

Dear House Government Operations Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. Attached you will find the following documents I referenced in my testimony.

- Chicago Civilian Police Accountability Council enabling legislation – A good model for structuring civilian oversight of law enforcement.
- The 10 point plan to reimagine policing

Regarding body cameras, [You can find the ACLU model body camera policy here](#). If the committee would like to engage in a more in depth discussion of this topic I suggest that you contact our Senior Staff Attorney Lia Ernst at [lernst@acluvt.org](mailto:lernst@acluvt.org)

I also wanted to share in writing some of the principles that we believe are essential for effective civilian oversight of law enforcement. [These are discussed in much further detail in the law review article that can be found here](#)

Key components of an effective civilian review board

- Board majority nominated by civic organizations
  - o All non-law enforcement, supported by professional staff
  - o Majority nominated by civic organizations
- Broad scope to review complaints
  - o Board must be able to review a broad scope of complaints regarding misconduct
- Independent investigatory authority
  - o The Board needs the ability to subpoena persons and documents
- Ability to ensure discipline sticks
  - o Decisions of the board must be binding, not just recommendations
- Ability to audit policies and practices
  - o The board must have the ability to review underlying policies that might leads to rights violations
- Secure funding
  - o Funding must be secure and robust
- Due process protections for police officers
  - o Officers must be able to contest allegations and have representation throughout the entire process
- Public access and public reporting
  - o The board must be easy to access for the public and publish regular reports. At the same time there needs to be protection against retaliation for members of the public who bring forward complaints.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify today and please let me know if I can be of further help in your deliberations.

Falko Schilling

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