

CITY OF HARTFORD

OFFICE OF EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY

Civilian Police Review Board

ERIC CRAWFORD

Civilian Police Review Board Chair 550 Main Street Hartford, Connecticut 06103

LIAM BRENNAN Inspector General

February 14, 2024

Hon. Arunan Arulampalam Mayor, City of Hartford 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103 Ms. Shirley Surgeon President, Court of Common Council 550 Main Street Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Mayor Arulampalam and Council President Surgeon,

I write on behalf of the Civilian Police Review Board (the "CPRB" or "Board"). Under the ordinance governing the CPRB, the Board is supposed to provide an annual report to the Mayor and the Court of Common Council. §2-196(e) This report is supposed to detail:

- (1) The type and number of complaints filed,
- (2) The number and identity of police officer(s) complained against and the number and identity of police officer(s) and members of the police department against whom multiple complaints were received, and the disposition of the complaints, and
- (3) The identity of police officers with either
 - a. more than two complaints in any twelve-month span or
 - b. more than five total complaints during the previous ten years.
- (4) The dollar value, if any, of settlements ordered and/or paid arising out of the citizen complaints, provided such disclosure does not violate a confidentiality agreement.

When I began as Inspector General in February 2022, I engaged in an extensive review of the CPRB's backlogged cases and infrastructure. At that time, it came to my attention that the mayor's office and Court of Common Council had not received an annual report for 2019, 2020 or 2021.

That spring, we began to remedy that oversight. In May 2022, I wrote to then-Mayor Bronin and then-Council President Rosado explaining the discovery and providing a preliminary report for the missing time periods based on the data that was available at that time.

The data was, however, incomplete and there were a few challenges that we were working to resolve.

1. The CPRB had not reached a "disposition" on all the complaints from those years. There were a number of cases backlogged before the Board. Through

- the extreme dedication and diligence of the Board, we were able to clear that backlog by September 2022.
- 2. The database we were working with was put together in-house and could not export reports that listed all complaints and their dispositions. Putting together a report which listed all complaints and their dispositions from these years would have been an extremely laborious process of hand-tallying the results of past cases. In order to remedy this, we put out an RFP for an investigatory case management software that would help us organize our investigations and properly report on them. A company named Case IQ/iSight won the RFP and over the past year and a half we have assembled the new case management system and transferred the archived data from the old inhouse system to iSight. We are now managing all cases in iSight.
- 3. The complaints that had reached disposition by May 2022 had not all been recorded in our then-existing database. Over the following months, as we transferred the archival data to iSight, we also set out to record all resolved cases in the database.

At the time, I issued a preliminary report of the then-available data, promising to return with an updated and more expansive report when all the prior issues had been resolved.

Enclosed is the final report covering 2019-2021, updated with the missing data, as well as data from 2022. (Cases filed in 2023 are still pending before the board and a report for that year will be forthcoming when they are finished.)

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Liam Brennan

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Enclosure

cc: Members of the Court of Common Council Eric Crawford, Chair, Civilian Police Review Board Jason Thody, Chief, Hartford Police Department