From the Bronx to Brooklyn, Long Island to Westchester, New Powers Tackle Police Misconduct

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The New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (NYCCB) has been given broad authority to prosecute police misconduct cases. Under an agreement between the New York City Council, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and the New York Police Department (NYPD), the NYPD has complete autonomy over punishing officers found guilty of police misconduct. However, if the NYPD's discipline is less than the NYCCB or an administrative trial judge would recommend, the NYPD must explain the reasoning behind the level of discipline. The NYCCB will also prosecute all police misconduct cases that are substantiated.

In the last five years, the NYCCB has handled approximately 195 police misconduct cases annually, and recommended disciplinary action in about 70% of them. Recently, the NYPD has faced growing criticism over its use of stop and frisk tactics and handling of mass protests.

In 2001, a similar agreement, which expanded the NYCCB's powers, was dropped when the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association won a court challenge.

The <u>Manhattan Civil Rights Attorneys</u> of The Perecman Firm are on the front lines of fighting police misconduct. Contact David Perecman of <u>The Perecman Firm</u>.