

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

OF THE

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
VOTE*

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Thursday, April 10, 2025

Start: 10:43 a.m.

Recess: 10:56 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Hon. Yusef Salaam, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joann Ariola
Diana I. Ayala
Tiffany Cabán
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Robert F. Holden
Rita C. Joseph
Christopher Marte
Chi A. Ossé
Carlina Rivera
Althea V. Stevens

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: Check, check.

(PAUSE)

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning, good morning, welcome to the New York City Council vote on the Committee on Public Safety. At this time please do not approach the dais and silence all electronics. Chair, you may begin.

CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: [GAVEL] Good morning, I'm Council Member Yusef Salaam, Chair of the Committee on Public Safety. Today I am joined by Council Member De La Rosa...

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: No, no, not yet.

(LAUGHTER)

CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: Council Member De La Rosa, Council Member Ossé, Council Member Stevens, Council Member Ayala, Council Member Farías, Council Member Holden, Council Member Ariola, and Council Member Marte.

Today the Committee will be voting on Proposed Introduction Numbers 168-A, sponsored by Majority Leader Farías; Proposed Introduction Number 233-A, sponsored by Council Member Hudson, and Proposed

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2 Introduction Number 480-A, sponsored by Council
3 Member Won.

4 In 2020 the Council enacted *The Public Oversight*
5 *of Surveillance Technologies Act* more commonly known
6 as the POST Act. The POST Act aimed to improve
7 transparency regarding the NYPD's acquisition and use
8 of surveillance technologies by requiring the
9 publishing of surveillance impact and use policies
10 (IUPs) for each surveillance technology used by the
11 Department. For each IUP, the NYPD documents the
12 capabilities of the surveillance technology, the
13 rules for access and use of such surveillance, and
14 policies related to the retention, access, and use of
15 data collection by such technologies. Further, the
16 POST Act tasked the Department of Investigations,
17 (DOI) with conducting annual audits of the NYPD's
18 IUPs.

19 Proposed Introduction Number 168-A, sponsored by
20 Majority Leader Fariás, would strengthen the DOI's
21 capacity to conduct audits of the NYPD's published
22 IUPs by requiring the NYPD to provide DOI with
23 semiannual updates on all newly acquired or
24 discontinued surveillance technologies and updates to
25 any data access and retention policies established in

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2 recently executed contracts for surveillance
3 technologies.

4 Proposed Introduction Number 480-A, sponsored by
5 Council Member Won, would clarify language in the
6 POST Act to ensure increased transparency in IUPs
7 published by the NYPD ensuring that IUPs are
8 published for each distinct surveillance technology
9 used by the Department; that such IUPs fully identify
10 each entity that receives data gathered from such
11 technology; that such IUPs report on specific
12 safeguards in place to prevent unauthorized
13 dissemination of surveillance data; and that such
14 IUPs disclose evaluation of potential disparate
15 impacts on protected groups arising from the NYPD's
16 use of such technologies. Additionally, NYPD would be
17 required to develop policies regarding the
18 circumstances under which data collected by the
19 surveillance technology may be shared with external
20 entities and develop an internal tracking system to
21 monitor access of data granted to such entities.

22 Proposed Introduction Number 233-A, sponsored by
23 Council Member Hudson, would require the New York
24 City Police Department (NYPD) to publish on its
25 website a written policy that establishes procedures

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2 and regulations for its use of facial recognition
3 technologies. The legislation would also require that
4 the NYPD conduct annual audits of the Department's
5 use of facial recognition technology, share the
6 findings of such audits with the Department of
7 Investigation, and post such findings on the
8 Department's website.

9 I urge my colleagues to support these bills that
10 aim to increase transparency and oversight of the
11 NYPD to protect the civil liberties of all New
12 Yorkers.

13 (PAUSE)

14 CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: I will now pass it to
15 Council Member Farías.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: Thank you, Chair Salaam.
17 I am Council Majority Leader Amanda Farías, the prime
18 sponsor of Introduction 168, critical legislation to
19 strengthen the POST Act and bring real oversight to
20 NYPD surveillance practices.

21 The Council passed the original POST Act in 2020
22 to increase transparency around the NYPD's use of
23 surveillance tools. While that was an important first
24 step, it has become clear that additional measures
25 are needed to strengthen oversight.

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2 Information gaps have limited the Department of
3 Investigation's ability to complete a full audit,
4 highlighting the need for improved access and
5 accountability. That's why I introduced Intro 168 to
6 close those gaps and build real accountability into
7 the law.

8 This bill gives the Department of Investigation
9 the power to request and receive a detailed, itemized
10 list of every surveillance technology in use – what
11 each tool does, what data it collects, and who
12 controls that data. It also requires the NYPD to
13 share their data access and retention policies
14 including what's in vendor contracts and to provide
15 updates every six months.

16 This is about more than just oversight, it's
17 about restoring public trust especially for Black,
18 Latino and brown New Yorkers who have been
19 historically over policed and over surveilled. It is
20 critical that we deliver transparency and civilian
21 control over these powerful technologies.

22 Introduction 168 ensures that oversight of
23 surveillance is continuous, enforceable, and
24 external. It is a common sense safeguard for our
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2 civil liberties and a necessary update to a law that
3 our communities demand and deserve.

4 Thank you to Speaker Adams for her continued
5 leadership and to my colleagues, Council Members
6 Hudson and Won, for their partnership in the broader
7 POST Act expansion. And thank you to Chair Salaam for
8 holding the hearing and vote today.

9 And another thanks to NYPD and DOI, the Admin
10 for working together on this package, and to all the
11 advocates who continue pushing us towards a more
12 transparent accountable New York City.

13 CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: Thank you. I now ask the
14 Clerk to conduct the vote.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin,
16 Committee Clerk; roll call vote Committee on Public
17 Safety. All items are coupled.

18 Chair Salaam?

19 CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: I vote aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ayala?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Holden?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye on all except for
24 Introduction 480, for which I vote no.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

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Council Member Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (NO RESPONSE)

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Cabán?

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member De La Rosa?

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Joseph?

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Marte?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ossé?

COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Stevens?

COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Ariola?

COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: No on Introduction 480-A
and aye on all the rest, thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: The following vote, Proposed
Introductions 168-A and 233-A are adopted by the
Committee with a vote of 10 in the affirmative, 0 in
the negative, and no abstentions. And Proposed
Introduction Number 480-A, has been adopted by the

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2 Committee with 8 in the affirmative, 2 in the
3 negative, and no abstentions.

4 (PAUSE)

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: The roll call is being held
6 open at the request of the Chair.

7 (PAUSE)

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call;
9 Committee on Public Safety, items are coupled.

10 Council Member Rivera?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote on Proposed
13 Introduction Numbers 168-A and 233-A are adopted by
14 the Committee with 11 in the affirmative, 0 in the
15 negative, and no abstentions. And Proposed
16 Introduction Number 480-A is adopted by the Committee
17 with 9 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative, and no
18 abstentions.

19 Mr. Chair, that is a full committee.

20 CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: Perfect, that concludes
21 today's business. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date May 8, 2025