police Oversight Model & Civilian Complaint Processes

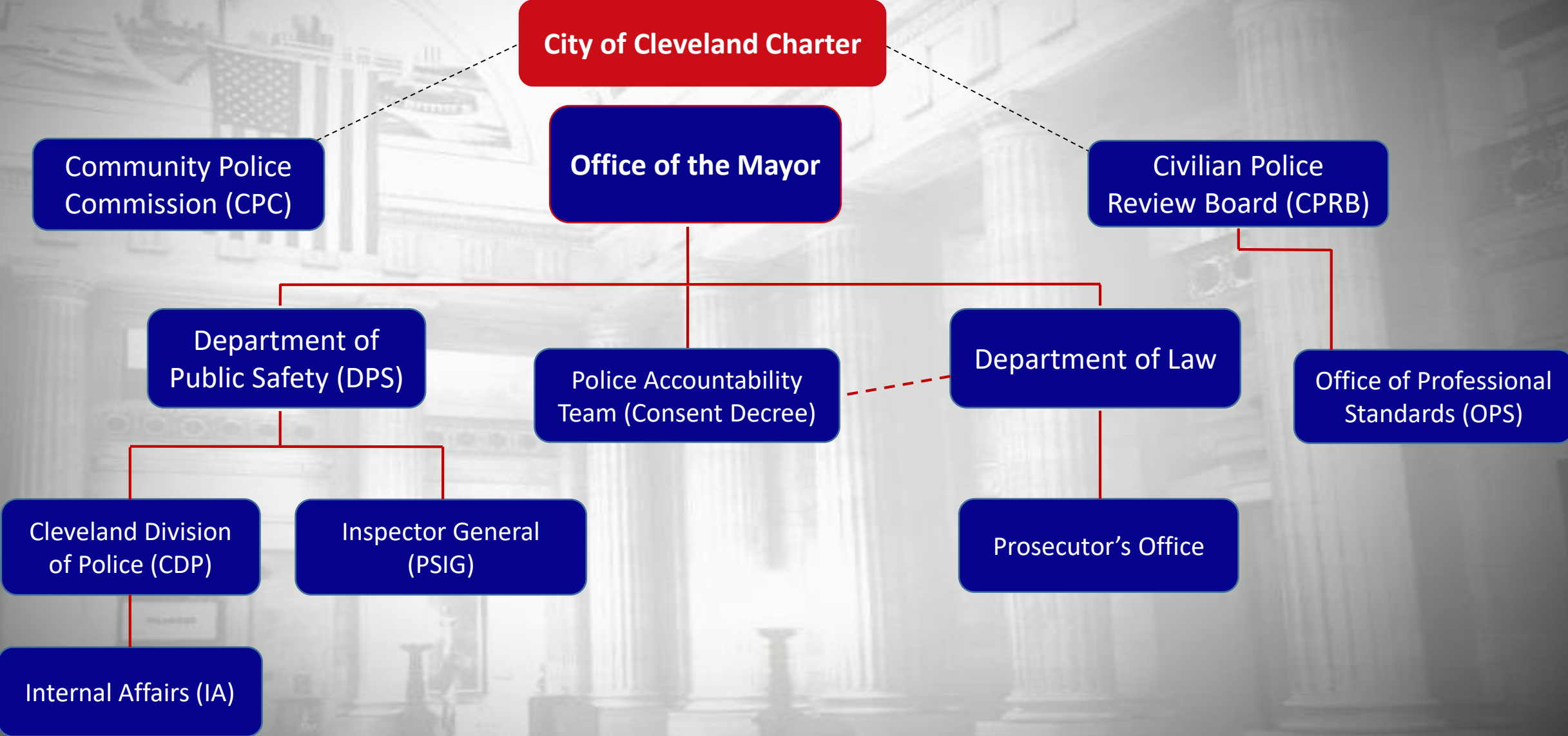
2025



CITY OF CLEVELAND

Mayor Justin M. Bibb

Police Oversight Structure



Civilian Police Review Board (CPRB)

- Oversees Office of Professional Standards
- Reviews all completed OPS investigations of police misconduct
- Conducts hearings to determine if violation occurred
- Subpoena power to compel witnesses/evidence
- CDP required to issue discipline recommended by CPRB (final authority)
- Can recommend policy changes to CDP/DPS

9 Member Board – 5 Mayor/4 Council

Office of Professional Standards (OPS)

- Reports to CPRB
- Receives and investigates complaints filed by members of the public against sworn/non-sworn CDP employees
- Investigations are reviewed and approved by OPS Administrator
- Officers involved are required to respond
- Findings are submitted to CPRB for hearing
- Charter Section 115-1 moved OPS from DPS to independent CPRB

15 +/- Member Staff

Community Police Commission (CPC)

- **Final** authority on whether officer discipline is sufficient (can increase)
- May hold evidentiary hearings to review decisions by CDP, DPS, or CPRB
- Authority to direct CPRB (via OPS) to investigate CDP officers in certain situations
- Perform audits and broad reviews into investigative processes, policies, procedures, training, etc.
- Reviews police commander candidates
- Reviews inspector general candidates
- Advising City administration on issues regarding constitutional policing

13 Member Commission (5-8 staff)
(Mayor Appoints members and ED)



Public Safety Inspector General (PSIG)

The Public Safety Inspector General (formerly Police Inspector General) reports to Chief Director of Public Safety

Conducts systemic reviews and issues reports that analyze, audit, inspect, and evaluate policies, procedures, and practices within Division of Police.

Reviews could include analyses of CDP complaints, investigations, disciplinary action, etc.

Internal Affairs (IA)

The Internal Affairs Unit of the Cleveland Division of Police reviews criminal complaints of Division of Police employees.

- If IA determines there is enough evidence to sustain the complaint, the case is referred to the appropriate law enforcement entity e.g. Prosecutor's Office, USAO, BCI, FBI, DOJ

Police Accountability Team (PAT)

Police Accountability Team was created to achieve and ensure continued compliance of the Federal Consent Decree. Works with Court appointed Monitoring Team and Dept of Justice to analyze progress.

PAT operates out of the Office of the Mayor, but is structurally supported by the Law Department.

5 member staff



Law Department

Law Department represents City in Consent Decree and is the primary channel for correspondence with Dept of Justice.

Provides representation, legal advice, and counsel to all City departments, offices, boards, and commissions related to public safety and oversight.

Public Records division supports requests and disclosures of public documents related to public safety

The Criminal Division i.e. the Prosecutor's Office reviews police use of deadly force and internal investigations to determine whether prosecution is fitting.

City Council

Reviews and approves budget for City Departments, Offices, Boards & Commissions.

Empanels a Safety Committee that provides oversight and support of CDP.

- Michael Polensek (Chair)
- Deborah Gray
- Danny Kelly
- Richard Starr
- Stephanie Howse-Jones
- Charles Slife
- Brian Kazy

Meets with Consent Decree Monitor once per calendar year.



Resident Complaint Method

Residents can file complaints against Division of Police employees online, in-person, by mail, e-mail, phone, or fax

- Online at www.clevelandohio.gov/city-hall/ops
 - (or search “office of professional standards” at clevelandohio.gov)
- In-person: OPS Office, CDP Headquarters, CDP District Stations, City Hall (DPS), Direct w/any Field Officer (forms in all vehicles)
- Email: CLEPoliceComplaints@clevelandohio.gov
- Phone: (216) 664-2944 | Fax: (216) 420-8764

Complaints can also be received by all internal entities including IA, CDP, DPS, OPS, CPRB, & CPC

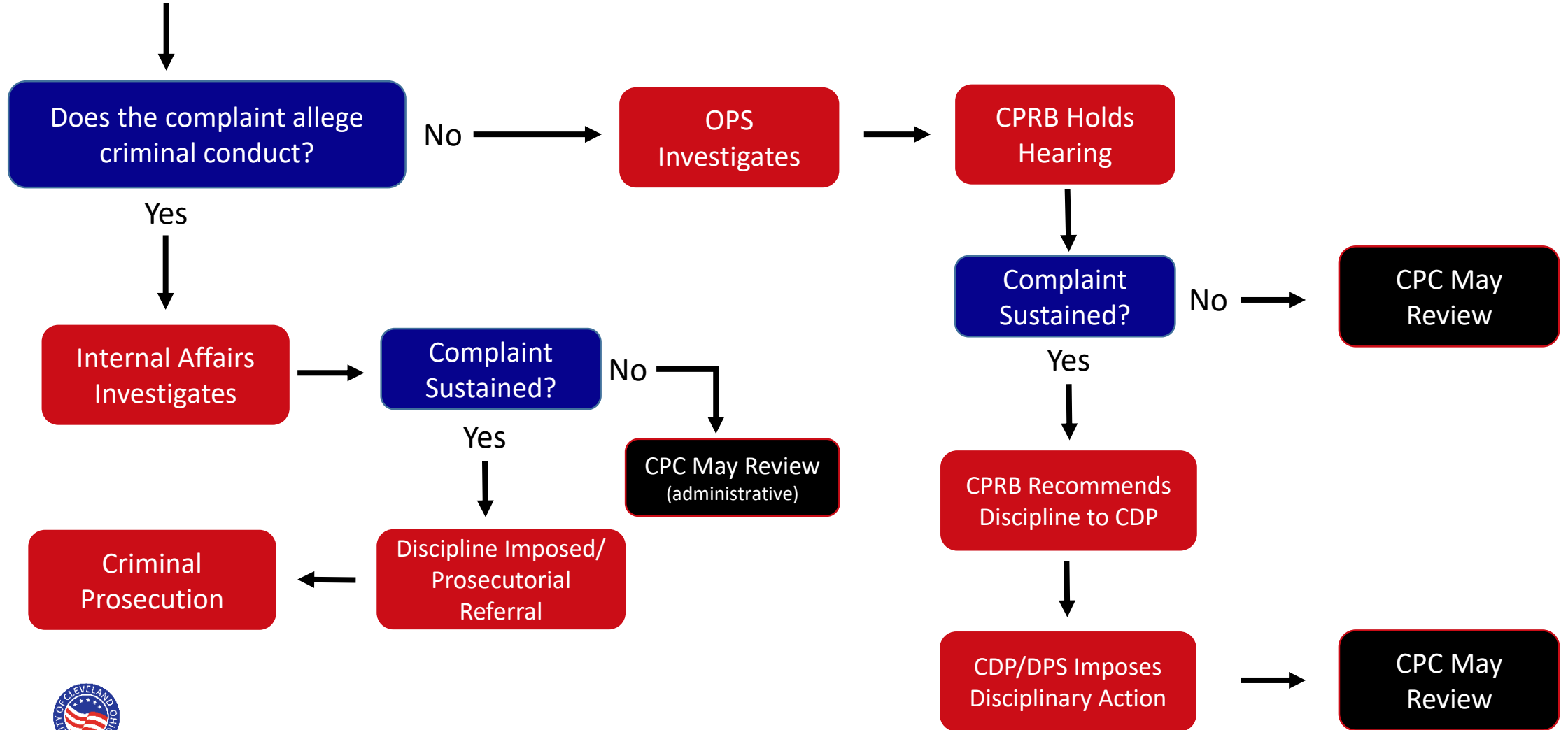


Complaint Received

(City Administration: Division of Police, Internal Affairs, Public Safety)
(115 Entities: Office of Professional Standards, Civilian Police Review Board, Community Police Commission)

Complaint Process

(Does not include appeals processes)



Questions?



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