

# Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club

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June 18, 2018

Dear Oakland City Council Member,

We are deeply concerned about the current threat to the independence of the independent Police Commission. As you know, Oakland voters supported the establishment of the Commission by over 83%.

You have the opportunity to both respect the overwhelming mandate of your constituents and ensure the independence of such a necessary new institution.

We are deeply disappointed that the City Attorney is demanding authority over the Commission's legal advisor. The Federal Monitor team has documented the problematic roles of the City Attorney and City Administrator in undermining police accountability.

It is worth noting that the current concerns were never raised by the City Attorney during the drafting, review, and City Council's passage of the ballot measure/placement of the Measure on the ballot.

Please respect the voters' demand for a truly independent Police Commission and the Commissioners' unanimous request for independence of their legal counsel. To do otherwise jeopardizes effective oversight of the police and hinders our City's ability to finally end almost two decades of Federal oversight. The independence of the Police Commission is critical to instilling public trust and confidence of City residents in our police department.

Sincerely,  
Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club  
Jack Kurzweil [jack.kurzweil@gmail.com](mailto:jack.kurzweil@gmail.com)  
Communications Coordinator

Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club  
[www.wellstoneclub.org](http://www.wellstoneclub.org)  
PO Box 9572, Berkeley, CA 94709