

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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DECEMBER 8, 2021
Start: 2:13 P.M.
Recess: 2:24 P.M.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING VIRTUAL ROOM 1

B E F O R E: Chair Adrienne Adams

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne Adams
Ydanis Rodriguez
Fernando Cabrera
Vanessa Gibson
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Justin Brannan
Robert Holden
Keith Powers
Kevin Riley
Ruben Diaz Sr.
Kalman Yeger
Eric Dinowitz

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

2 SGT. BRADLEY: PC recording is up.

3 SGT. SADOWSKY: Thank you.

4 SGT. POLITE: Recording to the cloud all
5 set.

6 SGT. SADOWSKY: Thank you, and good
7 afternoon, and welcome to today's remote New York
8 City Council hearing of the Committee on Public
9 Safety. At this time, will all council members and
10 council staff please shut on their video? To
11 minimize disruption, please place electronic devices
12 on vibrate or silent mode. Thank you, Chair. We are
13 ready to begin.

14 CHAIR ADRIENNE ADAMS: Thank you. Good
15 afternoon. I'm Council Member Adrienne Adams of the
16 28th District in Queens, and I am the Chair of the
17 Committee on Public Safety. I want to thank the
18 members of the Public Safety Committee who are here
19 today. Council Members Miller, Rosenthal, Power,
20 Brannan, Riley, Holden, Gibson, Menchaca, and
21 Rodriguez. We will be voting on two pieces of
22 legislation this afternoon. First, Proposed
23 Introduction number 2440-A, sponsored by myself,
24 Council Members Louis, Cumbo, Dinowitz, Rose, and
25 Rosenthal, will amend the New York City charter and

2 the Administrative Code in relation to authorizing
3 the Civilian Complaint Review Board to initiate
4 complaints. Currently, the CCR can only conduct
5 investigations of police misconduct in response to
6 complaints filed by members of the public or final
7 determinations by certain governmental entities.
8 However, members of the public often do not initiate
9 complaints with CCRB follow incidents of alleged
10 police misconduct for a variety of reasons including
11 lack of knowledge of the agency's role, lack of
12 knowledge of how to file a complaint or fear of
13 retaliation among many other reasons. This Bills
14 grants the CCRB the power to initiate its own
15 complaints against members of the NYPD that allege
16 misconduct involving excessive use for force and
17 abuse of authority. Quite simply, independent police
18 accountability and investigations of police
19 misconduct should not depend on the CCRB receiving a
20 complaint from the member of the public. This Bill
21 will change that practice, strengthen the CCRB's
22 investigative work and improve policing for all New
23 Yorkers. Next, Proposed Introduction number 2297-A,
24 sponsored by Council Member Moya, the Public
25 Advocate, Mr. Williams, the Speaker, Council Member

2 Johnson and Council Members Louis and Dinowitz, will
3 amend the Administrative Code of the city of New York
4 in relation to qualification for service with the
5 police department. This Bill amends qualification
6 requirements for New York City police officers by
7 prohibiting the NYPD from appointing an individual
8 if such person had previously been dismissed from any
9 police department due to findings of misconduct or
10 resigned while under investigation pursuant to a
11 charge of misconduct. This Bill expands existing law
12 that prohibit the NYPD from rehiring officers
13 previously dismissed by the department and codifies
14 existing department practice of disqualifying
15 applicants previously dismissed from another police
16 department. Taken together, these Bills will further
17 the council's ongoing efforts to promote
18 accountability within the NYPD and advance a vision
19 of public safety that reflects the values of the
20 communities we serve. Council Member Moya has
21 submitted a statement that I will read at this time.

22 Thank you, Chair Adams and my
23 colleagues. We know too well that systemic racism
24 has been plaguing cities around this country for far
25 too long, one too many lives, one too many days, and

2 while there's still much work to be done, every step
3 we take towards meaningful police reform is a step
4 towards dismantling systemic racism. My Bill, Intro
5 2297 will prohibit a person from serving with the
6 police department if such person has previously been
7 dismissed from a police force for misconduct or has
8 resigned from a police force during an investigation
9 for misconduct. If an officer is let go or resigns
10 because of disciplinary issues in another
11 jurisdiction, they should be ineligible for NYPD
12 service, plain and simple. This is how we create more
13 accountability and ensure that we keep these bad
14 apples, those "wandering officers" from coming into
15 our communities, and as the greatest city in the
16 world, we need to be an example of vigorous and
17 positive action so that black and brown lives are no
18 longer in danger. Thank you for joining me and
19 voting to pass Intro 2297, Council Member Moya.

20 All right. At this time, I will call for
21 a roll call vote.

22 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
23 you. Good afternoon. William Martin, Committee
24 Clerk, roll call vote, Committee on Public Safety and
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1 COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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2 Proposed Introductions 2297-A and 2440-A. Both items
3 are coupled. Chair Adams.

4 CHAIR ADRIENNE ADAMS: I vote I.

5 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
6 you. Rodriguez. We'll come back to Council Member
7 Rodriguez. Cabrera.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FERNANDO CABRERA: I vote
9 no on 2440-A and yes on the rest.

10 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Okay,
11 thank you. Gibson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VANESSA GIBSON: Sorry
13 about that. I vote I on all.

14 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
15 you. Menchaca.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CARLOS MENCHACA: I vote
17 I.

18 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
19 you. Miller. Council Member Miller? Okay, we will
20 come back to Council Member Miller. Brannan.

21 Council Member Brannan? We'll come back to Council
22 Member Brannan as well. One moment. Holden?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ROBERT HOLDEN: Can you
24 hear me?

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1 COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY 8

2 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Yes,
3 sir.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROBERT HOLDEN: Okay, I
5 vote no on 2440-A, and yes on Intro 2297-A.

6 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Got
7 it, thank you. Powers.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KEITH POWERS: I vote I.

9 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
10 you. Riley.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KEVIN RILEY: I vote I.

12 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
13 you. One moment. Council Member Miller.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER I. DANEEK MILLER: Can you
15 hear me?

16 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Yes,
17 sir.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER I. DANEEK MILLER: Okay.
19 On, is it 2440-A? I'll be abstaining and yes on the
20 other.

21 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Okay.
22 Council Member Brannan. My apologies. Council
23 Member Brannan. Council Member Rodriguez.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER YDANIS RODRIGUEZ: I vote
25 I.

1 COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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2 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
3 you, sir. I'll try again, Council Member Brannan.
4 Chair, if you wish, I can announce now. We can hold
5 it open maybe Council Member Brannan is having some
6 issues.

7 CHAIR ADRIENNE ADAMS: Yeah, you can
8 announce. I just texted him. I think he's on the
9 phone. You can announce. We'll leave the vote open
10 for him.

11 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Sure,
12 you got it. Okay, today's results, Committee on
13 Public Safety, Introduction 2297-A is adopted by the
14 committee with nine in the affirmative, zero in the
15 negative, and no abstentions, and 2240-A is also
16 adopted by the committee with a vote of six in the
17 affirmative, two in the negative and one abstention,
18 and will hold for Council Member Brannon upon your
19 request.

20 CHAIR ADRIENNE ADAMS: Okay, thank you.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN BRANNAN: Billy?

22 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Yes,
23 sir.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER JUSTIN BRANNAN: I'm here.
25 I vote I.

2 COMMITTEE COUNCIL WILLIAM MARTIN: Okay,
3 thank you. One moment, please. Okay, final vote
4 now, Committee on Public Safety, it is 2297-A is
5 adopted by the committee with ten in the affirmative,
6 zero in the negative, and no abstentions, and
7 Introduction 2240-A is also adopted by the committee
8 with a vote of seven in the affirmative, two in the
9 negative and one abstention. Chair, that is a full
10 committee.

11 CHAIR ADRIENNE ADAMS: Thank you very
12 much, Billy for your help. Thank you to all of my
13 colleagues here today. Everyone made it out for this
14 vote, really appreciate you, thank you for your time.
15 This meeting is hereby adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date <INSERT TRANSCRIPTION DATE>