2021 OPA Report Statistics

All Complaints and Inquiries

161 – Total
88 – Closed as Inquiries
73 – Complaint Investigations

Personnel Complaints / Internal Investigations

73 – Total
41 – Sustained
16 – Non-sustained
0 – Unfounded
12 – Exonerated
2 – Undetermined
0 – Vacated
2 – Closed

In Custody Death Reviews

1 – Total

Use of Force Complaints

6 – Total
3 – Sustained
3 – Not Sustained

Biased Policing Complaints

2 – Total
0 – Sustained
2 – Not Sustained
Definitions of Dispositions

PPM 1019.7.5/413.7.5
Each personnel complaint shall be classified with one of the following dispositions:

**Unfounded**
The complainant admits to making a false allegation, the accused employee was not involved in the incident, or the incident did not occur.

**Exonerated**
The incident occurred, however, the employee’s actions were justified, lawful, and proper.

**Non-Sustained**
A. Cleared: There is sufficient evidence to prove the allegation is false or it is not supported by the facts.
B. Inconclusive: There is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.
C. The investigation revealed that the employee committed a violation(s) other than the original allegations(s). A new allegation would be alleged and a finding made.

**Sustained**
The allegation is supported by sufficient evidence to indicate that the employee committed one or more of the alleged acts.

**Undetermined**
This may involve but is not limited to the following:
A. The complainant withdraws the complaint;
B. The complainant cannot be located;
C. The complainant is uncooperative;
D. The accused member separates from the Office before the conclusion of the investigation.

Definitions of Conduct Inquiries, Personnel Complaints and Internal Investigations

**Conduct Inquiry**
The conduct described by the complainant does not merit a formal investigation because, if proven true, it does not constitute misconduct.
Personnel Complaint
An allegation of circumstances amounting to a specific act or failure to act, which, if proven true, may amount to employee misconduct; generally investigated by a supervisor of the subject employee(s).

Internal Investigation
A formal investigation of a personnel complaint assigned by the Sheriff or his designee to the Office of Professional Accountability due to its complex or serious nature, or for allegations of criminal conduct.

Current Trends
Included in the 73 complaints formally investigated, 120 policy violations were alleged. 24 of the 73 complaints investigated for 2021 originated from external (public) sources, 49 from internal (within the agency) sources.

The top four potential policy violations for Allegations in CITIZEN INITIATED COMPLAINTS consist of the following:
D. Affirmatively Promoting a Positive Public Image – 31.7%
E. Display Competent Performance & Achieve Competent Performance Results – 17.1%
F. Observance of Criminal and Civil Laws – 14.6%
G. Use of Force – 9.8%

The top four potential policy violations arising from Allegations in INTERNAL COMPLAINTS consist of the following:
1. Knowing, Observing and Obeying all Written Directives, Policies and Procedures – 25.3%
2. Displaying Competent Performance and Achieving Competent Performance Results – 12.7%
3. Use and Care of Office Property and Equipment (including policies regarding vehicle collisions) – 11.4%
4. Dishonesty or Untruthfulness – 7.6%

Comparison to 2020
- Corrections Complaint Investigations for 2021 = 25 (16 in 2020 - 56% increase)
- Law Enforcement Complaint Investigations for 2021 = 48 (80 in 2020 - 40% decrease)
- In Custody Death Reviews for 2021 = 1 (2 in 2020 - 50% decrease)
- Citizen Inquiries for 2021 = 88 (71 in 2020 - 24% increase)