



Citizen Oversight Board
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For Immediate Release

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Introducing Denver's Next Independent Monitor

The Citizen Oversight Board is thrilled to announce that it has unanimously selected Lisabeth Castle to serve as the next head of Denver's Office of the Independent Monitor (OIM). We had two excellent finalists in this process and got a great deal of positive community and stakeholder feedback on both.

Castle's experience, tenacity, and ability to build strong relationships were among the reasons she was selected. The Independent Monitor position requires technical skills in investigations and oversight, the ability to effectively manage a city agency, and the savvy to navigate complex environments while building trust at the same time. Castle brings with her a wealth of experience practicing law and managing a law firm, deep ties in our community, and an outstanding reputation for building trust and respect. We are confident that she is up to the task and look forward to working closely with her as she takes over leadership of the Office.

Upon her selection, Castle said: *"I am honored to be selected as the next monitor and I thank the Citizen Oversight Board and the community for putting their trust in me. I pledge to work tirelessly for justice, transparency, and accountability in policing and look forward to collaborating with law enforcement and the community to further strengthen oversight in Denver."*

Many people played a role in helping the Board work through this long leadership transition, and we are grateful for all of them. This includes individuals who played a role in changing Denver's Charter in order to give the Board this authority, those who served on one of the Screening Committees, and our community partners who stayed engaged through it all.

We particularly want to thank Gregg Crittenden for serving in an interim role and for continuing to serve in that capacity for much longer than anyone anticipated. A true civil servant, Crittenden helped carry the office through a very challenging time and a significant amount of uncertainty. Crittenden has been a part of the OIM since 2006, and also served as the interim Independent Monitor during the previous leadership transition in 2012. We are incredibly grateful for his deep commitment to oversight and to our city.

We are actively coordinating with City Council to introduce and pass a resolution formally appointing her to the position with an anticipated start date in early January 2023.

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, the COB is also responsible for selecting the head of the Office of the Independent Monitor.

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