



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
City Commission Agenda Memo  
REGULAR MEETING**

**#17-0872**

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** July 11, 2017

**TITLE:** An Ordinance Revising and Clarifying the Duties and Responsibilities of  
the Citizens' Police Review Board

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission approve an amendment to Sections 2-248, 2-249, and 2-250 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, which revises and clarifies the duties and responsibilities of the Citizens' Police Review Board.

**Background**

In 2016, the Citizens' Police Review Board (CPRB) engaged in public discussions regarding possible changes to the ordinances governing their duties and responsibilities. As a result of those discussions, the CPRB agreed that Code of Ordinances should be amended to modify and clarify the Boards duties and responsibilities to ensure that their review of police internal investigations reflect the concerns of the Citizens of Fort Lauderdale and the community at large.

As a result, the CPRB proposes the following changes:

- That the Board shall receive for review all Category 1 complaints, regardless of their source (currently only complaints received from external sources are presented).
- The number of days the Board shall have to make its recommendation shall increase from twenty (20) to thirty-five (35) working days from the date the subject police officer is notified by the Chief of Police of his/her recommendation. This additional time will allow for proper scheduling of regular meeting dates and limit the need for special sessions.
- The Board may review police department policies at the request of the City Manager or Chief of Police, or when a matter comes to the Board's attention and make recommendations regarding those policies that reflect the best interests of the citizens of the City and the community at large.
- The Decision of the Board will be clarified by providing the Board with the option of either concurring or not concurring with the findings of the internal investigation and providing the Board with the ability to explain with specificity their findings.

- Provide the Board with the ability to comment on the Chief of Police's discipline recommendation, by indicating whether the discipline should be greater or less than what was proposed and recommend any additional suitable training, if deemed appropriate.

### **Resource Impact**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this proposed ordinance revision.

### **Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Public Safety Cylinders of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 9: Be the safest urban coastal City in South Florida through preventative and responsive police and fire protection.
- Objective 1: Prevent and solve crime in all neighborhoods.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Community*.

### **Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – Ordinance

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Prepared by: Acting Major Dana Swisher, Police Department

Department Director: Rick J. Maglione, Chief of Police