



**Oakland Police  
Commission**

# PRESS RELEASE

Thursday, January 29, 2026

## **NEW OAKLAND POLICE COMMISSIONER APPOINTED**



### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Oakland, CA — January 29, 2026 — The Oakland Police Commission announces the appointment of Judge (Ret.) Evelio Grillo as the City of Oakland's newest Police Commissioner.

Pursuant to City Charter section 604(c)(2), the Oakland City Council accepted the Mayor's appointment of Judge (Ret.) Evelio Grillo to serve as a member of the Police Commission for a term expiring October 16, 2028, filling the seat formerly held by Brenda Harbin-Forte. The appointment was approved by the City Council on January 20, 2026, and Commissioner Grillo was sworn into office on January 28, 2026. He will participate in his first regular Police Commission meeting on February 12, 2026.

Commissioner Evelio Grillo (Ret. Judge) served on the Alameda County Superior Court for more than 20 years. A native of Oakland, he brings extensive experience in public service, the judiciary, and community leadership. His professional background includes service in municipal government, community development, and the legal profession, reflecting a long-standing commitment to equity, accountability, and public trust.

*"Oakland needs steady, experienced, and principled leadership on the Police Commission - especially during a police chief transition and as we redouble our commitment to completing the NSA," said Mayor Barbara Lee. "Judge Evelio Grillo brings an extraordinary depth of legal expertise, integrity, and a lifelong commitment to public service that will strengthen accountability and help move Oakland forward." - Mayor Lee*

The Oakland Police Commission welcomes Commissioner Grillo and looks forward to his contributions as the Commission continues its work to advance constitutional policing and meaningful civilian oversight.

For more information about the Oakland Police Commission and Commissioner Grillo, visit: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/Government/Boards-Commissions/Police-Commission>

Media Contact: Ricardo Garcia-Acosta, Chair  
Oakland Police Commission  
[RGarcia-Acosta@oaklandcommission.org](mailto:RGarcia-Acosta@oaklandcommission.org)