

SUBSTITUTE NO. 1 TO ORDINANCE 25-051

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE TO RENAME THE WILMINGTON COMMUNITY POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD THE WILMINGTON CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD, EXPAND BOARD ELIGIBILITY, AND INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS

**Rev. 1
#0105**

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Darby**

Co-Sponsors:

**Council
Member
Johnson
Oliver
McCoy**

WHEREAS, the Police Officer Standards and Training Commission, under its authority provided by 11 *Del. C.* § 8404, mandates that all police departments establish, either individually or in combination with other departments, police accountability committees or boards to provide advice to departments on policy, training, and other issues relating to or affecting the department and the communities it serves;

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington previously created a Citizens Complaint Review Board, whose primary purpose was to investigate complaints filed by citizens against the Wilmington Police Department (“WPD”); and

WHEREAS, with the adoption of Ordinance Number 24-063, the City of Wilmington converted the Citizens Complaint Review Board into the Wilmington Community Police Accountability Board to comply with certain state law mandates; and

WHEREAS, the Board’s purpose is to provide members of the community with an opportunity to advise and make recommendations to the WPD on policies and procedures and to provide constructive feedback to the WPD on improving police-community relations; and

WHEREAS, the name “Community Police Accountability Board” does not fully describe the Board’s functions and goals; and

WHEREAS, City Council believes renaming the Board the Wilmington Citizens Review Board better reflects the Board’s functions and goals; and

WHEREAS, City Council believes that in order to faithfully fulfill their duties, all members of the Board should either reside or work in the City; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the time required to lead the Board meetings, City Council believes a pay increase is necessary for the Board's Chair and Vice-Chair; and

WHEREAS, City Council also believes Board members should be compensated for their state-mandated training; and

WHEREAS, Council deems it necessary and appropriate to make certain amendments to the City Code to require all members of the Board to either reside or work in the City of Wilmington and increase compensation for Board members' attendance at mandatory training.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON
HEREBY ORDAINS:**

SECTION 1. Chapter 2 of the City Code is hereby amended by adding in the deleting the stricken language and adding in the underlined language to read as follows:

~~DIVISION 18. — WILMINGTON COMMUNITY POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD~~

DIVISION 18. – WILMINGTON CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD

Sec. 2-150.80. – Establishment, composition, qualifications.

(c) **Composition.** The Board shall be composed of seven (7) ~~residents of~~ individuals who reside or work in the City of Wilmington, who are voting members. A majority of voting members shall be residents of the City of Wilmington. Four (4) members shall be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of City Council, and three (3) shall be appointed by the President of City Council. Additionally, there shall be (2) non-voting, ex-officio members. No voting members shall be current or former members of law-enforcement or affiliated with law-enforcement. Members shall include:

(h) **Compensation.** The Chairperson shall be compensated \$150.00 per meeting attended. The Vicechairperson shall be compensated \$125.00 per meeting attended ~~All other voting~~ Voting members of the board shall be compensated \$100.00 per meeting attended. Board members shall not be compensated for partial attendance.

SECTION 2. Section 2-150.84 of the City Code is hereby amended by adding in the underlined language to read as follows:

Sec. 2-150.84. – Training.

The board is empowered to determine how the voting members shall meet their 20 hours of community training requirement, with the advice of the office of the mayor, WPD, and the Law Department. Voting members shall be compensated \$25.00 per day of training attended. Voting members shall not be compensated for partial attendance. The board is empowered to seek funding, as needed, for consulting and training expertise as determined by the Board.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage by City Council and signing by the Mayor.

First Reading.....September 4, 2025
Second Reading.....September 4, 2025
Third Reading.....

Passed by City Council,

President of City Council

ATTEST:_____
City Clerk

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Mayor

SYNOPSIS: This Ordinance amends Chapter 2 of the City Code to rename the Community Police Accountability Board the Citizens Review Board. It also expands Board member eligibility. It also increases the amount paid to the Chair and Vice-Chair for attendance at meetings and compensates all voting members for attending training

FISCAL IMPACT: Any fiscal impact shall be *de minimis*.