



City of Takoma Park

Takoma Park Police Department

Internal Affairs Complaint Investigations 2021

The Takoma Park Police Department's policy directives require investigations of all complaints against the Department or its employees, and that annual statistical summary of such investigations by the internal affairs function be made available to the public. The following is a summary of complaints filed for the calendar year 2021.

Thirteen complaints were recorded in 2021 with all subjected to internal affairs investigation. Three complaints were submitted by community members and 10 were submitted internally by an employee, the Chief of Police, or the Command Staff. The majority of the complaints received in 2021 were initiated by police department employees. There were two compliments submitted using the online option thanking officers for their handling of calls for service.

Subjects of the complaints in 2021 included a total of nine sworn officers, some of whom were involved in more than one complaint. Two civilian employees were the subject of a complaint, some of whom were involved in more than one complaint. Eleven out of the 13 complaints resulted in sustained findings of improper conduct, and disciplinary measures were warranted and taken. One complaint was unfounded and one complaint resulted in the employee resigning while under investigation.

The 2021 statistical comparison with 2020 indicates a decrease with 24 complaints received in 2020 compared to 13 in 2021, which is approximately a 54 percent decrease in complaints compared to that in 2020. All Takoma Park Police sworn officers wear body-worn cameras. Body-worn camera footage was essential in determining if the complaint is to be unfounded or provided evidence to support the allegations based upon the review of the camera footage. In 2021, officers had a total of 10,346 contacts with the public, which included calls for service, self-initiated calls*, and traffic stops. The complaints represent 0.0013% 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 - 7
Loss of Leave - 0
Loss of Pay - 0
Suspension without pay from Duty - 2
Demotion - 1
Dismissal from Employment - 0
Monetary Fine - 0
Retired While Under Investigation - 0
Resigned While Under Investigation - 1
Other Type of Discipline - 0
Unfounded - 1
Pending - 1

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