

POLICE REFORM ORGANIZING PROJECT (PROP) FACT SHEET

ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES

- 91% of all juvenile arrests in NYC in 2010 involved black or Latino youth.
- 87% of the more than 50,000 people the NYPD arrested for misdemeanor marijuana possession in 2010 were black or Latino.
- A resident of Brownsville is 150 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than a resident of the Upper East Side.
- The NYPD handed out over 600,000 summonses for violations* in 2009, amounting to an average of over 1,600 per day, which generated \$5.4 million in revenue.
- The NYPD gave out over 132,000 summonses for open alcohol containers in 2009, an average of 362 a day.
- Of the 382,000 misdemeanor** criminal summonses such as disorderly conduct and loitering handled by NYC courts in 2008, over 193,000 (51%) were tossed out by the courts.

* In New York, violations are not considered “crimes” under state law and do not constitute either misdemeanors or felonies. The sanction is usually a fine and may be imprisonment of no more than 15 days.

** Misdemeanors are criminal convictions which may be punished by a fine, probation, or a term of imprisonment of at least 15 days but not more than one year.

NYPD PERSONNEL/BUDGET

- The NYPD has over 50,000 personnel, including approximately 40,000 uniformed officers.
- NYC has more police officers per capita than both Chicago and Los Angeles.
- NYC spends \$4.3 billion per year on the NYPD budget, which is almost 4 times the amount that both Chicago and Los Angeles allocate.

STOP AND FRISK

- 87% of the NYPD’s nearly 614,000 stops in 2010 involved black or Latino individuals.
- The number of stop and frisks has increased 600% since 2002.
- In the first quarter of 2011, suspect descriptions accounted for only 15% of the reasons that people were stopped.
- 93% of the cases where force was used during stop and frisk involved black and Latino individuals.
- 90% of the summonses given during stop and frisk were to black or Latino individuals.
- 72% of Harlem household members reported that they and their regular visitors were stopped 5-20 times in 2008.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE NYPD

- Over the last five years, New York City has paid more than \$500 million in settlements and judgments against the NYPD, often involving misconduct claims against individual officers. In 2010 alone, NYC paid \$136 million in such claims against the NYPD.
- Claims against the NYPD have increased 71% between 2001 and 2010, with claims against the NYPD increasing 25% between 2009 and 2010 alone.
- NYC is hiring an additional 28 attorneys to handle the increasing volume of tort claims being brought against the NYPD, at an approximate cost of over \$2 million annually



For more information please contact:

Police Reform Organizing Project (PROP), Urban Justice Center, 123 Williams Street, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10038
Email: PROP@urbanjustice.org or Call: (646) 602-5625

