Civilian Oversight: Citizens engaged in law enforcement officer accountability

. Julen

Review

# Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB)

#### Citizen Empowerment

- Fair forum for assessment of concerns about APD/ACD officer actions
- Every complaint is evaluated based on the evidence, regardless of the citizen or officer involved.
- Response to citizen's concerns about officer's action
- Citizen participation and engagement in officer accountability
- Redress for officer misconduct
- Transparency of investigations and results
- Accessible and easy to use process



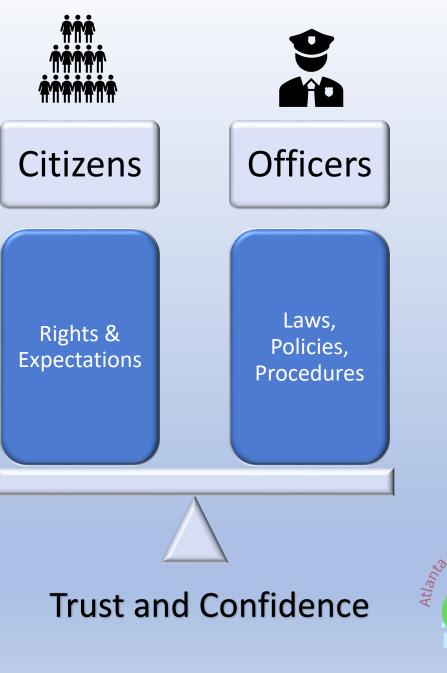


## The Great Balancing Act

Civilian oversight provides citizens with the confidence that each concern will be evaluated, investigated, and determined based on the evidence, policies, and law.

It also provides the following:

- Provides citizen input in officers' actions and department policies and procedures.
- Protects citizens' rights.
- Provides redress for citizens' concerns.
- Creates positive expectations of law enforcement.
- Encourages officers' adherence to laws, policies and procedures.
- Supports officers with fair investigations.
- Affirms appropriate officer actions and conduct.





#### How do we serve you?

The ACRB serves the citizens of Atlanta with four major activities.



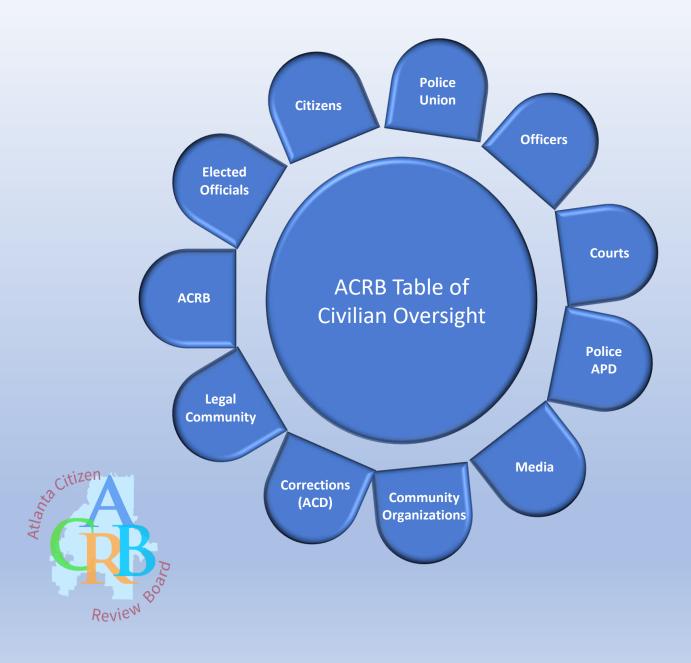


#### The ACRB Table

The success of civilian oversight is dependent on the involvement and effort of the various stakeholders.

Each entity has a role in the effectiveness of the ACRB's ability to meet citizens' expectations, from funding to advocacy, and from investigations to awareness building.

The ACRB provides transparency of the operation and outcomes to allow stakeholders to be actively involved in the agency's work.



### Stages of the ACRB Process

Investigations and Mediations are the ACRB's primary activities. Investigations are conducted to determine whether an officer's actions violated the law or APD/ACD policies. Mediations provide citizens and officers an opportunity to meet and discuss complaints in a safe and neutral environment with the assistance of trained mediators.

Board decisions are the official decisions of the ACRB. Board decisions are based on the Staff investigation. The decisions are sent to the APD/ACD for the Chief's decision on the officer's actions.

The Chief's decision is the official decision with regard to the whether the officer violated APD/ACD policy or procedure and whether discipline is imposed and the severity of the discipline.



# What's in an ACRB Determination?

Once a signed complaint is received, an ACRB investigator conducts a preliminary investigation of the complaint.

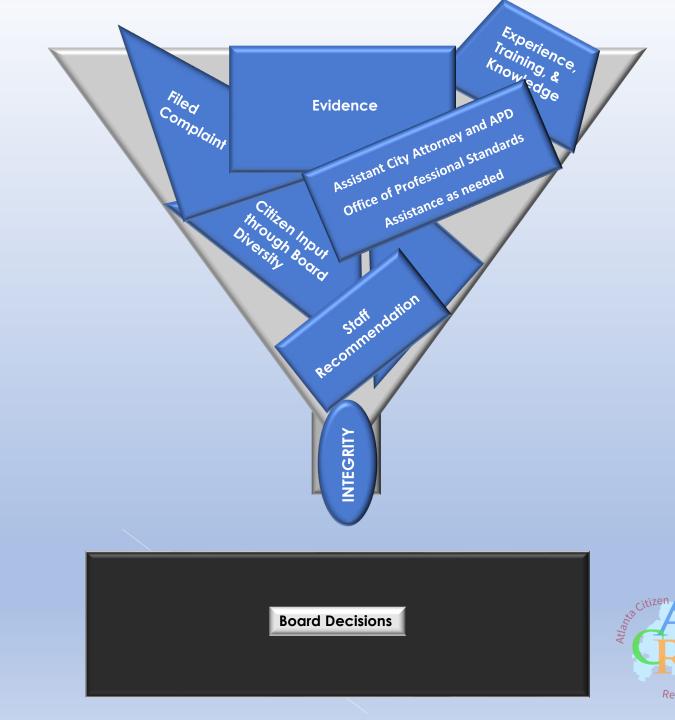
Evidence is gathered through interviews of complainants, officers, witnesses; police documents and audio and video recordings; citizen recordings; etc.

ACRB investigators have accumulated years of experience, training, and knowledge in investigations.

ACRB staff provide recommendations to the Board.

The diversity of ACRB Board members provide citizen input into the Board decisions.

Integrity is a cornerstone of the ACRB operation. Fair and transparent investigations and decisions are provided to the public.



#### We make the community!

It's up to all of US!

We all belong to the same COMMUNITY.

Different neighborhoods, different lifestyles, different choices.

But, EVERYONE expects and deserves RESPECT!







The Atlanta Citizen Review Board is a proud agency of the City of Atlanta. Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) CITY OF ATLANTA City Hall Tower, Suite 9100 55 Trinity Avenue, SW Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone: (404) 865-8622 E-mail: acrb@atlantaga.gov

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