



City of Takoma Park

Takoma Park Police Department

Internal Affairs Complaint Investigations 2020

The Takoma Park Police Department's policy directives require investigations of all complaints against the Department or its employees, and that annual statistical summaries of such investigations by the internal affairs function be made available to the public. The following is a summary of complaints filed for calendar year 2020.

Twenty formal complaints were recorded in 2020 with 10 subjected to internal affairs investigations. Eleven complaints were submitted by community members, with eight being filed on-line and three in person. Two complaints were from outside Law Enforcement agencies and seven were generated internally by an employee, the Chief of Police, or the Command Staff. There was one compliment that was filed using the online option thanking officers for their handling of a call for service.

Subjects of the complaints in 2020 included a total of 13 sworn officers, some of whom were involved in more than one complaint. Five civilian employees were the subject of a complaint, some of whom were involved in more than one complaint. There were two complaints that did not specify an employee.

Twelve of the 20 complaints resulted in sustained findings of improper conduct, and disciplinary measures were warranted and taken. Eight complaints were determined to be unfounded, which is outlined in the blow listed chart.

Statistical comparison for 2020 to 2019 indicates an increase of 11 complaints with nine received in 2019, which is a 45% increase compared to 2019. Sustained findings increased from two in 2019 compared to 12 in 2020. In 2020, the use of body worn camera footage was used to assist in the investigation of complaints. Body worn camera footage was essential in determining if the complaint was to be unfounded or provided evidence to support the allegations.

In 2020, officers had a total of 12,081 contacts with the public, which included calls for service, self-initiated calls, and traffic stops. Out of the 12,081 contacts, eight complaints were generated; five complaints were results of calls for service and two complaints were results of traffic complaints. The complaints represent 0.06% of all contacts.

Residents are reminded that the process for making a complaint against a police employee is detailed on the City of Takoma Park web page by selecting the Government tab and then selecting the Police tab. The information is also available on flyers available to the public in

the Police Department Lobby. Complaints and compliments can be filed online through the web page.

DISCIPLINE IMPOSED	
Written Reprimand	2
Loss of Leave	1
Loss of Pay	0
Suspension without pay from Duty	0
Demotion	0
Dismissal from Employment	0
Monetary Fine	0
Retired While Under Investigation	1
Resigned in-lieu of Termination	1
Other Type of Discipline	5
Unfounded	8
Pending	2

**Self-initiated calls: These types of calls are initiated by a police officer and given to dispatch, i.e., loiterers, suspicious subjects, parking, etc.*