

THIS AMENDMENT PASSED ON A 9-0 VOTE.

CITY COUNCIL
of the
CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

February 23, 2022

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO F/S O-21-78

AMENDMENT SPONSORED BY COUNCILOR Sanchez

1. On page 18, line 23: Amend Subsection (C)(3) as follows:

“§ 9-4-1-6 CPOA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.

...

(C)

...

- (3) If appropriate, mediation should be the first option for resolution of civilian police complaints. Mediators should be independent of the CPOA, APD, and the City, and should not be former officers or employees of APD. At the discretion of the Director an impartial system of mediation should be considered appropriate for certain complaints. If all parties involved reach an agreement, no investigation will occur. **[The CPOA and APD shall coordinate to develop a mediation program that aims to allow civilian police complainants and officers the opportunity to communicate directly regarding disputes, find areas of agreement, and reach their own solutions. APD should ensure that officers have mentorship resources available in advance of mediation that explain the mediation process and the benefits it provides for officers and their relationships with the citizens they serve.]**

Explanation: This Amendment proposes to expand upon the existing mediation provisions contained in the CPOA Ordinance. In certain cases, mediation may be a more appropriate and beneficial avenue for resolving a civilian police complaint. A mediation program would allow officers and complainants to communicate with each other directly, share feelings and perspectives, and clear up misunderstandings, with the aim that the parties can find areas of agreement and reach a mutually agreeable solution. Although mediation is contemplated in the CPOA Ordinance, due to restrictions in the CASA, the City would need to obtain a waiver from the DOJ to implement this program. The City has previously obtained such a waiver and could do so again.