

About OPC

The Office of Police Complaints (OPC) is an independent District of Columbia Government agency that provides a fair and impartial forum for the review and resolution of police misconduct complaints filed against Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and D.C. Housing Authority Office of Public Safety (OPS) Officers.

Our Mission

OPC promotes the highest attainable standard of integrity, professionalism, and accountability in the District's police department. The agency strengthens community trust by ensuring that citizen complaints about police conduct are taken seriously, carefully investigated, and reviewed by an experienced staff that is overseen by the civilian Police Complaints Board who are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the District Council.

Office of Police Complaints

1400 I Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005

(202) 727-3838 (Tel)

(202) 727-9182 (Fax)

24-hour toll-free hotline:

1(866) 588-0569

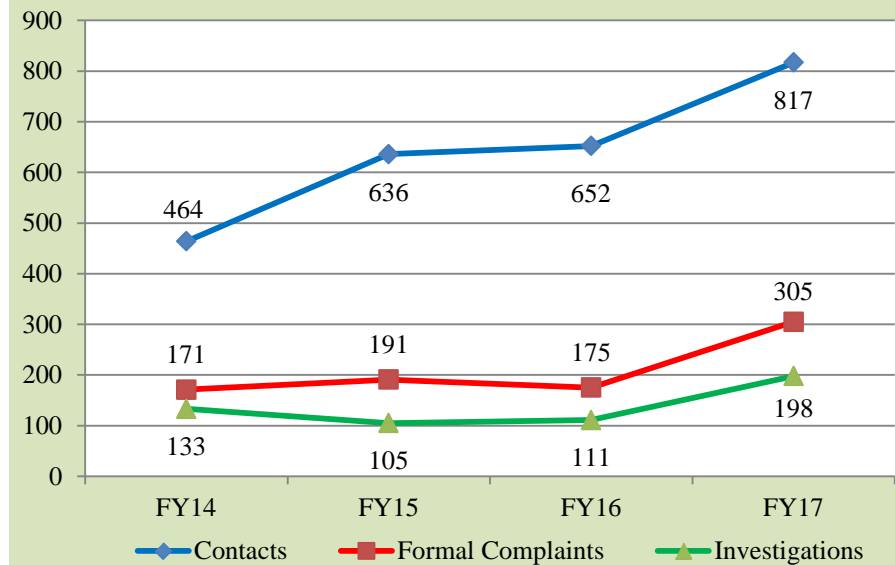
www.policecomplaints.dc.gov

dcpolice.complaintsoffice@dc.gov

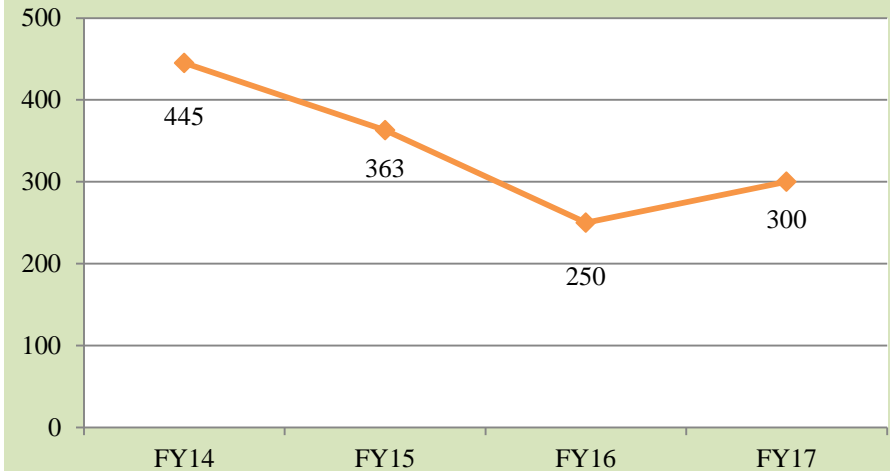
facebook.com/OfficeofPoliceComplaints

FY17 Investigations Statistics

Total Complaints Received Oct - March



Total Complaints Investigated Oct - March*

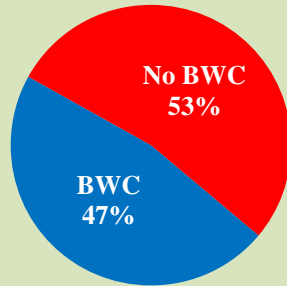


The first half of FY17 is defined as Oct. 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

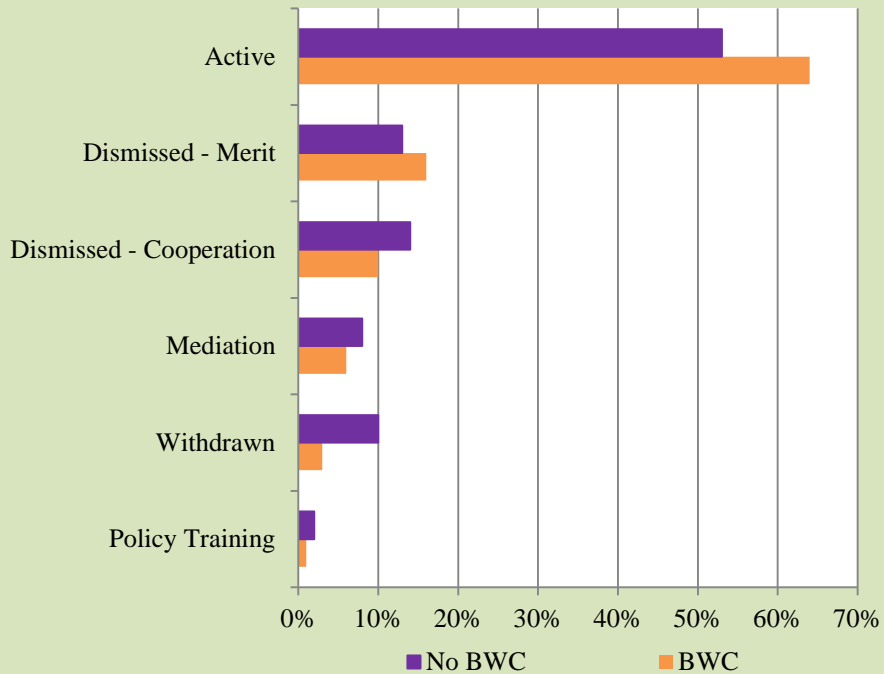
*New cases plus open cases from prior fiscal years.

Body Worn Cameras FY17 Oct – March

Cases with Body-Worn Camera Footage*

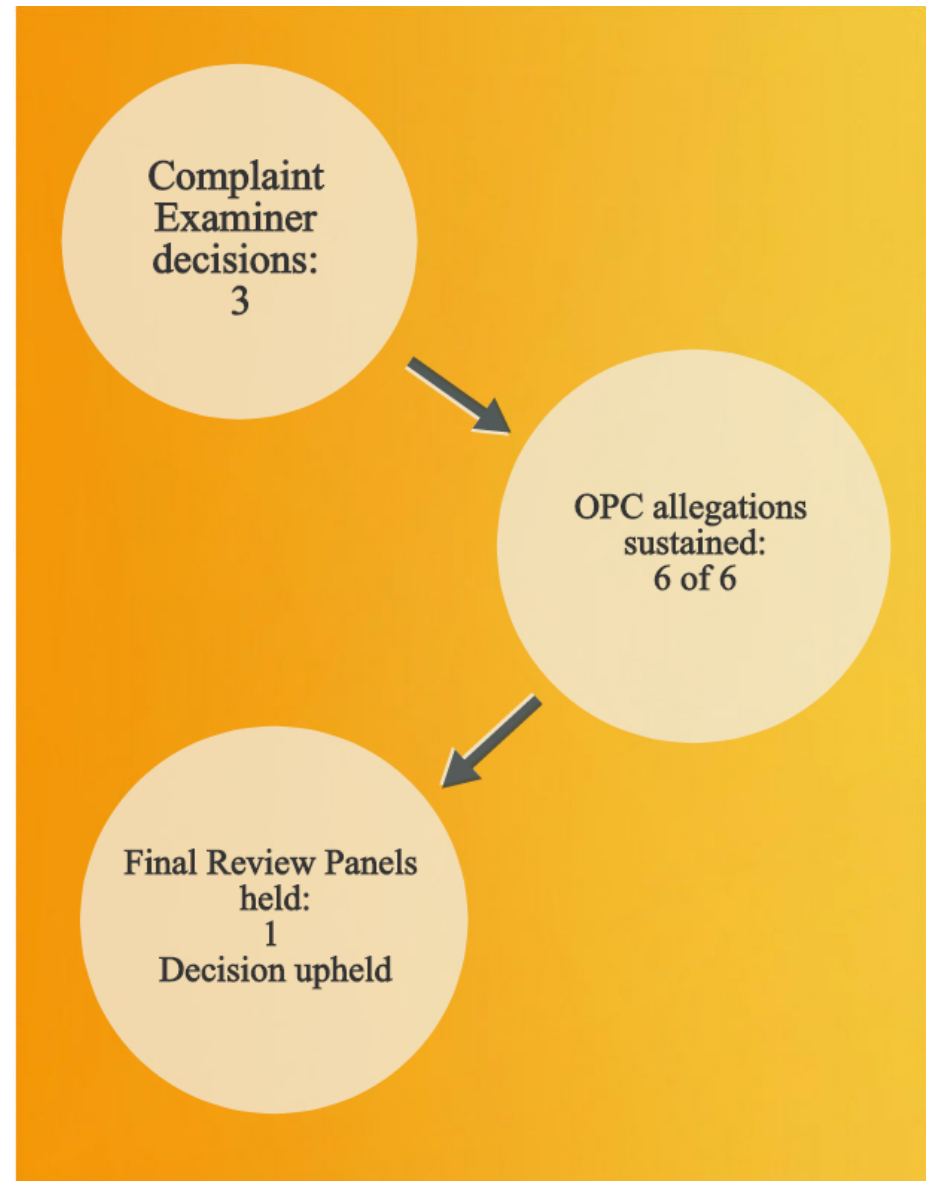


Disposition and Body Worn Cameras

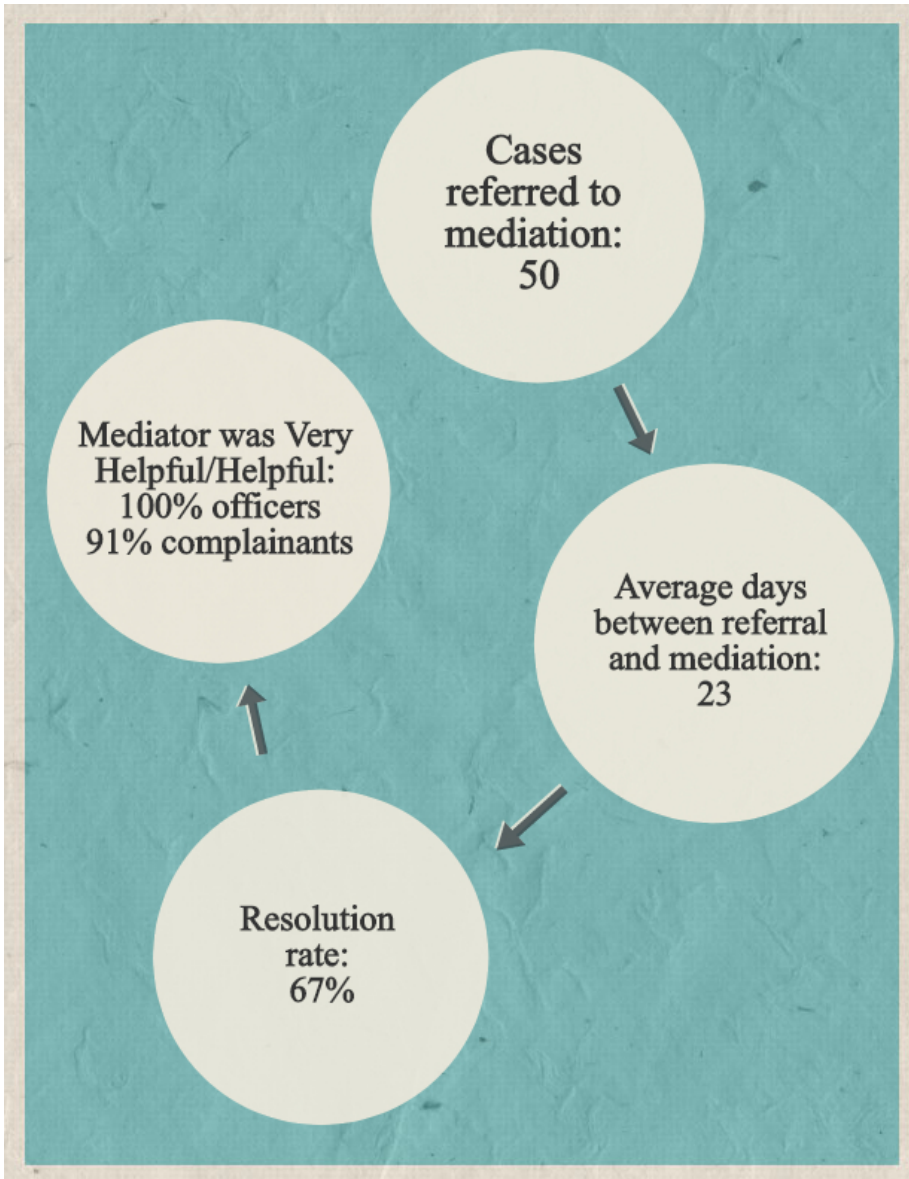


*Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) were fully deployed to all MPD officers as of Dec. 15, 2016.

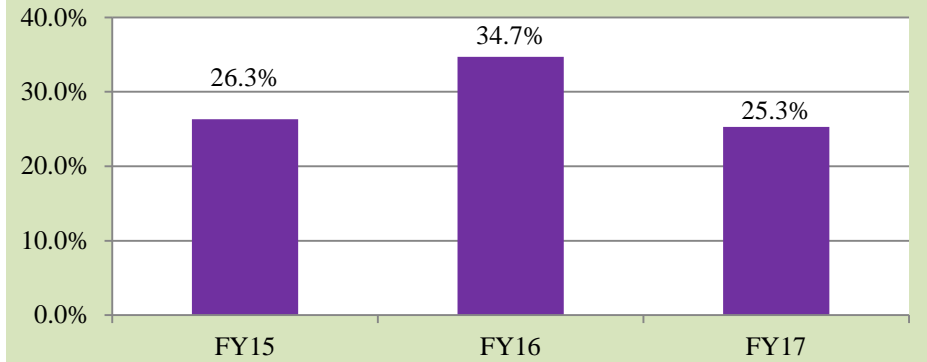
Complaint Examinations FY17 Oct – March



Mediation Program FY17 Oct – March



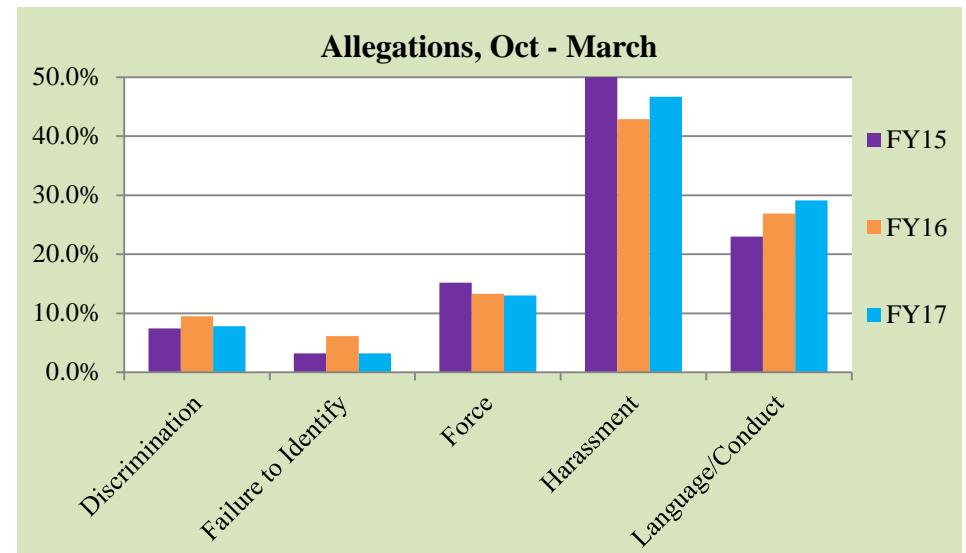
Percent of Cases Referred to Mediation, Oct - March



Mediations per 1,000 Officers

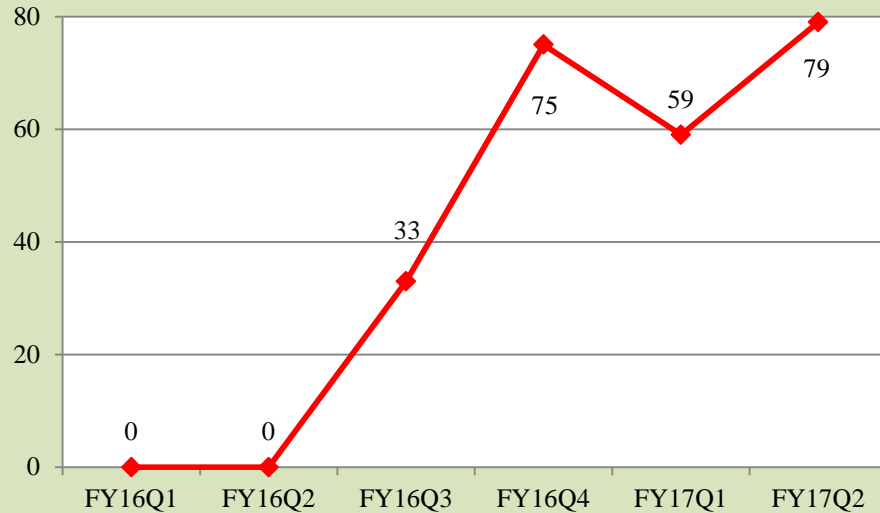
	Sworn officers	Mediations completed	Mediations per 1,000 officers
FY15	3789	42	11.1
FY16	3823	59	15.4
FY17 to date	3800	33	8.7

Types of Allegations, Oct – March

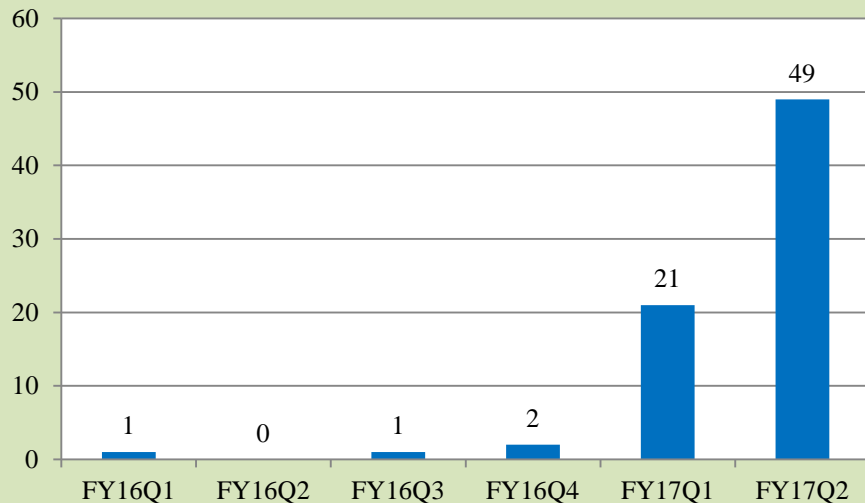


Source of Complaints

Complaints Submitted by E-Form*



Complaints Referred to OPC from MPD**



*OPC launched its online submission form (e-form) in FY16Q3.

** The NEAR Act, passed June 30, 2016, requires MPD to forward all complaints it receives to OPC.

Policy Recommendations Published in FY17

OPC published three recommendations in the first half of FY17 to help update and improve MPD policies.

1. Ensure MPD Policies and Procedures are Current

- More than half of MPD's general orders are at least 10 years old, despite technological and other advances in law enforcement.
- OPC recommended that MPD:
 - Develop a plan to review written directives on a regular schedule, and
 - Pursue accreditation to ensure implementation of best practices.

2. Language and Conduct

- More than half of all complaints OPC received since 2012 included at least one language and conduct violation.
- OPC recommended that MPD:
 - Emphasize the importance of courtesy and respectful language in interactions with the public, and
 - Update the general order governing language and conduct to remind officers of its importance.

3. Notice of Infraction for Excessive Idling

- OPC has received numerous complaints in recent years from community members receiving tickets for excessive idling. However, the excessive idling statute the complainants are cited for applies only to commercial vehicles.
- OPC recommended that MPD remind officers of the excessive idling policy and develop new officer training.

Protest Monitoring in FY17

One of OPC's responsibilities is to attend First Amendment assemblies to monitor MPD interactions with assembly attendees. OPC monitored four such assemblies in the first half of FY17.

1. Inauguration Day Protests

- **OPC monitored Inauguration Day Protests, including incidents near Franklin Park that led to around 220 arrests.**
 - OPC observed MPD officers generally complying with department policies and procedures across the District.
 - The MPD response to protests involved the use of less-than-lethal weapons and the arrest of some attendees who may not have participated in illegal activities.
 - OPC recommended an independent investigator review all aspects of MPD's actions on Jan. 20, 2017, and that MPD review its Standard Operating Procedure for handling First Amendment assemblies.

2. Women's March

- **OPC monitored the Women's March on Jan. 21, 2017, which was mostly peaceful.**
- **OPC's observed MPD performing in a professional manner and balancing the interests of public safety with the right to free expression.**
- **Two concerns did arise:**
 - Several officers were observed wearing pink hats along with the participants, which could be perceived as a political statement while on duty, and
 - MPD's presence did not seem evenly distributed, but was concentrated at the original rally point.

3. March for Life and Stop the Gag

- **The March for Life took place on Jan. 27, 2017.**
- **The Stop the Gag (Women's Day) demonstration took place on March 8, 2017.**
- **OPC attended both, but no significant observations were made at either to warrant a formal report.**

How to File a Complaint

Complaint forms and informational brochures can be obtained by:

- Visiting our website at <http://dcforms.dc.gov/webform/office-police-complaints-online-complaint-form>
- Calling OPC's office at (202) 727-3838
- Calling OPC's 24-hour, toll-free Hotline at 1(866) 588-0569
- Visiting any OPC community partner (community partners are listed on the website under "File a Complaint")
- Visiting OPC Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
- Visiting any MPD district station

Forms can be submitted:

- Online
- In person
- By email
- By Fax
- By mail
- By dropping forms off at any MPD district station

Directions by Mass Transit



Metrorail:

OPC is in the building directly above the 14th Street exit from the McPherson Square Metro Station. McPherson Square is served by Metro's Blue and Orange lines.



Metrobus:

Nearby Metrobus routes include: 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 42, 52, 54, 80, D4, G8, A9, P17, P19, S2, S4, W13, X2, and the Circulator.

**Government of the District of Columbia
Police Complaints Board
Office of Police Complaints**

FY2017 Mid-Year Report

