



COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD
175 Central Ave., Room 516
Albany, NY 12207

Biannual Report

January 2025 to June 2025

The Community Police Review Board (CPRB) is an independent Board created by and functioning under the authority and oversight of the Common Council of the City of Albany.¹ The CPRB is responsible for receiving, monitoring, and reviewing complaints of alleged misconduct made against officers of the Albany Police Department (APD). Additionally, the CPRB may vote to conduct concurrent or independent investigations in to the actions of APD and officers, even when no allegations of misconduct have been made. The CPRB is also empowered to review and make recommendations to the Common Council and Mayor on APD policy and procedures.²

The CPRB goals, as established by law, are to improve communication between APD and community members, increase police accountability and credibility with the public, and to create a complaint review process that is free from bias and informed of actual police practices.³ The CPRB accomplishes these goals through independent and impartial investigations, policy recommendations, and community outreach.

As required by law, this report details the CPRB complaint related actions that occurred between January 1, 2025 and June 30, 2025.⁴

¹ See [Albany, N.Y., City Code, Part 33, ch. 42 §42-332](#).

² See [Albany, N.Y., City Code, Part 33, ch. 42 §42-341 \(A\)](#).

³ See [Albany, N.Y., City Code, Part 33, ch. 42 §42-332 \(E\)](#).

⁴ City law states: “the Program Director, on behalf of the CPRB, shall file biannual reports with the Common Council and the Mayor which contain statistics and summaries of complaints, including a comparison of the CPRB’s finding with the final determinations of the Department.” See [Albany N.Y., City Code, part 33, ch. 42 §42-341\(B\)](#).

Message from the Program Director

On May 12, 2025, I began as Program Director for the CPRB. Upon entering my role, I learned that at the CPRB's January 9, 2025 public meeting, CPRB membership suspended complaint review duties.⁵ The CPRB membership's suspension of complaint review duties has resulted in limited complaint related data for this reporting period. Additionally, during the period of suspended complaint review duties, it appears that complaint data may have not been sufficiently updated.⁶ This apparent issue has caused the data supplied for this reporting period to be a best estimate based on the current data entered into the CPRB's record management system.

I am also reporting that CPRB membership, with the assistance of the City, is working towards finalizing job postings for the roles of Senior Investigator, Investigator, and Confidential Secretary with the objective of hiring this staff to assist in bring the primary investigative functions of the CPRB fully within the City structure as mandated by the Common Council. CPRB membership is also working to identify and select a consultant to assist membership and the Program Director with operationalizing all aspects of the CPRB in accordance and compliance with applicable laws. Further, in July of 2025, CPRB membership resumed complaint review duties and anticipates continuing reviews during the remainder of the calendar year.

Finally, the below information is being provided in accordance with applicable law and has been reviewed by the CPRB Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary prior to submission to the Common Council and Mayor of the City of Albany.

I hereby respectfully submit this report on the 20th day of August 2025.



Garrett Schaaf, CPRB Program Director

⁵ See [January 2025 Public Meeting](#) at 07:05 (Former Chair Vives announced that complaint reviews would be suspended until a Program Director was hired).

⁶ The one CPRB staff member and I are attempting to reconcile the data; however, competing priorities, a lack of additional support staff, and other factors have slowed the progress of the reconciliation.

New and Reopened Complaints

During the reporting period, the CPRB received 40 complaints; 5 (12.5%) of these complaints were closed without action from APD or CPRB. Two (40%) of the five complaints were “withdrawn” by the complainant, as permitted by law.⁷ Three (60%) of the five complaints were deemed “out of jurisdiction” by APD and when possible were provided to any identified government agencies.⁸

There were no complaints reopened during the reporting period.

Active Complaints

At the end of the reporting period, the CPRB possessed 131 active complaints. The status of 82 (62.5%) of the active complaints indicate they were with APD awaiting the Department’s action.⁹ The remaining 49 (37.5%) active complaints were pending CPRB membership review.¹⁰

At the end of the reporting period, 69 (52.67%) of the 131 active complaints were past the 12-month disciplinary timeframe established in the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Albany and the Albany Police Benevolent Association.¹¹ Thus, as a practical matter the CPRB membership’s recommendations related to complaint outcomes for the 69 complaints cannot be considered by the Chief of Police prior to imposing discipline. Thereby, limiting the effectiveness and impact of CPRB membership recommendations.

At the end of the reporting period, 36 (73.46%) of the 49 active complaints pending CPRB membership review have passed the legally established 60-day timeframe for CPRB membership to “render findings” after receiving the “preliminary report of [APD]’s findings.”¹² Additionally, there are no records confirming that CPRB membership notified the Chief of Police and the complainant of the delay while requesting the additional 60-day review period, as permitted by law.¹³

Compliant Review Summary

Due to the January 9, 2025, suspension of complaint review duties by CPRB membership there is no data to report.¹⁴

⁷ See [Albany, N.Y., City Code, Part 33, ch. 42 §42-344 \(F\)\(6\)](#).

⁸ At least one complaint involved the Albany County Sheriff’s Office and was reported to ACSO by OPS staff.

⁹ The 82 complaints have the following status breakdowns: 9 (10.97%) complaints are “awaiting OPS detective and case number assignment”; 67 (81.7%) complaints are “under investigation by OPS”; 6 (7.31%) complaints are in “supervisor review by OPS”.

¹⁰ No CPRB membership complaint review has occurred in during this reporting period. See Fn. 5.

¹¹ See Article 4 section 4.3.5 of the Agreement Between the City of Albany, New York and the Albany Police Benevolent Association – effective January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2026.

¹² City and other applicable law require CPRB membership to render their findings via a public complaint review and vote within 60-days upon receipt of the APD’s Office of Professional Standards (OPS) preliminary report. If the CPRB membership fails to render their findings in this 60-day timeframe, the complaint “shall be returned to the Chief for disposition of the matter.” See [Albany N.Y., City Code, part 33, ch. 42 §42-435\(B\)](#). (It is unclear if any of the 36 complaints have been “returned to the Chief for disposition” as directed by law.)

¹³ CPRB membership may extend the 60-day post APD preliminary report review timeframe by an additional 60-days, for a total of 120-days, but CPRB membership *must* do so by explaining the delay in writing to both the Chief of Police and the complainant. See [Albany N.Y., City Code, part 33, ch. 42 §42-435\(B\)](#).

¹⁴ See Fn. 5.