



NEWS RELEASE

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Court says Seattle's police accountability reforms can move ahead

Seattle—The Federal judge overseeing the consent decree on Seattle policing said yesterday that the City of Seattle can move forward with implementing the accountability reform ordinance adopted by the City Council in May 2017. The Ordinance strengthens civilian and community oversight of the Seattle Police Department. Judge James Robart said he would again review the Ordinance once collective bargaining on some of its provisions has concluded, to ensure it is consistent with the City's court-ordered mandate for reform, stating that it is a work in progress.

“This is an important day,” said the Community Police Commission (CPC) co-chairs in a joint statement. “We are pleased the City has commenced implementing police accountability reforms that the community has spent many years fighting for. This has been—and continues to be—a community-driven reform process. We are far from finished. There’s a lot of work to be done, including collective bargaining. The CPC’s attention is on doing the oversight work that the people of Seattle expect from us. This includes ensuring that the accountability bodies are fully funded and helping choose accountability leaders who will put the reforms in the best position to succeed. It also means filling the open CPC positions with resolute, principled representatives of our diverse communities who are able to fulfill the Commission's expanded responsibilities.”

The co-chairs are:

[Rev. Harriett Walden](#)

[Isaac Ruiz](#)

[Enrique Gonzalez](#)

To learn more about the Community Police Commission, please visit www.seattle.gov/community-police-commission.

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