



Citizen Oversight Board

101 Colfax Ave., Suite 101
Denver, CO 80202
(720) 913-3306
www.denvergov.org/COB

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Daniel Van Schooten | Daniel.vanschooten@denvergov.org

Citizen Oversight Board Announces Continued Search for Independent Monitor

DENVER—In November 2021, Denver voters gave the Citizen Oversight Board (COB) the responsibility for hiring the Independent Monitor. The COB takes this responsibility and the trust of our stakeholders very seriously. As a result, we have voted unanimously to continue the search for Denver's next Independent Monitor.

The COB thanks the three final candidates who stuck with us through a rigorous review process, including interviews by the screening committee, interviews with the COB, interviews with internal city stakeholders and two public meetings. Though each candidate has admirable experience, qualifications, and a lot to offer their respective communities, none were quite the right fit for the particular challenges and opportunities the next monitor will face in Denver. We did not have the stakeholder consensus on a top candidate that we felt we needed to hire one of the three candidates.

The COB thanks the community for its engagement in the process and the many local organizations that helped us organize the public events. We received important feedback from community members and organizations that was important in our decision making. We also appreciate the work of the screening committee and city stakeholders in this process.

We ask for both community patience and collaboration as we continue the search process. While we had originally hoped to have a monitor selected by spring, we are now aiming for late summer. We intend for this next round to be as collaborative with the community and city stakeholders as the process we just concluded. Updates on the process can be found on our website and in our public board meetings.

The Citizen Oversight Board was created in 2004. It consists of nine community members who are broadly tasked with assessing the effectiveness and policies of the Department of Public Safety and the Office of the Independent Monitor, and making recommendations as appropriate. As of November 2021, when Referred Question 2G passed with over 70% in favor, the COB is responsible for appointing, by and with the consent of the city council, the Independent Monitor who shall serve at the pleasure of the COB. The Independent Monitor is the leader of the Office of Independent Monitor (OIM) which is the civilian oversight agency for the City and County of Denver Police and Sheriff Departments.

###