



NACOLE Candidate Election Questionnaire

Name: Yojaira Alvarez

Position Sought: Board Member

Geographic Location: New York City

Current Employment: NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board

1. How long have you been involved with NACOLE, and how did you initially become involved?

I have officially been involved with NACOLE for over five years. Before formally attending and presenting at NACOLE conferences, I first learned about the organization through my colleagues at the CCRB. Through NACOLE's network, peer oversight organizations from across the US and overseas reached out to the CCRB, prompting me to organize and host fruitful, knowledge-sharing exchanges. I utilized the NACOLE website and its resources to inform policy, conduct outreach, and craft best practices for the agency.

2. Which NACOLE Committees have you served on? Have you had other involvement in NACOLE as a volunteer?

Although I have not served on any NACOLE committees, I helped coordinate the 2025 NACOLE regional meeting in New York City. This included scouting a location, proposing panels, panelists, and collaborating with NACOLE leadership to execute the event.

3. Please share highlights of your background/experience in law enforcement oversight.

I have worked in civilian oversight for nearly a decade. In that time, I demonstrated the ability to translate legislative and policy advocacy into tangible financial support including securing \$1 million in dedicated public education funding. I proposed and advanced significant charter revisions, legislation, and police reform initiatives. My innovative approach to outreach resulted in reaching tens of thousands of New

Yorkers and improving the perception and trust everyday civilians have with the CCRB. I am also proud to have created the first-of-its-kind Youth Advisory Council for a civilian oversight entity.

4. Why do you want to serve on NACOLE's Board? What makes NACOLE's mission important to you?

Civilian oversight is under attack. I want to serve on NACOLE's Board because there is an urgency to broaden our coalition by recruiting high-impact stakeholders and thoughtful partners. I can leverage my expertise and network to amplify our message nationally, ensuring our critical work is protected. I want to bring my fresh perspectives and enthusiasm to the Board to drive meaningful change and build a more resilient, brighter future.

5. What skills/qualities do you expect to contribute as a Board member?

I offer a unique blend of executive-level experience and innovative public engagement strategies that will directly contribute to achieving NACOLE's strategic goals. I have built strong, productive relationships with local, state, and federal elected officials and will leverage those connections to expand the national scope of NACOLE's reach. I will conduct research to identify additional funding resources and create an advocacy strategic plan aimed at empowering member agencies to protect the vital work they are doing.

6. What goals do you have for your service on the NACOLE Board, what would you most like to accomplish as a Board member?

As a NACOLE Board Member, my primary goals will be to make the organization more sustainable and resilient. I will accomplish this by 1) broadening our coalition through targeted recruitment and building strategic partnerships, 2) creating a comprehensive communications plan to amplify NACOLE's message and nationwide impact, and 3) establishing a national youth engagement standard to create the next generation of oversight advocates. The time has come to reimagine our work and think creatively about how to best protect the critical work of civilian oversight and better support impacted communities.