



Citizens Police Oversight Commission Agency Report

June 12, 2025




City of
Philadelphia



Citizens Police Oversight Commission

The mission of the Citizens Police Oversight Commission (CPOC) is to oversee and investigate the conduct, policies, and practices of the Philadelphia Police Department (PPD).

CPOC currently:

- Receives complaints of police misconduct
 - Audits and monitors Internal Affairs investigations and police disciplinary processes
 - Sits and votes on PBI panels at police discipline hearings
 - Conducts oversight of police shootings
 - Analyzes police data
 - Develops policy recommendations and reports
 - Engages in outreach and training
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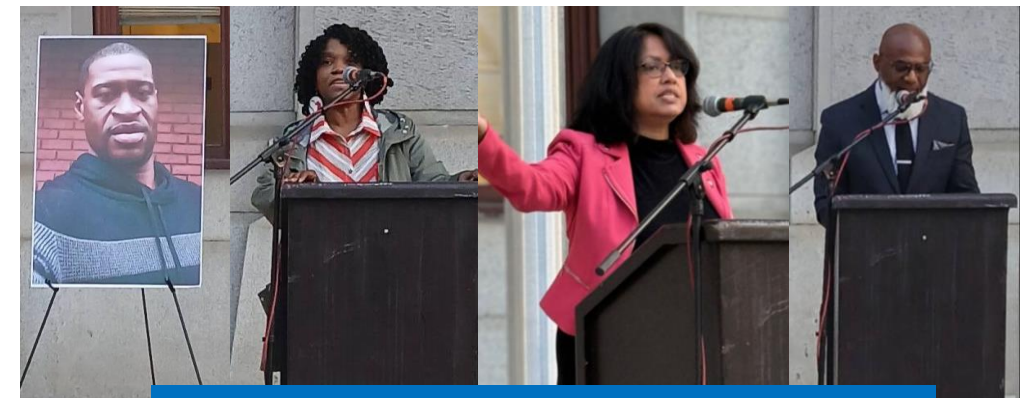
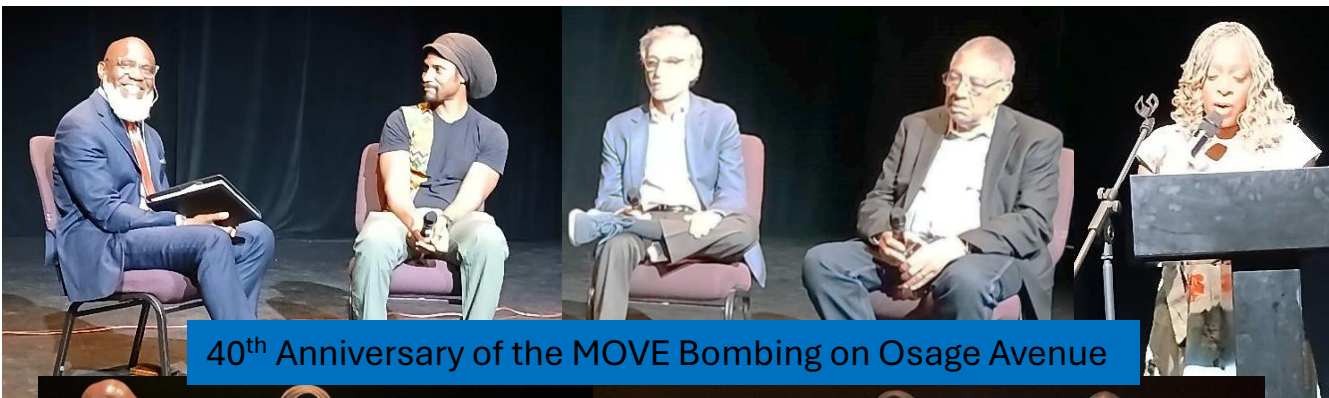
Why Civilian Oversight Is Necessary

- **Protects** human rights
 - **Promotes** constitutional policing
 - **Increases** public confidence and trust in the police
 - **Builds** bridges between law enforcement and the public
 - **Supports** effective policing
 - **Ensures** greater accountability
 - **Enhances** risk management
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Executive Director's Report

HONORING THE PAST, SHAPING THE FUTURE

CPOC's Executive Director Tonya McClary, Esq. and CPOC's new Deputy Executive Director Ewuare Osayande, Esq. spearheaded two events acknowledging the painful history between law enforcement and the community. These events honored the lives and legacy of victims of police violence and highlighted the importance of civilian oversight.



Executive Director's Report



**Advancing the Field of Alternative Response
2025 Convening**
Hosted by the Policing Project at NYU Law,
the Georgetown Law Center for Innovations
in Community Safety, and the Alternative
Mobile Services Association





Government Affairs & Special Projects


City Council FY26 Budget Hearings

- All testifying and called back agencies have testified.
- Council is now hearing from the public.
- You still have a chance to provide public testimony!
- City Council will host public comment these days:

*Tuesday, May 13th
City Hall Room 400
10AM to 4PM*

*Wednesday, May 14th
City Hall Room 400
10AM to 4PM*

Speakers interested in making public testimony should call 215-686-3407 or email Budget.Hearings@phila.gov by 3 p.m. on the day prior to the public testimony session at which they wish to speak and submit the following information:

- 1) Full name
 - 2) Callback telephone number where you can be reached
 - 3) Identify that you want to support CPOC's budget!
- 




Investigations Division: Police Shootings (May 2025)

There was one police shooting at a person in the month of May 2025. CPOC tracks all police shootings, which includes every time a PPD officer(s) discharges their firearm at a person or an animal (excluding deer).

In 2025 so far, there have been six police shootings at people.


CPOC maintains a website to update the public on police shootings shortly after they occur: <https://www.phila.gov/documents/list-of-police-shootings-and-incident-summaries-2025/>. The website provides an overview of PPD's procedure, CPOC's role, and details about the police shootings at people.





Investigations Division: Police Shootings (May 2025)

May 21, 2025. At approximately 6:40PM, two PPD officers were working uniformed patrol in the 25th District. They saw a man, later identified as Bruce “Angel” Garcia, in the area of Front Street and Somerset Streets. The officers attempted to conduct a stop of Mr. Garcia, who fled on foot. The officers chased him to Front and Mutter Streets, where Mr. Garcia and the officers got into a physical altercation. Reportedly during the struggle, Mr. Garcia retrieved a handgun from a handbag and discharged it. The officers then fired at Mr. Garcia, striking him. Mr. Garcia was transported to Temple Hospital and pronounced deceased.



Investigations Division: Police Shootings (May 2025)





Investigations Division: Monitoring (May 2025)

Examples of the types of cases currently being monitored:

- Complaints alleging violations of the Fourth Amendment (search and seizure).
- Complaints alleging lack of service.
- Complaints alleging physical abuse.
- Complaints alleging inconsistent court testimony.



Outreach & Training Division

The Outreach & Training Division is tasked with handling incoming complaints, providing constituent services to city residents who need resources and connection with other city services, facilitating community education and training staff, as well as engaging with the many diverse communities of our city. We create content and manage all social media pages for the agency, and we accept and respond to media inquiries.

We look forward to expanding our staff to make meaningful connections with underserved communities while advocating and promoting transparent and equitable policing.



Outreach & Training Division

LGBTQIA+

HAPPY
Pride
MONTH

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FREEDOM
day

Outreach & Training Division

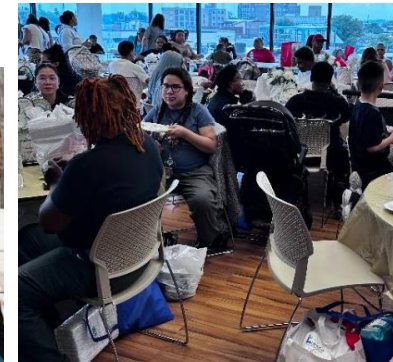
2025 COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER IN HONOR OF MOTHER'S DAY

CPOC launched a Spring Toiletry Drive to collect donations for new and expectant moms and the clients of W.R.A.P. Court.

Our Community Baby Shower was held at the Esperanza CORE Center, where we had over 90+ registrations. The event was an amazing afternoon of Fun, Food & Fellowship.

Thanks to the CPOC Staff, community partners & toiletry donations we were able to give much needed supplies to the shower attendees.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY RESOURCE VENDORS!



Outreach & Training Division

PHILLY PRIDE 365 FESTIVAL 2025

CPOC attended the annual PRIDE Festival to support and uplift the LGBTQIA+ Community in Philly. We provided resources to the attendees, and we met several community members interested in oversight. Everyone loved our photo props!



Citizens Police Oversight Commission CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Know your rights as part of the Queer Philadelphia Community.

The Philadelphia Police Department's Directive 4.15 guides officers' interactions with transgender and non-binary individuals to ensure respect and dignity.

Directive 4.15 provides guidelines for appropriate police interactions with transgender and non-binary individuals, including in media accounts. This Directive is one of only a few of its kind across the nation and represents a significant step forward in the relationship between the police department and the transgender and non-binary community.

The City of Philadelphia prohibits LGBTQ discrimination and provides protections to LGBTQ people.

Unfortunately, Pennsylvania currently does not have a statewide law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in terms of employment, housing, and public accommodations. In the absence of a statewide mandate, forty-one municipalities in PA have passed non-discrimination legislation like Philadelphia's to protect LGBTQ people. Twenty-two states and Washington, DC, have also enacted policies to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination.

Philadelphia's local laws protect LGBTQ residents.

In Philadelphia, it is illegal for employers, housing providers, businesses, providers of public accommodations and City services to discriminate against anyone because of their gender identity, sex, or sexual orientation. People can use any bathroom consistent with their gender identity and any single occupancy bathroom in a retail establishment must have gender neutral signage.

The Philadelphia School District and the City of Philadelphia are committed to protecting our trans* youth.

Transgender students are more likely to face pervasive harassment in schools, and federal protections for our youth are disappearing. Nationwide, approximately 1 in 6 out trans* K-12 students have been forced to leave school due to discrimination. On February 22nd, 2017, the Trump administration rescinded guidance from the Departments of Education and Justice that helps schools ensure equal access to educational programs for all students, including transgender students.

The City of Philadelphia has its own Commission on Human Relations to review and investigate complaints of discrimination.

Any cases of discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity can be reported to the Philadelphia Commission on Human Resources (PCHR) at (215) 686-4670 or pchr@phila.gov. The PCHR also assists in resolving community tension after the occurrence of hate crimes or bias incidents. The PCHR has an anonymous hotline at (215) 686-2856.

Citizens Police Oversight Commission CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

TIPS FOR POLICE INTERACTIONS


- 1 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT**
You do not have to answer any questions about where you are going, where you are traveling from or where you live.
- 2 YOU DO NOT HAVE TO CONSENT TO A SEARCH OF YOURSELF OF YOUR BELONGINGS**
However, the police may pat you down if they suspect you have a weapon.
- 3 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VIDEOTAPE POLICE OFFICERS PERFORMING OFFICIAL DUTIES IN PUBLIC**
You can record an officer during a traffic stop, or while they are making an arrest.
- 4 REDUCE RISK!**
When stopped by an officer, stay calm. Don't run, resist or obstruct officers. Do not lie or give false information. Keep your hands where they can be seen.
- 5 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY**
If arrested, you can ask for an attorney right away! You have the right to a local phone call. The police cannot listen if you call a lawyer. They may listen if you call anyone else.

**COMPLAINT INTAKE TRAINING FOR PHILADELPHIA
LEGAL ASSISTANCE FAMILY LAW UNIT**

CPOC Outreach Team met with Philadelphia Legal Assistance Family Law Unit to talk about our Complaint intake process, and what their clients can expect when reporting alleged Officer Misconduct to our agency.

During the discussion, the PLA Family Law Unit shared their experiences and thoughts on how PPD responds to Domestic Violence calls and ways both law enforcement and oversight can assist with addressing victims/survivors complaints and concerns.







Citizens Police Oversight Commission
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

CITIZENS POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

PHILADELPHIA LEGAL ASSISTANCE PRESENTATION 2025



PLA PHILADELPHIA LEGAL ASSISTANCE



Trigger Warning: This presentation contains images of police brutality and photos of victims of police violence.



CPOC COMPLAINT INTAKE



WHY DOES CPOC RECEIVE COMPLAINTS?

CPOC accepts complaints from community members, advocates or case managers when there is an allegation of Police misconduct.

TYPICAL COMPLAINTS INCLUDE

Verbal Abuse 

Physical Assault 

Racism/Discrimination 

Lack of Service 

Unlawful Arrest 

Lying or Fabricating Evidence 



**CPOC YOUTH DISCUSSION AT
ROOSEVELT
MIDDLE SCHOOL ON
6/10/2025**

Our Training and Outreach Manager spent some time at Roosevelt Middle School discussing the history of policing, racial bias, careers in policing and oversight as well as how they change things positively in their community.



**JUNETEENTH YOUTH CHAT AT
MCPHERSON SQUARE LIBRARY**

We joined the Old Lady Gang as they had an educational and informative conversation on the history of Juneteenth and what it means today. Attendees received books from the group and CPOC provided each young person with a giftbag containing Juneteenth and Black History swag!



Outreach & Training Division



CPOC OVERSIGHT LECTURE W/RECRUIT CLASS #410



Our 2-hour Oversight Lecture is led by CPOC's Training and Outreach Manager. The lecture focuses on:

- The History of Oversight
 - CPOC Creation
- Dispelling Oversight Myths
- Why Recruits selected careers in Law Enforcement
 - Similarities in Recruit Experiences Across the Nation



**CONGRATS TO CLASS #410 WHO WILL BE
GRADUATING THE ACADEMY SOON!**

UPCOMING OUTREACH EVENTS

JUNE 19TH- CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY
JUNE 22ND- OUTREACH @ JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION IN MALCOLM X PARK
JUNE 24TH- MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP WELCOME RECEPTION W/ DREXEL UNIVERSITY
JUNE 26TH- 2ND MONTHLY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING





Citizens Police Oversight Commission

Thank you for coming

Questions or comments?

Please raise your hand, type your question in
the chat, or contact us:

cpoc@phila.gov or (215) 685-0891



City of
Philadelphia