



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION
OF NEW YORK CITY

For Immediate Release: October 19, 2016

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New NYPD Commissioner O'Neill Discusses Community Policing, Crime Fighting Strategies at Citizens Crime Commission Forum

New York, NY - Newly minted NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill shared his thoughts on community policing, crime fighting, and the challenges facing the nation's largest police department today as the featured speaker at the Milstein Criminal Justice Policy Forum breakfast, hosted by the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City. Commissioner O'Neill addressed law enforcement and leaders from New York's criminal justice and business communities at the event.

Commissioner O'Neill, who in August was appointed to lead the NYPD by Mayor Bill de Blasio after Commissioner William Bratton's retirement, has been lauded by both law enforcement and criminal justice experts for his efforts to strengthen ties between individual precincts and community members--a goal of the Crime Commission. The neighborhood-based policing model O'Neill developed with Commissioner Bratton reached a milestone this month, with half of all NYPD precincts implementing the program.

Commissioner O'Neill directly linked crime fighting success to improved community relations in his remarks.

"Where partnerships exist with the community, sometimes there is tension," said **Commissioner O'Neill**. "It is our goal and our duty to do all we can in law enforcement to help heal wounds within the community, and to gain true partnership and raise the level of public support and action that achieves our common mission of public safety. We are crime fighters. We cannot do that without the community."

"Commissioner O'Neill understands that the overall success of law enforcement is equally dependent on the ability to establish strong community relations as it is fighting crime wherever it persists," said **Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City**. "His 30-plus years of experience in law enforcement and strong communication skills make him well-prepared to lead the nation's largest police force. The Citizens Crime Commission is proud to be working with Commissioner O'Neill to modernize the community policing model in New York and enhance community relations throughout the city."

In previous years, the Crime Commission has worked with former police Commissioner Bratton to implement gun and gang violence prevention programs, as well as to develop policies and initiatives to improve community policing and advance a new era of "precision policing". The Crime Commission continues to work with Commissioner O'Neill and the NYPD on various initiatives.

Today's event was part of the Crime Commission's ongoing Milstein Criminal Justice Policy Forum breakfast series.

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About the Citizens Crime Commission:

The Crime Commission is a non-partisan non-profit organization working to make New York City's criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. For more information on the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, please visit our website:

www.nycrimecommission.org.

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