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

FY19 Mid-Year Report
COMPLAINT ACTIVITY

FY19

CONTACTS RECEIVED
Increase 1%

FORMAL COMPLAINTS
Decrease 1%

NEW INVESTIGATIONS
OPENED
Increase 5%

Total Complaints Investigated
OCT - MAR*

372

*New Cases Plus Open Cases From Prior Fiscal Years. All numbers are for the first half of the fiscal year indicated. OPC’s fiscal year is Oct. 1 through Sept. 30.
ALLEGATIONS

Retaliation

Failure to ID

Discrimination

Force

Language / Conduct

Harrassment

D.C. Office of Police Complaints
**SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS**

- **182** ONLINE SUBMISSIONS
- **98** MPD/HAPD REFERRAL
- **55** WALK-IN
- **21** MAIL
- **15** E-MAIL
- **4** FAX

**Increase in Online Complaint Submissions: 14%**

**Decrease in MPD Referrals: 10%**
**CASE DISPOSITIONS**

**DISPOSITIONS OF CASES CLOSED**

- Dismissed - Merit: 40%
- Dismissed - No Cooperation: 34%
- Mediated: 8%
- Adjudicated: 6%
- Policy Training: 6%
- Rapid Resolution: 7%

**Increase**

- ADJUDICATED and DISMISSED-NO COOPERATION DISPOSITIONS: 3%

**BODY WORN CAMERA**

- Subject Not Notified of Recording: 20%
- Camera Not Activated: 3%
- Camera Turned On Late: 3%
- Camera Turned Off Early: 1%
- Camera Obstructed: 1%

**79%** Cases with BWC Footage

**28%** BWC Videos with BWC Non-Compliance

**Cases with BWC**

- Dismissed - Merit: 39%
- Dismissed - Cooperation: 35%
- Mediation: 9%
- Policy Training: 8%
- Rapid Resolution: 4%
- Adjudicated: 6%

**Cases without BWC**

- Dismissed - Merit: 39%
- Dismissed - Cooperation: 27%
- Mediation: 3%
- Policy Training: 0%
- Rapid Resolution: 18%
- Adjudicated: 3%
**POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

OPC published two recommendations in the first half of FY19 to help update policies and improve police and community relationships.

**Implementation Update on the Reports and Recommendations of the Police Complaints Board From Fiscal Year 2017 (released December 18, 2018)**

- Revisits the policy recommendations made in FY17, which included six reports and 16 recommendations to the Council, MPD and/or DCHAPD.
- Of the 16 recommendations, five have been fully implemented, five are partially implemented, and six have not been implemented. For each partially or not implemented past recommendation, guidance is provided as to how the recommendation can become fully implemented.

**Using Litigation Data to Improve Policing (released March 11, 2019)**

- Police work comes with inherent risk, and with that can come litigation. Comprehensive police department policies and well-trained officers can minimize risk, however, litigation remains an inevitable consequence of policing. Careful collection and analysis of litigation data has the potential to reduce costs to the District while improving officer performance and police-community relations. MPD can use litigation data to ensure that training and policies are targeted to prevent issues that led to the litigation, and work to keep them from reoccurring. Sharing this information with the public will also lead to greater transparency, and public trust.

- PCB recommended that MPD:
  - Establish a program to systematically review litigation data for lawsuits filed against MPD and its members. This internal review should be used to develop relevant trainings and policy changes; and
  - Publish public reports, with aggregate information, regarding the lawsuits, together with the costs associated with the litigation. The reports should include the state of any interventions, trainings, or policy changes based on the litigation to inform the public that MPD is responsive to issues that are brought to the attention of the department, and these reports should be made annually.

**HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT**

- 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 OPC’s website under “File a Complaint”)
- Visiting OPC Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
- Visiting any MPD district station

**Complaint forms can be submitted:**

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

**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 Police Department officers.

**OUR MISSION**

OPC’s mission is to increase community trust in the District of Columbia police forces by providing a fair, thorough, and independent system of civilian oversight of law enforcement.
OFFICE of POLICE COMPLAINTS
1400 I St. 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
https://twitter.com/DistrictOPC

DIRECTIONS to OPC by PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

metrobus
Nearby Metrobus routes include: 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 42, 52, 80, D4, G8, G9, A9, P19, S2, S4, X2

metrorail
 OPC is in the building directly above the 14th Street exit of the McPherson Square Metro Station. McPherson Square is served by Metro’s Blue, Orange, and Silver lines.

circulator
 Green: Woodley Park - Adams Morgan - McPherson Square
 Yellow: Georgetown - Union Station