

GETTING TO POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY: A BLUEPRINT FOR NEW JERSEY

Policing in New Jersey, as in the rest of the country, is long overdue for reform. Transparency, accountability, and fair practices will protect public safety and civil rights.

HERE ARE **FIVE REFORMS** THAT NEW JERSEY SHOULD IMPLEMENT NOW:



1. INDEPENDENT PROSECUTORS FOR POLICE VIOLENCE

Require independent investigators and outside prosecutors, not local agencies, to gather evidence, decide whether to seek indictment, and prosecute when an officer kills or seriously injures a civilian.



2. FAIR BODY CAMERA POLICIES

Equip officers with body cameras, governed by policies that protect privacy and ensure the public's right to access footage.



3. END POLICING OF LOW-LEVEL OFFENSES

Legalize marijuana possession for adults, decriminalize certain low-level offenses, and deprioritize arrests for behavior that can be managed outside the criminal justice system to limit unnecessary police interactions and opportunities for conflict.



4. ABOLISH POLICING FOR PROFIT

Stop the abusive practice of civil asset forfeiture, which lets the police seize any property they assert is related to criminal activity — even if no one is ever charged.



5. REQUIRE TRANSPARENCY

Require police departments to collect and publicly release data on policing activity — such as stops, frisks, use of force, and arrests — sorted by race, ethnicity, and other demographics, shedding light on patterns and trends.

Learn more at www.aclu-nj.org.