

Prince George's County, Maryland
Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel



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October 1, 2009



Dear Citizens and Residents

The Prince George's County Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel (CCOP) is charged with monitoring and evaluating investigations of police misconduct. The CCOP is part of a police accountability process established in 1990 to ensure that anyone with a complaint regarding the conduct of an officer of the Prince George's County Police Department (PGCPD) is able to complain formally, that their complaints are treated and investigated professionally and swiftly, and that there is independent oversight of the investigative process.

The significance and value of what we do is not just reflected in the statistics and data detailed in this report. There are unseen and immeasurable benefits to what we do. Our persistent and meticulous scrutiny of the investigative process, not only ensures that police misconduct is properly and thoroughly investigated, it also serves to deter future misconduct and inhibit the internal culture of cronyism that fosters misconduct. We are, in essence, external "eyes over the shoulder" of not only the officers on the street, but the officers assigned to investigate their conduct, as well. We exist to facilitate greater accountability and transparency in police operations, and we take this job quite seriously. Our role in this process is strengthened by the fact that our panel is comprised of private citizens who are not members of the PGCPD and that we are a separately funded County government agency.

Included in this report is an in-depth presentation of statistical data on misconduct investigations reviewed by the CCOP in FY09. A notable change in statistics over the past four years has been the decline in the number of complaints that are identified for referral to the district commanders for investigations. These cases are known as Field Cases (FC). They include the lowest level of complaints, and have historically been the largest category of complaints reviewed by the CCOP. However, from FY06 to FY09, the CCOP received 40% fewer investigations in this category. While this statistic appears to indicate a decrease in such complaints, CCOP's review of this matter indicates that these types of complaints are, in fact, being handled differently by the Department. This is significant because there have been no corresponding increases in other case categories to indicate that the Department has moved the investigations of FC type complaints to another command level. The CCOP's concern is that not all of these types of complaints are being processed for an investigation within the parameters established by CB-59-2001.

The following is a listing of the other concerns noted by the CCOP for FY09. First, the CCOP noted several issues where lack of communication or cooperation in providing citizens with basic information or common courtesy has served to escalated situations, in some instances to uses of force.

ARTICULATING REASON FOR TRAFFIC OR CITIZEN STOPS

In FY09, the CCOP noted an emerging pattern of investigation where officers appeared unwilling to articulate, to the involved citizen, the lawful reason for a stop at the first point of contact. In the cases involving traffic stops, the panel has reviewed mobile video evidence and clearly observed citizens asking officers to tell them why they have been stopped. In many of these videos, officers have remained silent or provided curt responses that did not clearly answer the citizen's questions. In some of the instances observed, this has led to increased frustration on the part of the citizen and the situation escalated to a use of force.

DELAY OR FAILURE TO CLEARLY PROVIDE OFFICER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

The CCOP also noted an emerging pattern in cases where officers are not providing identification information to citizens or not providing it in the manner dictated by the GOM, Volume I, Chapter 32, Section 21, which states that when confidentiality is not an issue, “an employee will provide their name rank and identification number upon request, The identification will be **clearly** provided.” Statements and video evidence included in the investigative file have served as sufficient evidence to document incidents in which this information has not been clearly provided. In some incidents, citizens who are unaware that officers no longer have “badge numbers”, ask for badge numbers. Officers in these instances have only responded that they do not have badge numbers and failed to provide any officer identification information. In other instances, the citizen had to request the identification information multiple times, only to receive vague or unclear responses or no response. In yet, other instances, the information is provided in a manner that would not be deemed as clear or sufficient by any standards.

CONFISCATION OF CELL PHONES

The CCOP has noted instances where a cell phone used by an involved citizen became an issue when the citizen continued to use the phone after the officer has asked them to discontinue use. Officer responses to this scenario have been varied and arbitrary. In several instances, the phone has been forcibly removed from the citizen’s hand or the citizen’s earpiece has been forcibly removed.

TREATMENT OF POLICE CADETS

The CCOP has noted an emerging pattern of allegations from police cadets that demonstrated incidents of physical and/or verbal abuse clearly not associated with a training scenario or training objective. These situations may prove to detrimentally affect new officers’ perceptions of how to properly treat citizens. The CCOP believes this could expose the Department and the County to serious liability and could contribute to the erosion of the public’s trust.

Additionally, the CCOP thought it prudent to also reiterate *concerns from the FY08 annual report*. However, this is not an indication that the department is not reviewing or attempting to address these concerns. It is only to acknowledge that these issues were also observed in FY09. These concerns are presented in the following paragraphs.

1. ALCOHOL USE AND DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

The CCOP has concerns related to the application of the General Order Manual (GOM) regarding the consumption of alcohol and the use of Departmental vehicles. The GOM is unambiguous about the Department’s policy in this regard. There are two provisions in the GOM with regard to the use of alcohol while driving a Departmental vehicle. Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2, prohibits the operation of a Departmental vehicle by employees who have consumed alcoholic beverage. Additionally, Volume 1, Chapter 7, Section 4 also prohibits an employee from driving a departmental vehicle in violation of Maryland Vehicle Law Section 21-902. In the related cases reviewed by the CCOP, the Department’s application of this provision does not take into account Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2. The Department only sustains an allegation of driving a Departmental vehicle after consuming alcohol if the officer’s blood alcohol level is .08 or above. This standard disregards the fact that GOM, Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2 prohibits the mere consumption of alcohol and driving a departmental vehicle. The CCOP believes this unnecessarily exposes the Department to serious liability and contributes to erosion of the public’s trust.

2. SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT

The actions of officers on part-time assignment often result in complaints reviewed by the CCOP. This has been a longstanding concern for the CCOP as it relates to risk and liability for the County. Former Chief High advised the CCOP that Maryland law specifically prohibits any police agency from instituting prohibitions on officers engaging in secondary employment. The Panel was advised that the Department would continue to improve its ability to monitor secondary employment abuses and privileges.

3. INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS

As in the FY08's annual report, the CCOP continues to note that, in some cases, investigators fail to fully investigate or address all the charges applicable to a complaint. Specifically, some investigators do not take into consideration:

- a. All allegations outlined in the original written complaint;
- b. Additional allegations made by the complainant or witness(es) during taped or written statements;
and
- c. Additional charges or allegations made during a 911 call or other requests for assistance.

4. GENERAL ORDER MANUAL

As part of its Department of Justice Memorandum of Agreement compliance efforts, the Department revised its GOM. The new GOM, however, is difficult to navigate, is not intuitive and is not user-friendly. The CCOP expressed this concern in its FY07 and FY08 annual reports and in conversations with Police Department representatives. While the Department provided the CCOP with an updated copy of the GOM, the panel's concerns remained the same in FY09. The GOM, in its current format, makes locating and reviewing GOM provisions cumbersome and time-consuming.

We look forward to the Department addressing these issues through policy and training changes, as appropriate. We will continue to make additional recommendations as our reviews dictate.

This was one of the CCOP's most productive years. However, one of our challenges continues to be facilitating an accountability process that will reduce opportunities for police misconduct, without deterring genuine complaints or compromising the police mission. To be effective, the accountability process must win the confidence of police and the public. To this end, the CCOP will continue to provide citizens, residents and visitors added insurance that the PGCPD is accessible, transparent and fair to all concerned.

Clyde B. Davis

Chairman
Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel

Overview

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

CB 25-1990 requires that the CCOP prepare an annual report of its activities to the public. The first annual report covered the period January 1 - December 31, 1991. CB 59-2001 broadened the scope of the CCOP's annual report and established specific reporting categories. Now, the CCOP's annual report includes summary reports, statistical analysis, and recommendations for policy changes. Effective with the 2003 annual report, which included both calendar year 2003 and fiscal year 2004, the CCOP began publishing its annual report on a fiscal year basis.

History

In the summer of 1990, the Prince George's County Council introduced legislation (CB-25-1990) which created the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel (CCOP). The legislation that established the CCOP resulted from the findings and recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Safety and Community Relations. The legislative intent was to provide objective citizen participation in the complaint process and strengthen existing procedures for handling complaints made by citizens against police-related allegations of excessive force, harassment, and/or abusive language.

CB-25-1990 also included a vital role for the Human Relations Commission (HRC). HRC was directed to investigate complaints, in accordance with the provisions of the Human Relations Code, and submit its finding to the CCOP within 20 working days. This authority was later rescinded by CB-59-2001.

Originally, the CCOP members served two-year terms. However, recognizing the training required of members and the amount of time devoted to the review process, this was amended by CB-44-1994 to provide for four-year terms. By extending the term length, the CCOP members would have the full benefit of member training and experience.

The CCOP began reviewing cases on January 1, 1991. Initially, the CCOP only reviewed reports of investigation of citizen complaints for excessive force, abusive language, and harassment to insure their completeness, thoroughness, and impartiality. The Panel also commented on the reasonableness and appropriateness of the report recommendations.

From 1991 to 2002, the CCOP's recommendations were based primarily on information contained in the Internal Affairs Division's Report of Investigation, as the Letters of Determination from HRC's investigations were rarely available. The CCOP did not have the authority to conduct de novo or new investigations.

Enacted on November 26, 2001 and effective January 10, 2002, CB-59-2001 significantly expanded the CCOP's powers and gave the CCOP the authority to conduct its own investigations and to issue subpoenas through the County Council. CB 59-2001 also expanded the CCOP's responsibilities and the scope of investigations reviewed by the CCOP. The CCOP now reviews all complaints filed for violation of any law or regulation, whether brought by a citizen, superior officer or any source, all discharge of firearms, and all in-custody deaths that may have resulted from an officer's use of force. It also reviews disciplinary documents and hearing board reports.

The CCOP now has the authority to make recommendations regarding policy changes, supervision, operational procedures and training. These recommendations, as well as case review findings and comments, are submitted to the Chief of Police. The CCOP's authority is limited to officers of the Prince George's County Police Department. Park, state, or local municipal police forces, as well as the Sheriff's Department, are not included under the CCOP's jurisdiction.

Panel Responsibilities

The CCOP's specific responsibilities include:



Reviewing the processing and investigation of complaints and submitting comments and recommendations to the Chief of Police;



Conducting concurrent and subsequent investigations, as well as issuing subpoenas through the County Council, when appropriate;



Participating in police accountability outreach and information dissemination.



Reviewing supervisory, disciplinary, and hearing board reports; and



Issuing an annual report to the public.

Panel Composition

The CCOP is comprised of seven members appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council. The CCOP members must be Prince George's County residents and broadly representative of the County. The CCOP members can not be employees or elected officials of any non-federal jurisdiction, a candidate for such office, or employed by any law enforcement organization. The County Executive designates the Panel chair. The Panel selects the vice-chair.

PANEL MEMBERS

July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

Clyde Davis, Chair
William Simpson, Vice Chair
Dale Crowell
Ron Fisher
Irma Spruill
Eileen Thomas
Oralyn Weston

LEGAL COUNSEL

Darryl Kelley
Orian Southall

STAFF

L. Denise Hall
Administrative Director

Louise T. Johnson
Administrative Aide

General Clerk
Ashley Smalls

Program Operations

COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATION

All incoming complaints are assigned to the following investigative categories based on the most serious allegations in the complaint:

Special Investigations (SI) - Complaints that allege a criminal act or could result in a criminal charge or investigation, such as domestic violence, DWI/DUI, theft, unauthorized access to a criminal data base, uses of force that result in injury and all discharges of firearms. A special investigation team within the police department investigates these complaints.

Internal Affairs Investigations (IA) - Complaints alleging use of abusive, derogatory or inappropriate language, most uses of force that do not result in injury, and certain types of misconduct.

Field Cases Investigations (FC) - Complaints alleging selected categories of minor offenses such as unbecoming conduct, unreported misconduct, process violations, minor uses of force, and failure to attend to duty. These complaints are referred directly to the district commander of the involved officers for investigation.

Police Supervisory Investigations (PS) - Complaints initiated by police supervisory staff regarding an officer's performance of or failure to perform his assigned administrative duties. They are also related to citations received by officers for violations of traffic laws.

The CCOP is required to complete its deliberations and forward its recommendations to the Chief of Police within 30 working days after receipt of the completed Internal Affairs Division's (IAD) Report of Investigation. The CCOP has the option of requesting a 10-day extension. The Panel makes comments regarding the completeness and impartiality of the IAD report. Additionally, the CCOP renders a recommendation regarding each allegation presented in the IAD Reports of Investigation. The Panel can agree with each recommendation or it can disagree and make alternative findings and recommendations as follows:

Sustained - A preponderance of the evidence proves the allegation violated departmental policy or procedure;

Non-Sustained - The evidence fails to prove or disprove that alleged act(s) occurred;

Exonerated (Proper Conduct) - The evidence proves that the alleged act(s) occurred, however, the act(s) were justified, lawful and proper;

Unfounded - The evidence proves the alleged act(s) did not occur or the accused officer was not involved;

Panel Investigation - Substantive issues were not adequately or impartially addressed by the Internal Affairs Investigation, the Panel may conduct its own investigation; or

Remand to Chief of Police - The Panel defers disposition and sends complaint back to the Chief for further investigation.

The CCOP also reviews investigations with a focus on identifying policy, training or disciplinary issues in need of review, update or evaluation. The Panel refers any concerns regarding these issues, along with recommendations, to the Chief of Police.

Statistical Review

The charts on the following pages provide various statistical data on selected cases referred to the CCOP from IAD for FY09. The data reflects the distribution of IAD investigations referred to the CCOP by type, findings, the CCOP's recommendations, complainants and officer demographics. Also provided are illustrations of the time frames for processing citizen complaints and the Chief of Police's disposition in cases where the CCOP disagreed with IAD findings. Additionally, this section includes several historical perspectives.

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Chart 2	NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS - Historical Perspective
Chart 3	NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS by TYPE
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Chart 4	DISTRIBUTION OF INVESTIGATIONS by District
Chart 5	NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS - Historical Perspective
Chart 6	DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS by TYPE
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Chart 27	DISTRIBUTION OF CHIEF OF DISPOSITIONS
Chart 28	DISTRIBUTION OF COMPLAINTS BY CATEGORY
Table 6	OFFICER AND COMPLAINANT DEMOGRAPHICS

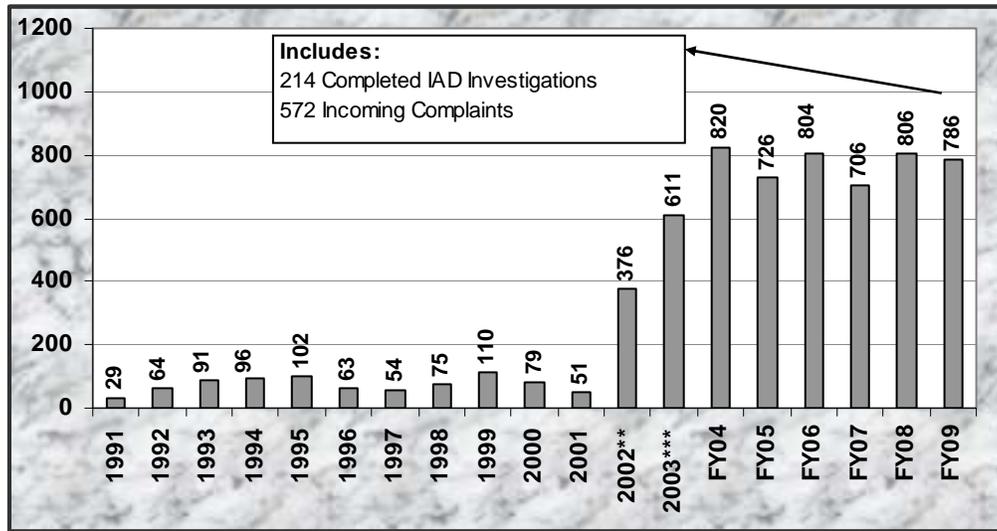
I. WORKLOAD

Note: Effective with the FY07 Annual Report, annual reports include a comparison of selected data by police district.

Prior to the passage of CB 59-2001, the CCOP reviewed IA investigations in three limited categories: Excessive Use of Force, Abusive Language, and Harassment. The CCOP now receives ALL categories of complaints and investigations regarding the conduct of a Prince George's County Police Officer. These categories include, but are not limited to: ALL uses of force, ALL uses of language, departmental shootings, harassment, unbecoming conduct, criminal misconduct, procedural violations, ethical violations and attention to duty.

In FY09, CCOP panel members reviewed 163 investigations and received notice of 572 new complaints. Chart 1 illustrates the trend for the CCOP’s workload since 1991.

**Chart 1
CCOP WORKLOAD HISTORY**

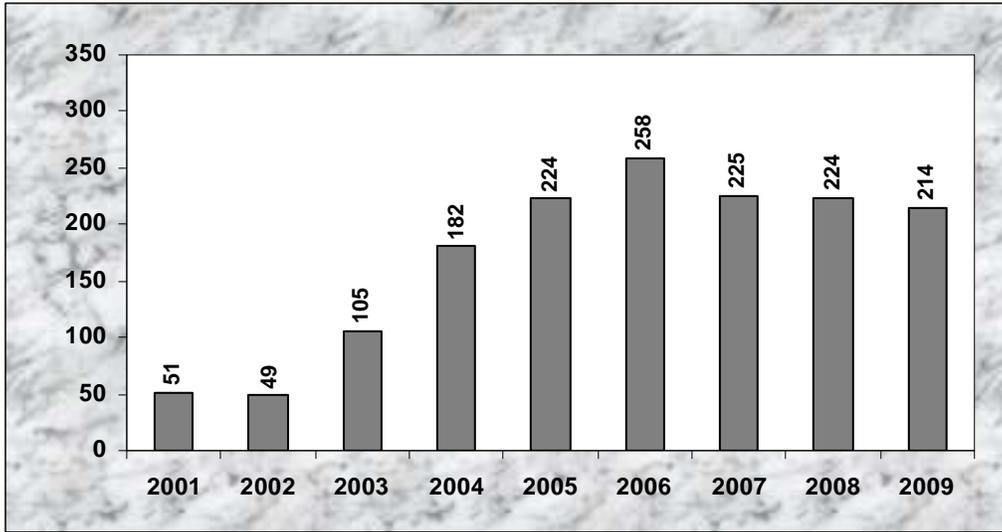


In 2002, the scope of CCOP's authority expanded from three (3) selected types of complaints to ALL complaints filed by ANYONE regarding the conduct of an officer. *In 2003, CCOP changed its annual reporting period from calendar year to fiscal year. Data for both calendar year 2003 and FY2004 are included above.

A. INVESTIGATIONS

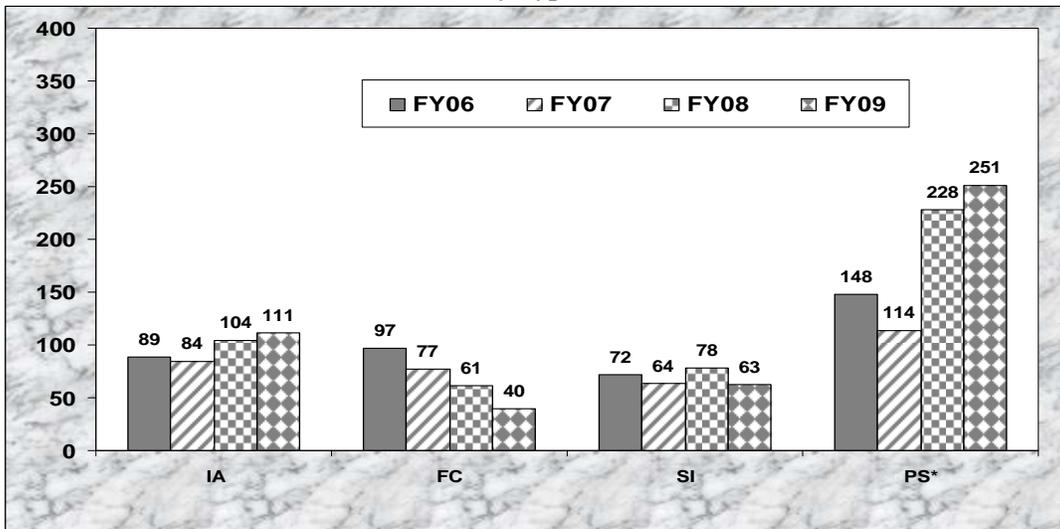
Since 1991, the CCOP has reviewed 1,532 investigations of alleged police misconduct. When the CCOP’s authority was expanded in 2001, there was a noticeable and consistent increase in the number of investigations of alleged police misconduct received by the CCOP. Since FY07, however, this increase has stabilized. See Chart 2.

Chart 2
NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS
Historical Perspective



The bulk of the Panel’s effort is spent reviewing SI, FC, and IA investigations, collectively referred to as Internal Affairs Division (IAD) investigations (see page 7 for explanation of investigation types). Police Supervisory (PS) investigations, which normally deal with personnel and administrative issues are reviewed, processed and tracked by staff. When staff identifies PS investigations that require more detailed reviews, they are referred for a full panel review. The distribution of investigations for FY06-FY09 by type is shown in Chart 3 below.

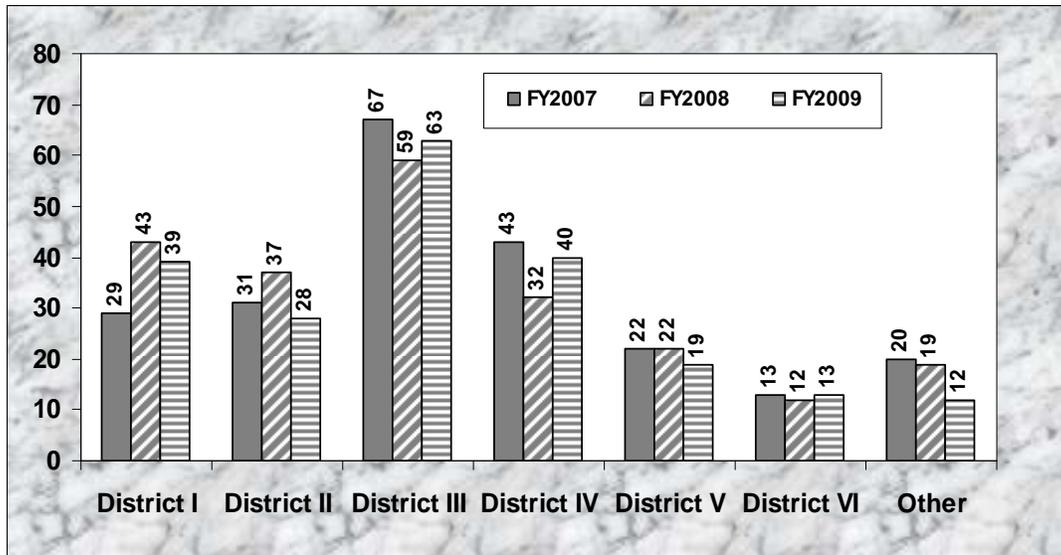
Chart 3
NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS
by Type*



* See Page 7 for explanation of investigation types. ** A total of 61 FC investigations were received for the CCOP’s review in FY08. However, only 42 were reviewed by the CCOP. The remaining 19 were closed by the Police Department prior to referral to CCOP and are included in the chart above for comparative illustration only. *** PS investigation data is reviewed and tracked by staff.

Chart 4 below shows the distribution of FY09 misconduct investigations reviewed as compared to FY07 and FY08. When compared to FY08, the most graphically notable changes in the relative number of cases were in District II, with a 24% decrease; District III, with a 7% increase; and District IV with a 25% increase. Additionally, 37% fewer cases were reported for the category other.

Chart 4
DISTRIBUTION OF INVESTIGATIONS
by District*



** Data by district not available prior to FY07. Other includes officers assigned to Headquarters and special operations such as Homicide, Criminal Investigations, Training, etc.

Table 1 below shows the distribution of misconduct investigations across the County’s six police districts as compared to the distribution of the County’s population and police service calls within these districts. (*Population data current as of 2007 and service call as reported by Public Safety Communication for FY09*) In FY08, with the exception of District III, the data suggested a relatively close distribution of population and investigations. Again in FY09, District III’s percentage of investigations was disproportionately higher than its percentage of the population. For District I, FY09 marked a further decrease in the relative distribution of investigations as compared to population size and service calls. This was also true for District II.

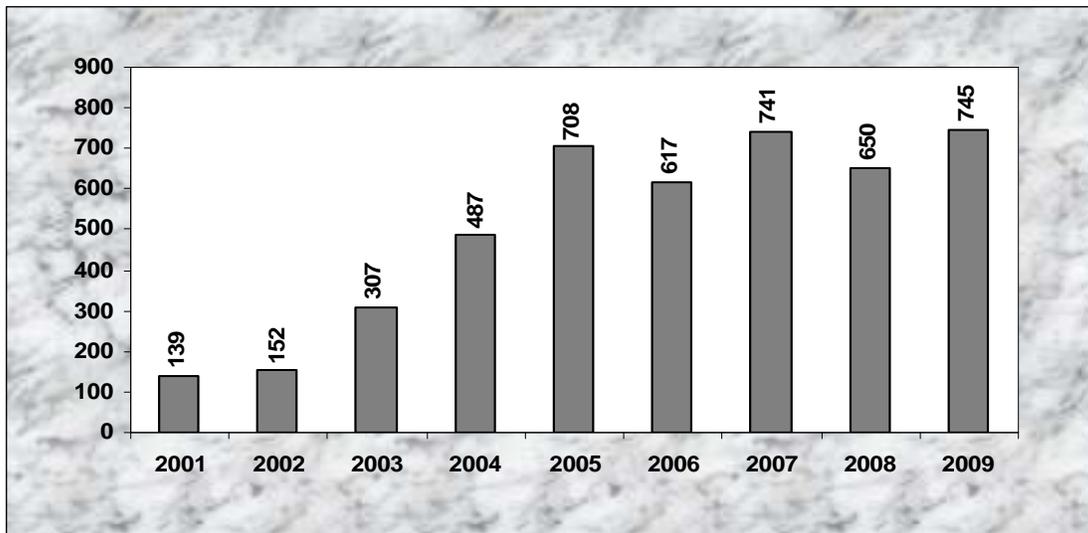
Table 1 – Comparative Distribution of Investigations

	Population	Service Calls	Investigations FY08	Investigations FY09
District I	25.8%	22.5%	21%	18%
District II	21.7%	16.7%	18%	13%
District III	16.3%	26.0%	29%	29%
District IV	17.6%	20.5%	16%	19%
District V	8.4%	7.6%	11%	9%
District VI	10.3%	6.6%	5%	6%

B. ALLEGATIONS

When the CCOP's authority was expanded in 2001, there was a noticeable increase in both the number of investigations and allegations reviewed. The number of investigations reviewed is not the sole indicator of the CCOP's workload. As the Panel must review, discuss, and deliberate each allegation contained in these investigations, the number of allegations contained in these investigations is a better indicator. Since 2001, the CCOP has reviewed more than 4,545 allegations in 1,532 individual investigations. While the number of investigations has stabilized since 2005, the number of allegations continues to fluctuate and their complexity continues to increase.

Chart 5
NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS
Historical Perspective



In FY09, the CCOP deliberated a total of 745 allegations (IAD referred 742 and CCOP recommended an additional 3). These allegations varied significantly in scope and substance. For statistical purposes, they are divided into the nine categories outlined below and their distribution is illustrated in Chart 6.

Attention to Duty - Failure to perform duties as prescribed.

Conduct Related - Unbecoming conduct and unreported misconduct.

Criminal Misconduct – Administrative charge for misconduct not successfully prosecuted in courts.

Ethics Violation - False Statements and Misrepresentation of Facts.

Firearms Charges -Intentional and accidental discharges of a firearm by an officer.

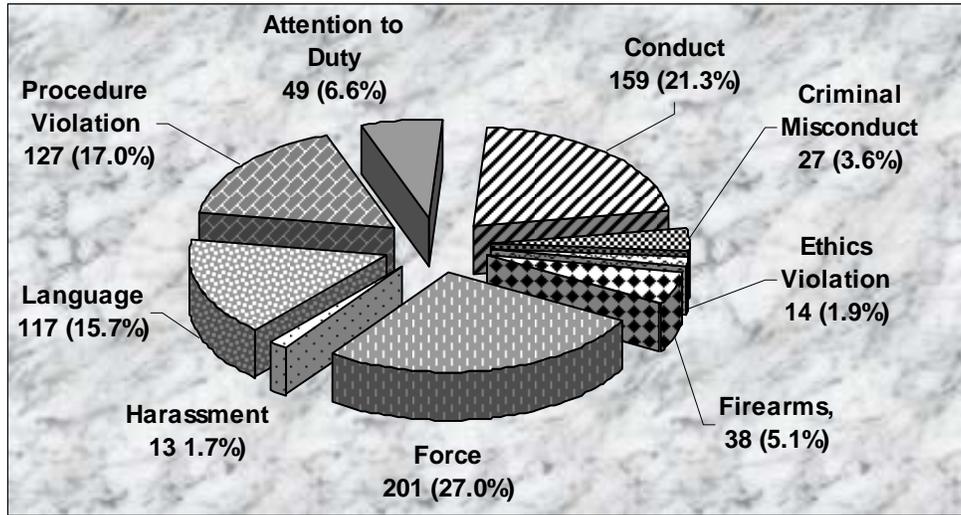
Harassment/Discrimination - Acts of unwarranted verbal or physical threats or demand, and any acts of misconduct related to a person's race, creed, color, national origin, gender or religion.

Procedure Violation - Failure to adhere to procedures as outlined in the police General Order Manual or Standard Operating Procedures.

Use of Language -Abusive, discriminatory or inappropriate use of language.

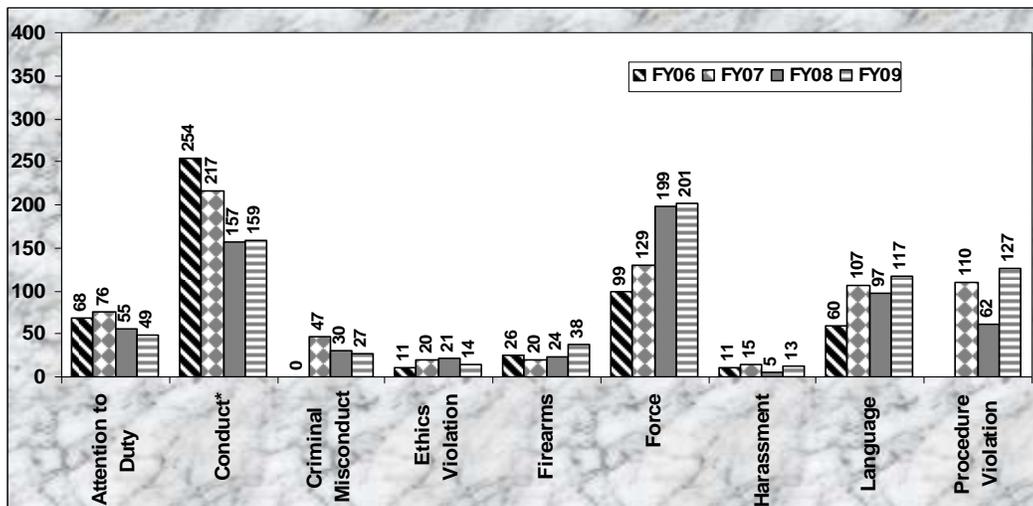
Use of Force – Non-firearms related excessive, unnecessary, and aggressive use of force.

Chart 6
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS by TYPE



In FY08, there was a 12% decrease in allegations reviewed from FY07 to FY08. In FY09, however, there was an overall 15% increase in the number of allegations. This is a 21% increase since FY06. While the number of investigations decreased from 224 to 214 in FY09, allegations increased from 650 to 745. The CCOP could not identify a prevailing reason for this increase. Use of Force and Conduct related charges were the 1st and 2nd most frequently alleged categories of police misconduct. Procedure Violations, and Language, and Attention to Duty were 3rd, 4th and 5th, respectively. As illustrated in Chart 7 below, there have been a few noteworthy exceptions to this pattern, with the statistically significant changes reported in FY09.

Chart 7
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
Historical Perspective



* In FY07, Criminal Misconduct was made a separate allegation category. However, for the purpose of trend analysis for the period FY05-FY08, they are also included in the Conduct allegation count for FY07 and FY08.

There has been a notable decrease in Conduct allegation since FY06. This can be attributed, in part, to the removal of Criminal Misconduct from this category. Also notable, is the 103% increase in Use of Force allegations since FY06. As this spike in Use of Force allegations coincides with the conclusion of the DOJ monitoring, further analysis of this trend is warranted. Procedure Violations have also increased significantly, from 62 in FY08 to 127 in FY09. This is a 104.8% increase and a trend also warranting closer scrutiny.

Table 2 – Distribution of Investigations Trends

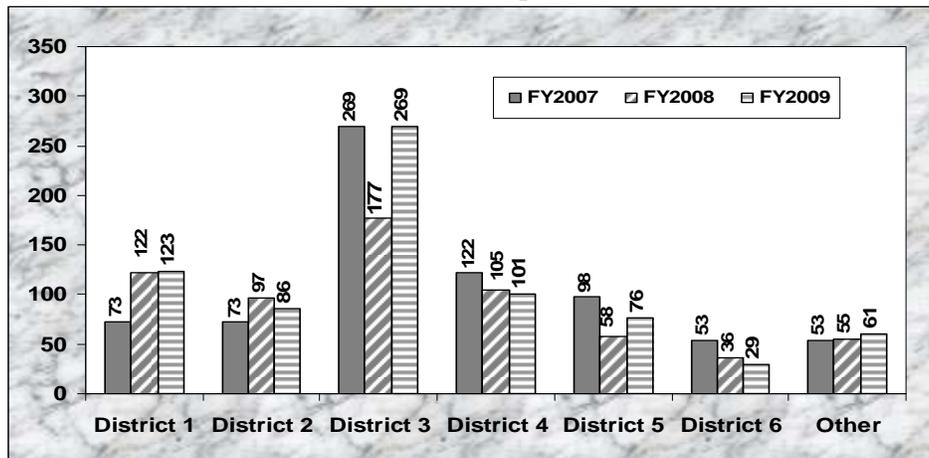
	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	Chg FY06-FY09	Chg FY08-FY09
Attention to Duty	68	76	55	49	-27.9%	-10.9%
Conduct*	254	217	157	159	-37.4%	1.3%
Criminal Misconduct	N/A	47	30	27	N/A	-10.0%
Ethics Violation	11	20	21	14	27.3%	-33.3%
Firearms	26	20	24	38	46.2%	58.3%
Force	99	129	199	201	103.0%	1.0%
Harassment	11	15	5	13	18.2%	160.0%
Language	60	107	97	117	95.0%	20.6%
Procedure Violation	88	110	62	127	44.3%	104.8%
Total	617	741	650	745	20.7%	14.6%

*Any allegation of Use of Force that does not involve the discharge of a firearm.

1. Distribution of Allegations by Type and District

FY09 was the third fiscal year the CCOP captured and reported data on allegations by police district. A preliminary comparison of these years indicates possible trends and patterns that the CCOP will monitor and report on annually.

**Chart 8
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
Historical Perspective**



Again in FY09, District III had the largest number of misconduct allegations reported. As seen in Chart 8 above, the number of allegations reported for District III decreased more

than 34.2% in FY08. However, there was a 52% increase in FY09. As shown in Chart 4, the number of investigations reported for District III increased by only 7%. A review of District III investigations indicated that the average number of allegations per case increased from 3.0 in FY08 to 4.3 in FY09. There were no marked decreases in other districts to offset this increase, and there was an overall 15% increase in allegations reviewed.

As shown in Table 3 below, and as in FY08, District III had the highest number of allegations in the categories of Conduct and Force in FY09. With the exception of Language and Procedure Violations allegations, these were the most frequently reported categories of misconduct and the fact that District III has the highest number of allegations in these categories is consistent with the overall distribution of allegations across districts. See Charts 9 - 17 for percentage of distribution of each allegation type by police district and Charts 18 - 23 for percentage of distribution of allegations within each police district.

Table 3 - Distribution of Allegations by Type and District

	District I	District II	District III	District IV	District V	District VI	Other
Attention to Duty	9	5	13	13	8	0	1
Conduct	22	24	58	17	14	15	9
Criminal Misconduct	4	3	8	3	1	2	6
Ethics Violation	6	1	6	1	0	0	0
Firearms	8	5	12	5	6	1	1
Force	28	17	95	32	23	2	4
Harassment	5	1	0	2	2	2	1
Language	23	6	49	17	16	4	2
Procedure Violation	18	24	28	11	6	3	37
Total	123	86	269	101	76	29	61

**Chart 9
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
49 Attention to Duty Allegations**

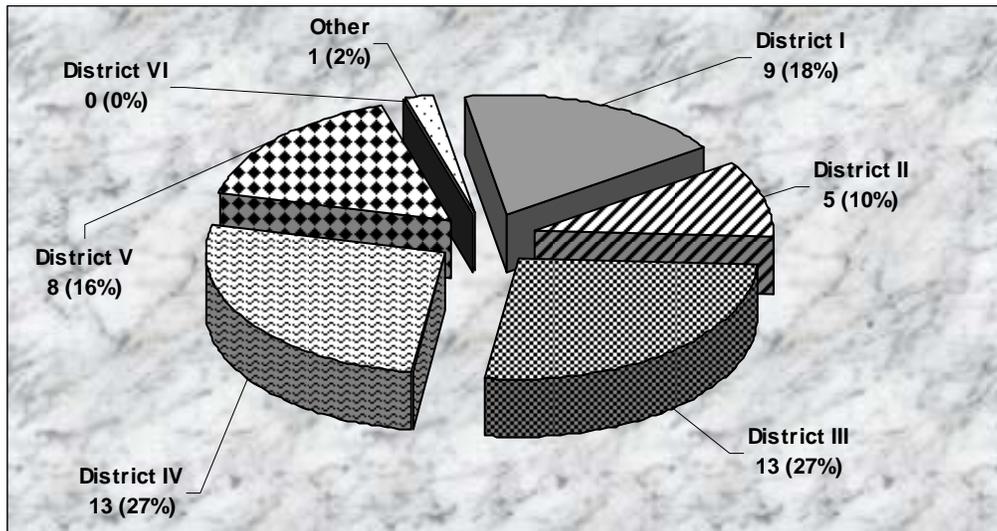


Chart 10
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
159 Conduct Allegations

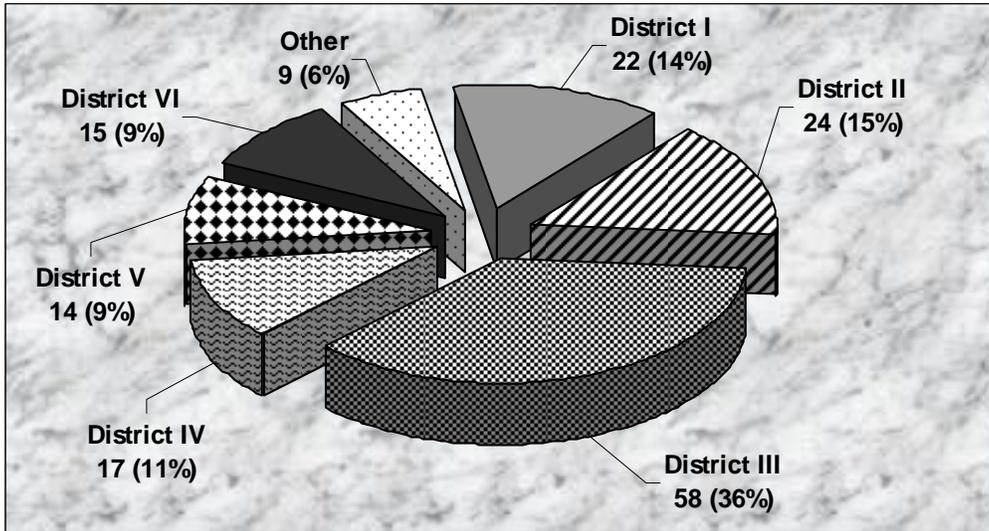


Chart 11
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
27 Criminal Misconduct Allegations

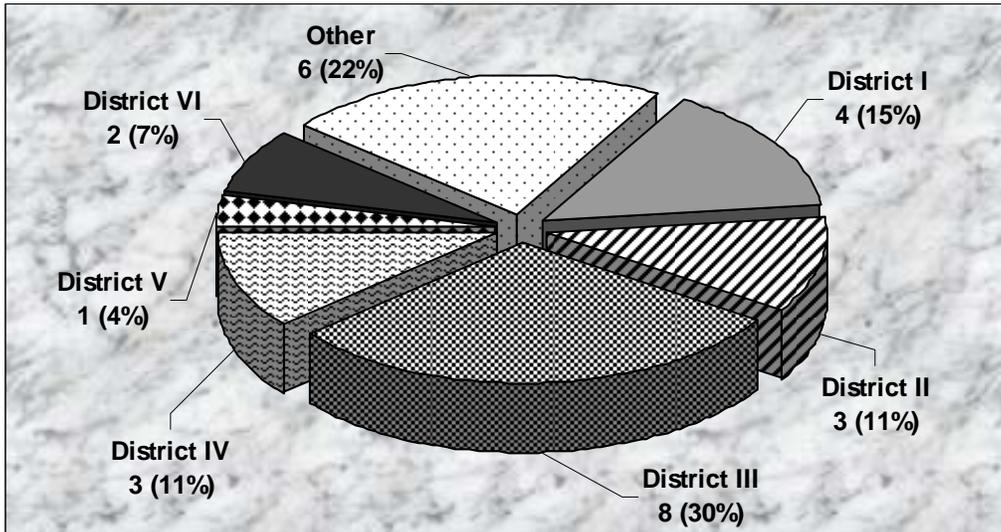


Chart 12
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
14 Ethics Violation Allegations

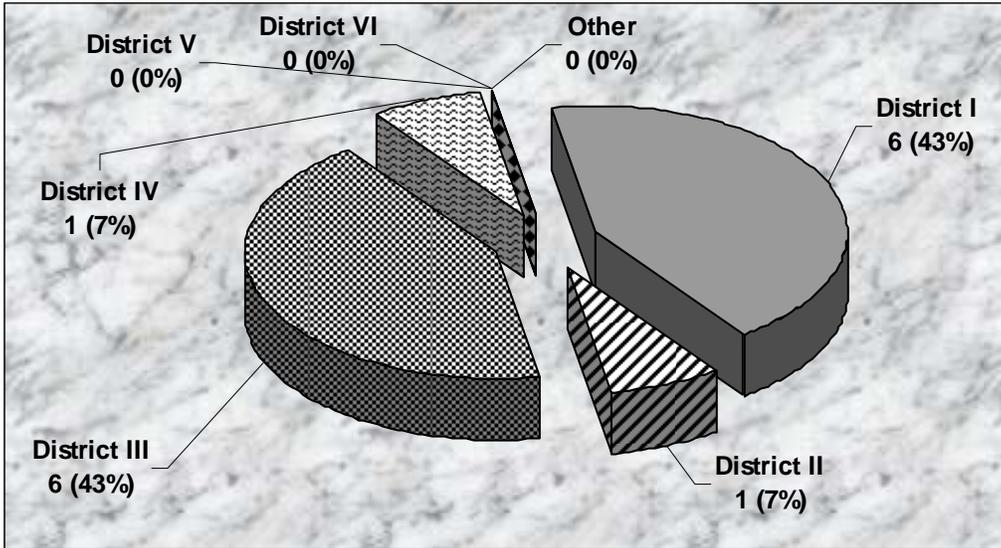


Chart 13
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
38 Firearm Discharge Allegations

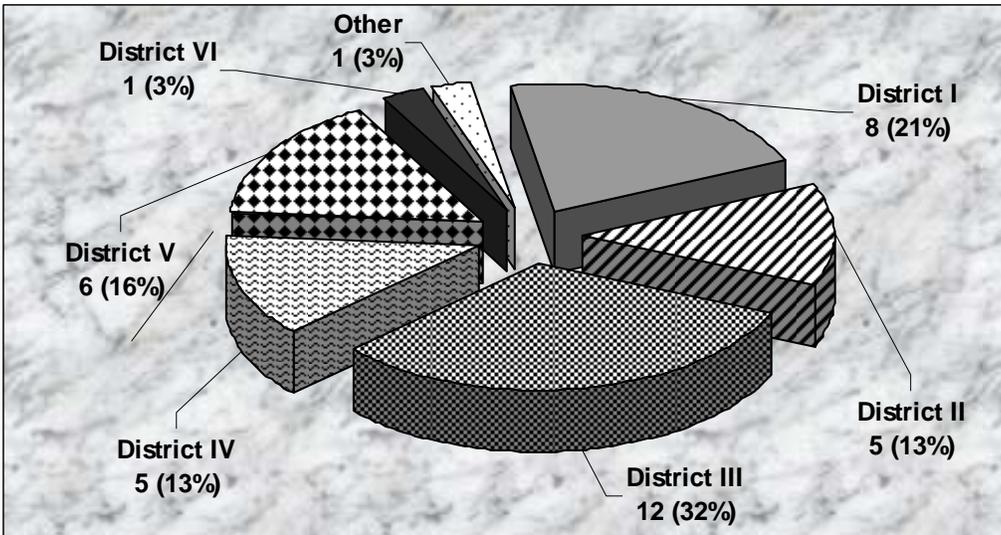


Chart 14
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
201 Use of Force Allegations

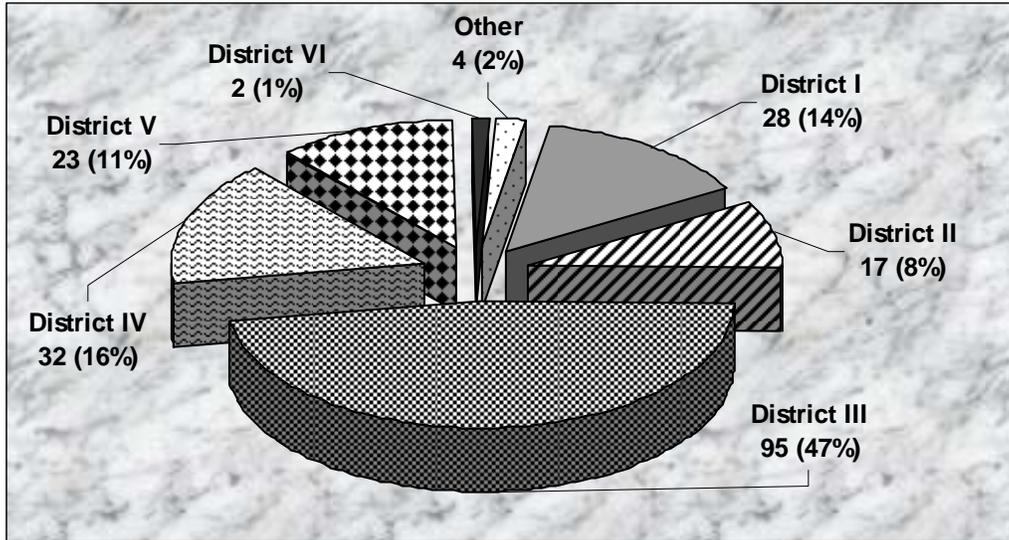


Chart 15
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
13 Harassment Allegations

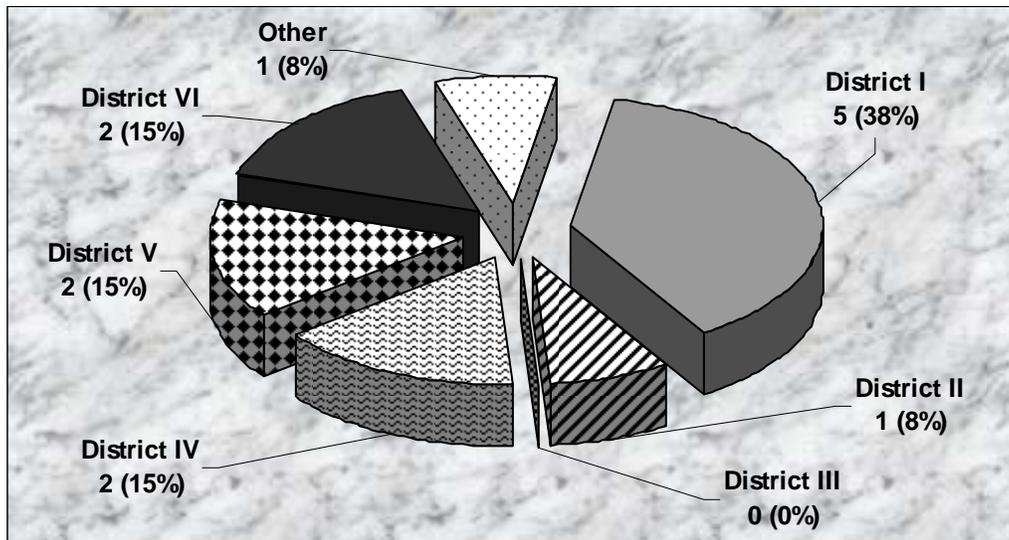


Chart 16
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
117 Language Allegations

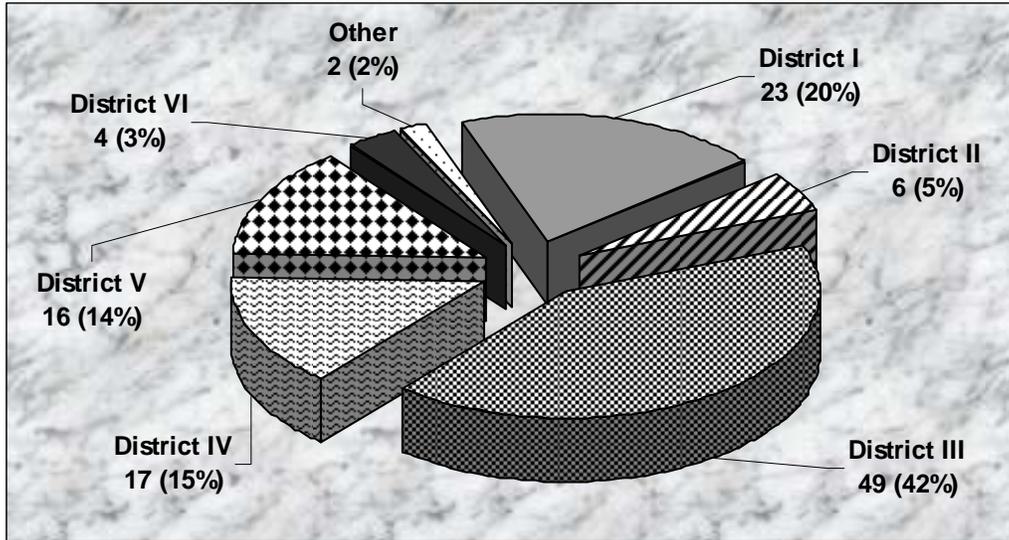
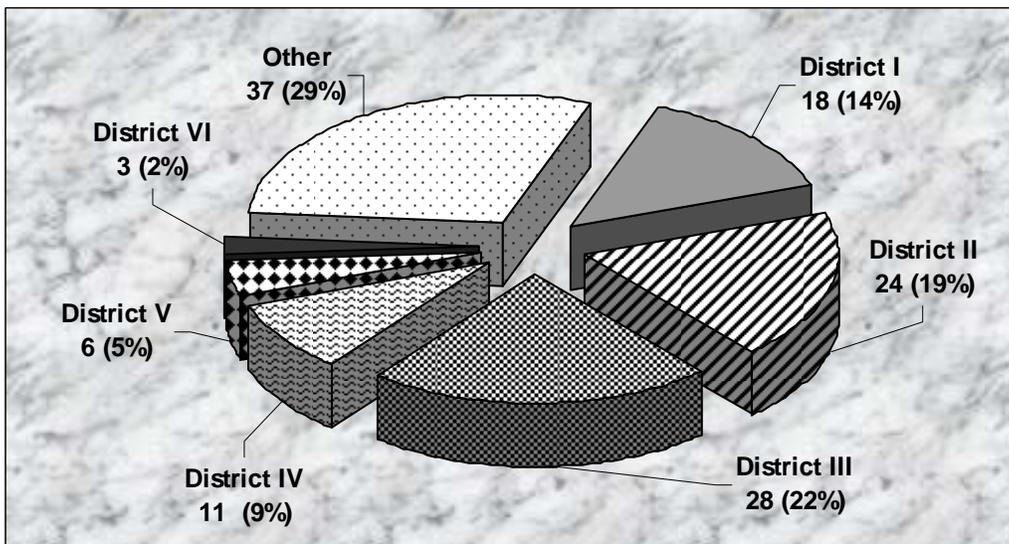


Chart 17
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
127 Procedure Violation Allegations



2. Distribution of Allegations within Districts

Chart 18
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
 District I
 123 Allegations

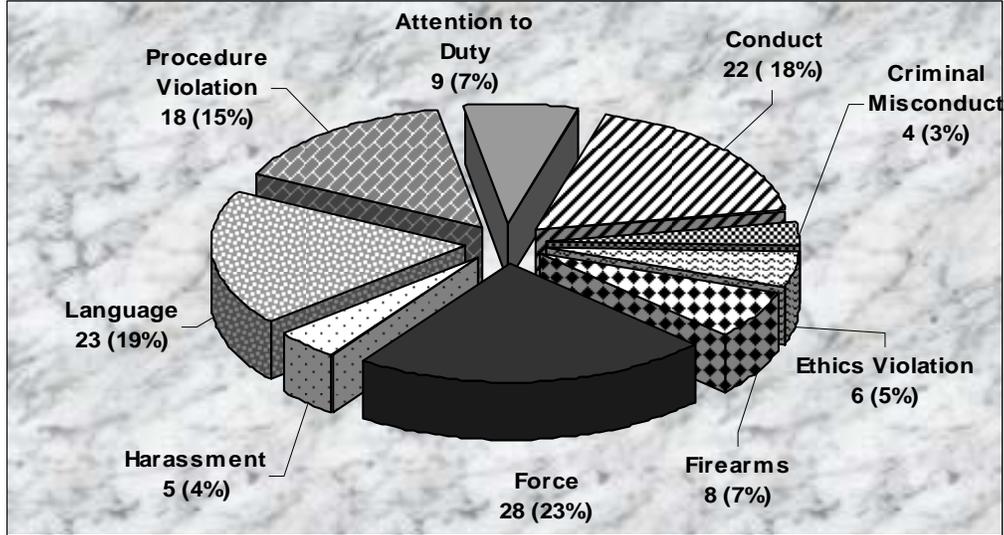


Chart 19
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
 District II
 86 Allegations

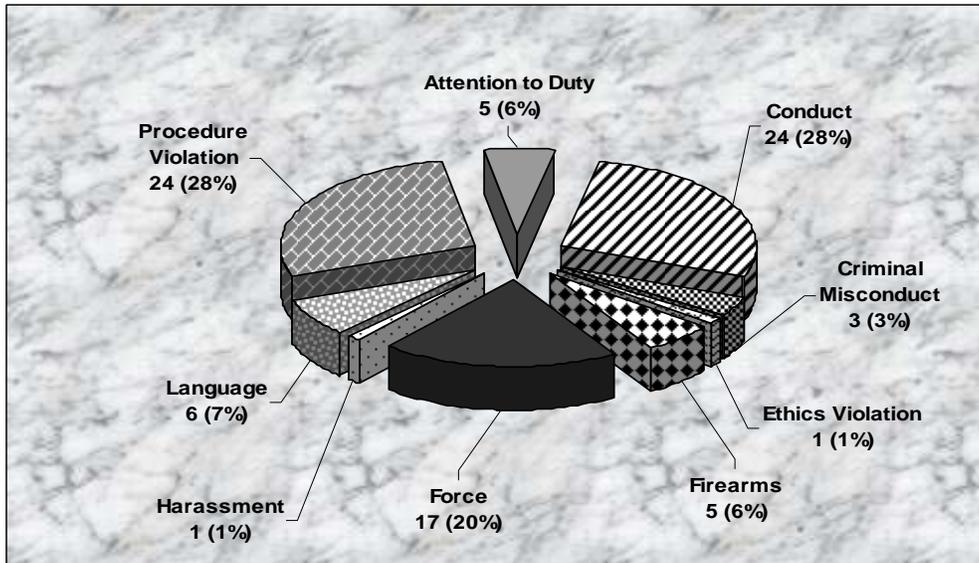


Chart 20
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
District III
269 Allegations

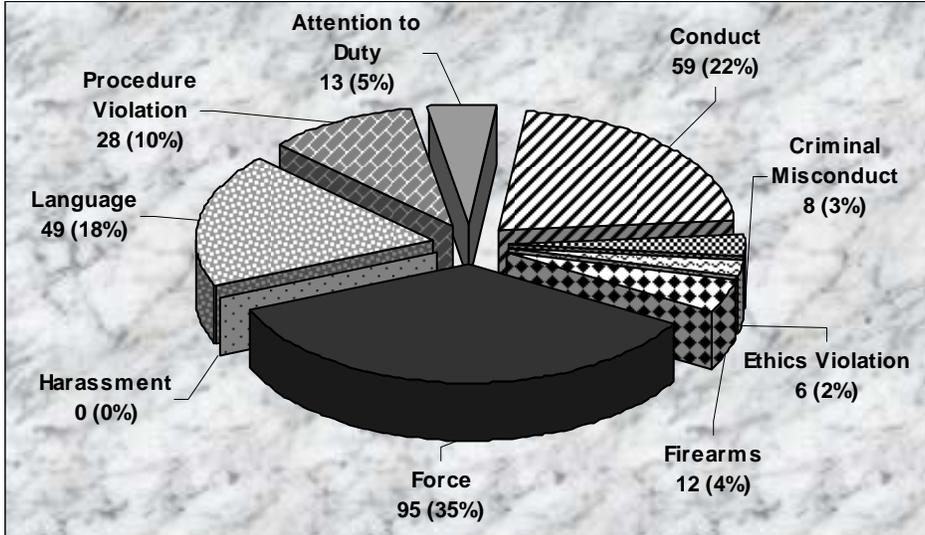


Chart 21
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
District IV
101 Allegations

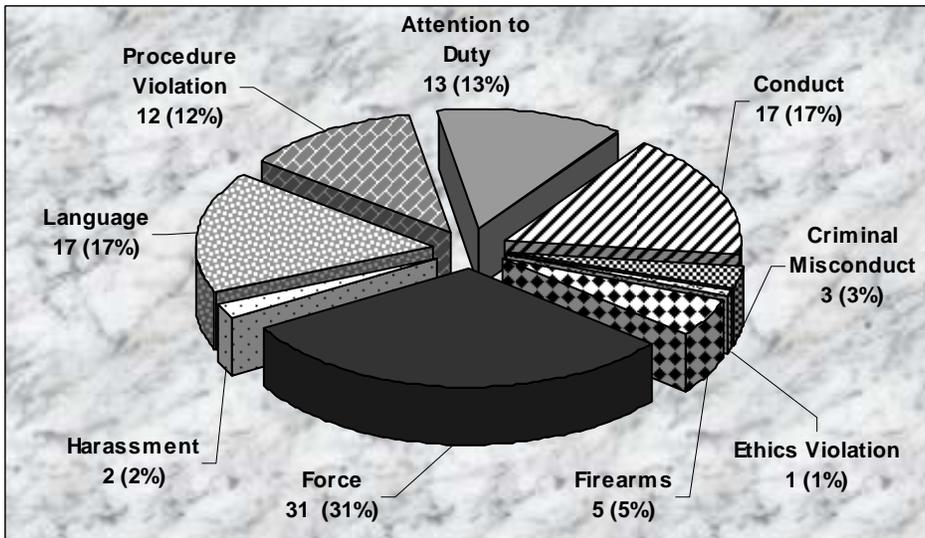


Chart 22
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
District V
76 Allegations

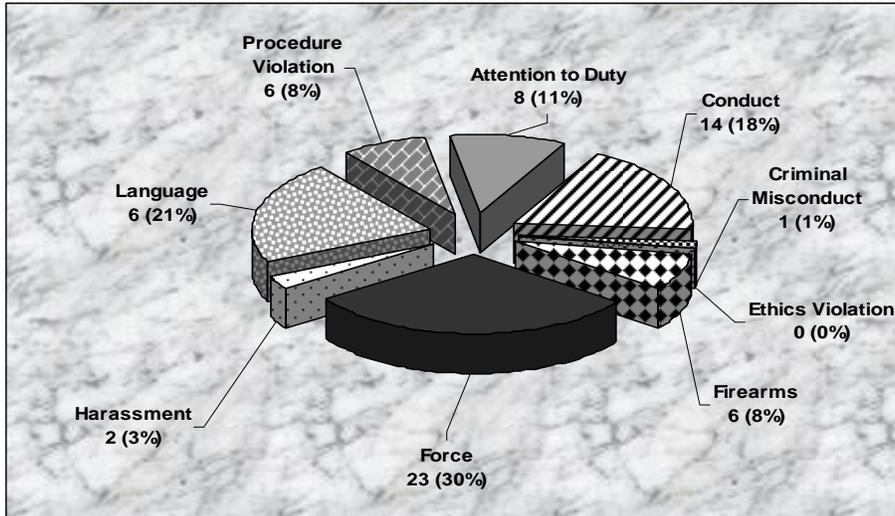
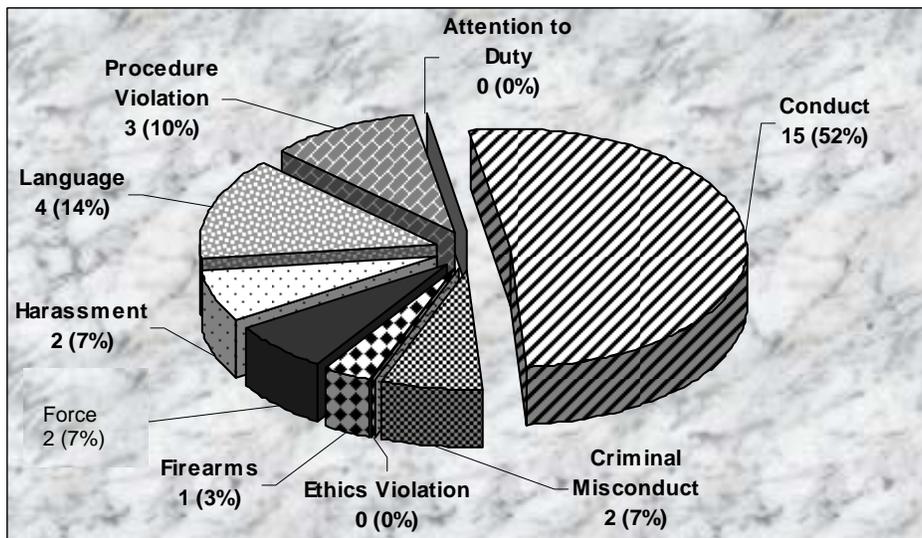


Chart 23
DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGATIONS
District VI
29 Allegations



C. IAD RECOMMENDATIONS

When the Internal Affairs Division of the Police Department completes its investigation, the investigator makes recommendations regarding the findings for each allegation in the case. These recommendations are as follows:

Sustained - A preponderance of the evidence proves the allegation violated departmental policy or procedure;

Non-Sustained - The evidence fails to prove or disprove that alleged act(s) occurred;

Exonerated (Proper Conduct) - The evidence proves that the alleged act(s) occurred, however, the act(s) were justified, lawful and proper; and

Unfounded - The evidence proves the alleged act(s) did not occur or the accused officer was not involved.

Chart 24
DISTRIBUTION OF IAD RECOMMENDATIONS

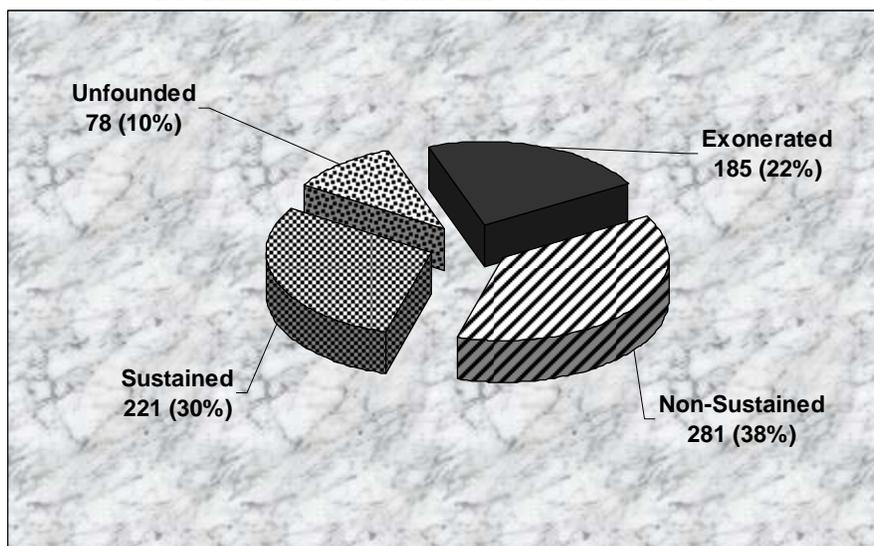
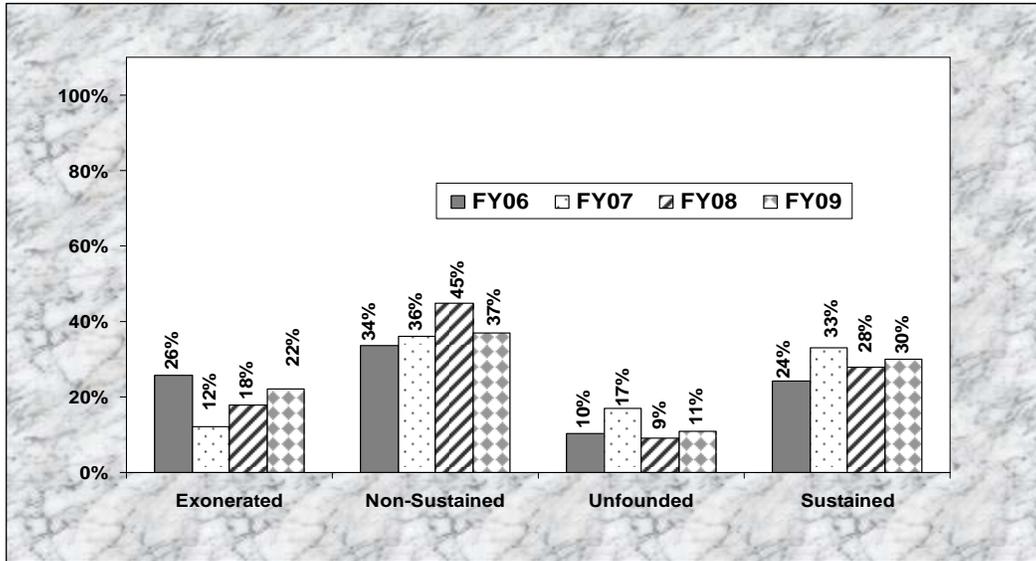


Chart 24 above shows the FY09 distribution of IAD recommendations for allegations presented for CCOP's review. Of the 745 allegations reported for FY09, IAD referred 742 and the CCOP, based on its reviews, recommended an additional 3. As shown in Chart 24 above, non-sustained was the most frequent recommendation made by IAD in FY09, with sustained as the next highest.

With the exception of recommendations to exonerate, the FY09 distribution of recommendations follows a historical pattern. Most notable about the FY09 data on these

allegations is that IAD recommended sustained for 30% of allegations. The sustained rate for FY08 was 28%.

Chart 25
HISTORICAL DISTRIBUTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS



The distribution of recommendations to exonerate decreased slightly since FY06. However, there has been a 4 percentage point increase since FY08. With exception of the 8 percentage point decrease in non-sustained findings since FY08, there were no remarkable changes in the distribution of findings among districts. When combined, exonerated and unfounded still continue to account for approximately 1/3 of all IAD recommendations each year. For FY09, as in FY08, 33% of all recommendations were in these two categories. Of the remainder, 38% was non-sustained and 30% was sustained. This is consistent with prior years. Chart 25 above shows the four-year trend for the distribution of recommendations.

Table 4 – Distribution of Recommendations by Allegation Type

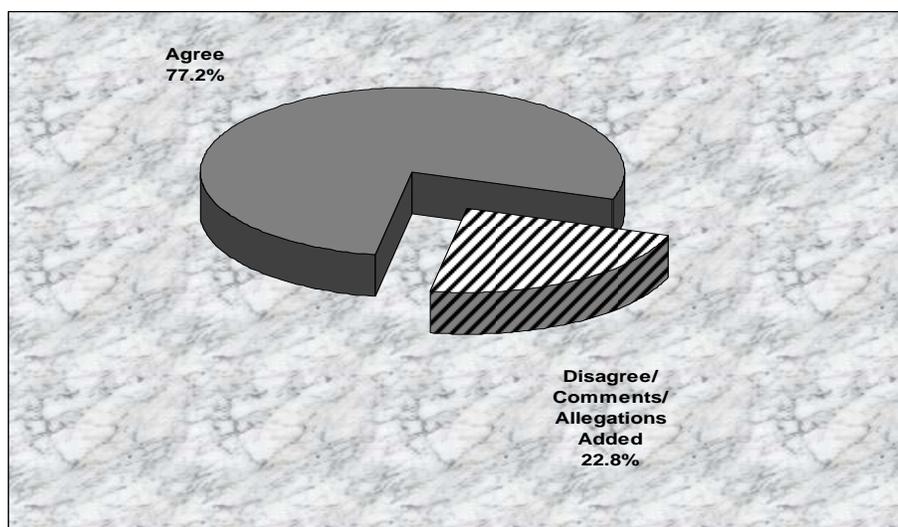
	Exonerated	Non-Sustained	Unfounded	Sustained
Attention to Duty	32.7%	50.9%	1.8%	14.5%
Conduct	11.9%	42.1%	10.1%	35.8%
Criminal Misconduct	3.8%	34.6%	38.5%	23.1%
Ethics Violations	10.5%	31.6%	5.3%	52.6%
Firearms	76.0%	0.0%	0.0%	24.0%
Use of Force	55.0%	37.7%	3.7%	3.7%
Harassment	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%	0.0%
Use of Language	0.0%	74.7%	14.7%	10.5%
Procedure Violation	5.7%	28.3%	5.7%	60.4%

D. CCOP RECOMMENDATIONS

When the CCOP disagrees with IAD recommendations, identifies additional allegations, or has comments regarding questionable aspects of an investigation, the

CCOP submits a letter detailing its findings to the Chief of Police. In FY09, the rate at which CCOP disagreed with IAD findings, rendered comments or recommended additional allegations increased only slightly over the FY08 rate. In FY07, this rate was 15.9%. The FY08 rate increased to 17%. In FY09, this rate was 22.8%. See Chart 26.

Chart 26
DISTRIBUTION OF CCOP RECOMMENDATIONS for FY09



The CCOP takes pride in the part it plays in assuring that the department holds officers fully accountable for their conduct. The Panel has noted several improvements in the scope and quality of IAD investigations that the Panel believes is, in part, due to the Panel's diligence and insistence on impartiality and thoroughness. Investigations were more thorough and broader in scope and investigators were more diligent in delineating and fully charging officers.

While there was improvement in these areas, the Panel continued to receive investigations it deemed incomplete or was missing evidence. In these instances, the Panel either remanded the investigations back to IAD to correct the deficiencies or recommended that additional allegations be added to the list of charges.

In instances where the CCOP disagrees with the IAD recommendation, the CCOP researches the issue and presents recommendations for alternative investigative dispositions, policy changes and/or training. After reviewing the CCOP's recommendations, the Chief renders a final disposition for the investigations. At the end of FY09, 18.0% of the CCOP's recommendations were pending a disposition from the Chief.

In prior reports, the Chief's acceptance and implementation of the CCOP's investigative, policy and training recommendations have been treated a single classification, and reported as one statistic. However, the vast majority of the CCOP's

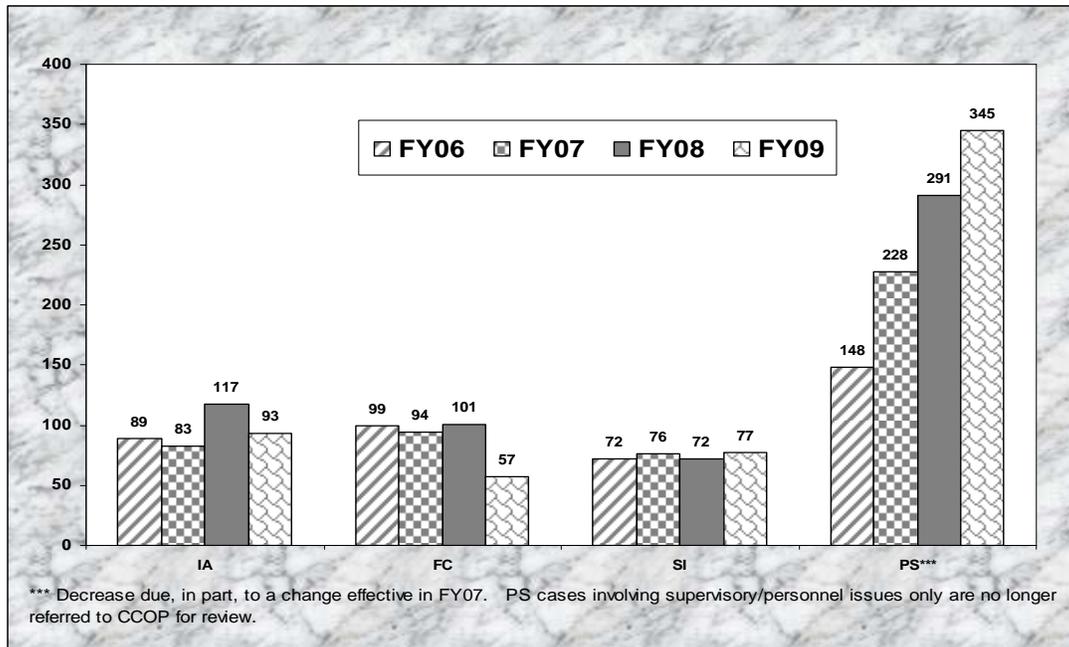
recommendations are for investigative dispositions. The panel only makes a few policy and training recommendations per year and their impact on the statistic for the Chief’s rate of acceptance and implementation is negligible. Therefore, starting with the FY09 report, policy and training recommendations will no longer be included in this statistic. In FY09, the Chief’s rate for accepting and implementing CCOP’s recommendations regarding alternative investigative findings was 36%.

The Chief’s review of and response to policy and training recommendations made by the CCOP may not always come in the fiscal year those recommendations are made. Action can sometimes come after several fiscal years and timing is a factor of the Department’s internal review process. This makes providing an accurate and representative fiscal year picture difficult.

Beginning with the FY09 report, reporting on these types of recommendations will be limited to the “Issue and Concerns” section of the annual report. This section includes a listing or re-listing of the CCOP’s issues, its recommendations for improvement and a status update on the Department’s actions to address those issues.

E. INCOMING COMPLAINTS

**Chart 28
DISTRIBUTION OF COMPLAINTS BY CATEGORY**



*** These complainants are initiated by police supervisory staff regarding an officer’s performance of or failure to perform specific administrative functions. They are also related to traffic and other citations received by officers.

In FY09, the CCOP received notice of 582 new complaints. PS complaints represented 291 of these and will most likely result in investigations that will not require

the CCOP's full review. The remainder will result in complete Internal Affairs investigations that are referred to the CCOP in the current or a subsequent year. These 291 incoming complaints will become 117 IA, 101 FC, and 72 SI investigations. At the current rate of 3 allegations per investigation, this could result in more than 800 allegations that will ultimately require the CCOP's review. Chart 28 above shows a 4-year comparison by complaint type.

The investigations for many of these complaints will not be referred to the CCOP until next fiscal year or later. Therefore, the exact type and number of allegations contained in these complaints, as well as the factors related to these increases, were not known at the time of this report.

F. OFFICER AND COMPLAINANT DEMOGRAPHICS

Table 6 below gives a comparative overview of officer and complainant demographics across gender and race for investigations reviewed by the CCOP. The demographic information is consistent with prior years' distributions

Table 6 – Officer and Complainant Demographics

	SEX			RACE			
	Male	Female	Unknown*	African-American	White	Other	Unknown*
County Demographics	47%	53%	N/A	65%	21%	13%	N/A
Officer Demographics	84%	15%	1%	51%	45%	4%	2%
Complainant Demographics	49%	35%	16%	69%	12%	5%	14%

*Unknown is due to anonymous complaints where sex or gender was not indicated by the complainant or the identity of the officer or the complainant could not be determined or was not clearly noted in the investigation.

G. CASE PROCESSING TIME FRAME

As the number and complexity of investigations and allegations increased, the CCOP adjusted its meeting schedule to meet the increase. The Panel now meets 1–2 evenings per week to review and discuss cases. Additionally, some members spend non-meeting hours in the CCOP office reviewing case files, videotapes and other evidence to prepare for review meetings. Even with these special efforts, however, the CCOP is sometimes unable to meet the legislatively mandated time of no more than 40 days to complete case reviews and prepare recommendations to the Chief. In FY09, the average processing time for cases remained at 48 days.

*O*utreach and Education

Key to the CCOP's mission is its mandate to strengthen the relationship between the police and the community. The CCOP's efforts to achieve this are normally concentrated in three main areas:

**Community Relations
Partnership Building
Improved Training for Panel Members**

During FY09, the CCOP's participation in outreach was limited due to budget constraints. The Panel advanced its efforts to develop an outreach program specifically geared toward youth. The intent of the program is to provide interactive training on the interaction between youth and the police. Specifically, the program will inform youth of their rights and responsibilities when interacting with the police. The County Council through, Council Chair, Councilwoman Marilyn Bland, expressed an interest in the Panel's efforts in this regard and directed Dr. David Billings and Brandon Jackson of her staff to work with the CCOP. Mr. Jackson is the coordinator of the Prince George's Youth Commission, which has member representatives from every area high school. In FY10, with the collaboration of the CCOP, this group hopes to develop a "Just in Time" program that will be used by area schools and youth organizations. Panel members Ron Fisher and William Simpson have taken the lead on this initiative

The CCOP's panel members, staff and attorney also participated in or attended various outreach sessions and other activities around the County, including:

- Friendly High School Session with the ACLU
- Community Meeting with Councilman William Campos
- CASA Community Forum on Policing in Langley Park
- Suitland Community Meeting on Safety
- Friendly High School Law and Government Program
- Walker Mill Middle School Community Day
- Crossland High School Career Day

- Swearing in of Police Chief Roberto Hylton
- Civic Association Police Training

Also included in its outreach activities and material for FY09 were full color brochures and posters available in both Spanish and English, a kiosk-style PowerPoint presentation on the CCOP services and activities, and a large exhibition display. These were made available upon request

The CCOP continued to inform the public of its services via its web pages found on the Prince George's County Government's web site located at www.princegeorgescountymd.gov. The CCOP's web pages offer a complete step-by-step guide to the complaint process. The 1072 Complaint Form, in both English and Spanish, can also be downloaded from the site. The site also provides an email link to the CCOP, as well as links to PDF versions of the CCOP's current and prior annual reports. The CCOP's annual report is only published online. However, printed copies are available upon written request.

The CCOP was included in the 2009 Directory of Organizations published by the Prince George's County Memorial Library System. This list identified the CCOP's willingness to provide speakers for educating the public on the complaint process, the CCOP's functions, and the role of law enforcement oversight panels in general.

Additionally, staff continued to participate with the PGCPD in panel discussions on the PGCPD's Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Justice.

Panel members continued to be available to provide information on the CCOP and citizen/police interaction at various professional and community meetings. The CCOP office continued to provide outreach materials, upon request.

Partnerships

The CCOP continued to foster and strengthen its partnerships with stakeholders in law enforcement, government and the community. A major part of this effort is periodic meetings with its two major stakeholders, the Office of the County Executive and Chief of Police. During this reporting period, the CCOP met with Councilman Tony Knotts to discuss community concerns, representatives from the office of Councilwoman Marilyn Bland to formalize plans for a youth program, and representatives of the Independent Monitor Team to discuss monitoring progress and concerns. The CCOP partnered with the Maryland ACLU to do a presentation at Friendly High School and conducted meetings and attended trainings with senior staff from PGCPD, Bureau of Professional Responsibility and Special Investigative Response Team (SIRT) units.

Training

The CCOP maintains membership in the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE). Since its focus is on the work of similar oversight groups across the United States, NACOLE is of particular interest and significance to the CCOP, and has become a valuable resource. As a result, the CCOP instituted a modified version of its recommended training program for civilian oversight panels. A major component of this program includes participation in NACOLE's training provided at its annual conference. The focus of the NACOLE conference is to provide a national debate on civilian oversight and policing in the United States. NACOLE speakers and panelists from diverse countries, professions and backgrounds provide invaluable information and insight at these conferences. Panel discussions cover a wide range of issues including: 1) types of civilian oversight best suited for a given community; 2) trends in civilian oversight and their effect on various types of oversight; and 3) suggested policy changes and best practices. A CCOP representative attended the annual NACOLE conference held in October 2008 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The CCOP also participated in a PGCPD led training session on use of force from an officer's perspective. The session was conducted by instructors from the Citizen Police Academy. Additionally, special sessions on civil right issues, false statements, and judgmental shooting conducted by IAD and SIRT representatives were attended.

Issues and Concerns

COMMUNICATING REASONS FOR STOPS

PROVIDING OFFICER IDENTIFICATION INFO

CONFISCATION OF CELL PHONES

TREATMENT OF POLICE CADETS

STOPS FOR TINTED WINDOWS

SEARCHES AND SEIZURES

ALCOHOL USE AND DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT

INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS

GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

Each year, the CCOP's annual report outlines critical issues related to the CCOP's operations, the PGCPD policies and training, as well as community and citizen relations. Since 1991, the CCOP has voiced its concerns regarding the scope of harassment complaints, false statements, problems with off-duty secondary employment, and provisions of the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights (LEOBR). In FY09, we continue to note aspects of these same concerns. We also note the Police Department's willingness to address the CCOP's concerns. The Department has acknowledged and put in place several steps to resolve some of the CCOP concerns that are within their purview. Some of the CCOP recommendations have been incorporated or implemented in police policies and practices. Meanwhile, other issues are still under review. The CCOP will continue to work toward agreement on unresolved issues. The following is a listing of the new concerns for FY09.

I. NEW ISSUES FOR FY09

The CCOP noted several issues where lack of communication or cooperation in providing citizens with basic information or common courtesy has served to escalated situations, in some instances to uses of force.

A. COMMUNICATING REASON FOR TRAFFIC OR CITIZEN STOPS

ISSUE: In FY09, the CCOP noted an emerging pattern of cases where officers appeared unwilling to articulate, to the involved citizen, the lawful reason for a stop at the first point of contact. In the cases involving traffic stops, the panel has reviewed mobile video evidence and clearly observed citizens asking officers to tell them why they have been stopped. In many of these videos, officers have remained silent or provided curt responses that did not clearly answer the citizen's questions. In some of the instances observed, this has led to increased frustration on the part of the citizen and the situation escalated to a use of force.

RECOMMENDATION: The CCOP recommends that officers be trained to clearly address the reason for the stop at the first point of contact or immediately upon asking the citizen for identification, driver's license and/or registration information.

B. DELAY OR FAILURE TO CLEARLY PROVIDE OFFICER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

ISSUE: The CCOP also noted an emerging pattern in cases where officers are not providing identification information to citizens or not providing it in the manner dictated by the GOM, Volume I, Chapter 32, Section 21, which states that when confidentiality is not an issue, "an employee will provide their name rank and identification number upon request, The identification will be clearly provided." Statements and video evidence included in the investigative file have served as sufficient evidence to document incidents in which this information has not been clearly provided. In some incidents, citizens who are unaware that officers no longer have "badge numbers", ask for badge numbers. Officers in these instances have only responded that they do not have badge numbers and failed to provide any officer identification information. In other instances, the citizen had to request the identification information multiple times, only to receive vague or unclear responses or no response. In yet

other instances, the information is provided in a manner that would not be deemed as clear or sufficient by any standards.

RECOMMENDATION: The CCOP recommends that officers be required to promptly respond to requests for identification, regardless of how the request is phrased. The CCOP is aware that the GOM specifies that the information does not have to be provided in writing. However, to improve community relations and to prevent further escalation of situations where a citizen does not understand the information as verbally provided by the officer, the CCOP suggests that the officer provide citizens with a business card.

C. CONFISCATION OF CELL PHONES

ISSUE: The CCOP has noted instances where a cell phone used by an involved citizen became an issue when the citizen continued to use the phone after the officer has asked them to discontinue use. Officer responses to this scenario have been varied and arbitrary. In several instances, the phone has been forcibly removed from the citizen's hand or the citizen's earpiece has been forcibly removed.

RECOMMENDATION: The Panel recommends that the Department review existing procedures or implement a procedure dictating a protocol for officers to follow when they believe a citizen's use of a cell phone is interfering with the officer's duty when conducting police work. The same procedure may also be related to policies associated with the confiscation of their property. At a minimum, the CCOP recommends that the Department implement training that will guide officers on how to properly and consistently respond to citizens in these situations.

D. TREATMENT OF POLICE CADETS

ISSUE: The CCOP has noted an emerging pattern of allegations from police cadets that demonstrated incidents of physical and/or verbal abuse clearly not associated with a training scenario or training objective. These situations may prove to detrimentally affect new officers' perceptions of how to properly treat citizens. The CCOP believes this could expose the Department and the County to serious liability and could contribute to the erosion of the public's trust.

RECOMMENDATION: The Panel recommends that unless used in conjunction with a training scenario or demonstration, when dealing with cadets, training officers and other officers should refrain from using force or language that goes beyond what the GOM has deemed as appropriate behavior for officers. At a minimum, Police Cadets should be afforded the same level of respect that the GOM dictates they are expected to provide to the general public.

II. ISSUES FROM FY2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The CCOP thought it prudent to reiterate concerns from the FY08 annual report. It is not an indication that the Department is not reviewing or attempting to address them. The

decision to list them is solely based on the fact that these issues were noted again in FY09 or that the issue remains unresolved.

A. ALCOHOL USE AND DEPARTMENTAL VEHICLES

ISSUE: The CCOP has concerns related to the application of the General Order Manual (GOM) regarding the consumption of alcohol and the use of Departmental vehicles. The GOM is unambiguous about the Department's policy in this regard. There are two provisions in the GOM with regard to the use of alcohol while driving a Departmental vehicle. Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2, prohibits the operation of a Departmental vehicle by employees who have consumed alcoholic beverage. Additionally, Volume 1, Chapter 7, Section 4 also prohibits an employee from driving a departmental vehicle in violation of Maryland Vehicle Law Section 21-902. In the related cases reviewed by the CCOP, the Department's application of this provision does not take into account Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2. The Department only sustains an allegation of driving a Departmental vehicle after consuming alcohol if the officer's blood alcohol level is .08 or above. This standard disregards the fact that GOM, Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2 prohibits the mere consumption of alcohol and driving a departmental vehicle. The CCOP believes this unnecessarily exposes the Department to serious liability and contributes to erosion of the public's trust.

RECOMMENDATION: It is the CCOP's opinion that the GOM, Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2, regarding any alcohol consumption and operation of a Departmental vehicle by Department employees is very clear and precise. It is the Panel's recommendation that the Department applies and enforces this GOM provision, Volume 1, Chapter 10, Section 2, as written, and without alternative interpretations or inclusions.

B. SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT

ISSUE: The actions of officers on part-time assignment often result in complaints reviewed by the CCOP. This has been a longstanding concern for the CCOP as it relates to risk and liability for the County. Former Chief High advised the CCOP that Maryland law specifically prohibits any police agency from instituting prohibitions on officers engaging in secondary employment. The Panel was advised that the Department would continue to improve its ability to monitor secondary employment abuses and privileges.

RECOMMENDATION: While the CCOP is aware that the Department can not institute provisions prohibiting secondary employment, the Panel continues to receive investigations related to officers on secondary employment. The Panel recommends that the Department develops stricter reporting and monitoring policies to govern officers' participation in part-time employment. Additionally, the panel recommends that ways to mitigate the County's liability regarding officers on secondary employment be investigated.

C. INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS

ISSUE: As in FY08's annual report, the CCOP continues to note that, in some cases, investigators fail to fully investigate or address all the charges applicable to a complaint. Specifically, some investigators do not take into consideration:

- d. All allegations outlined in the original written complaint;
- e. Additional allegations made by the complainant or witness(es) during taped or written statements; and
- f. Additional charges or allegations made during a 911 call or other requests for assistance.

RECOMMENDATIONS: The CCOP recommends that the Department explores national best practices to identify processes and procedures for conducting police accountability investigations and interviews that will ensure all aspects of a complaint are fully identified and investigated. It is also recommended that investigators be trained or re-trained on interrogation techniques.

D. GENERAL ORDER MANUAL

ISSUE: As part of its Department of Justice Memorandum of Agreement compliance efforts, the Department revised its GOM. The new GOM, however, is difficult to navigate, is not intuitive and is not user-friendly. The CCOP expressed this concern in its FY07 and FY08 Annual Reports and in conversations with Department representatives. While the Department provided the CCOP with an updated copy of the GOM, the panel's concerns remained the same in FY09. The GOM, in its current format, makes locating and reviewing GOM provisions cumbersome and time-consuming.

RECOMMENDATION: The CCOP recommends, that at a minimum, the Department adds a subject index to the format. This would provide users with a logical base to begin a search for specific GOM provisions. However, to make the GOM a more responsive document, the Panel also recommends that it be published in an electronic format, with word, topic and citation search capabilities.

*D*epartment of Justice Agreement

FINAL
UPDATES

Background

In July 1999, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) initiated an investigation of alleged misconduct by the Canine Section of the Prince George's County Police Department. In October 2000, the Department of Justice also initiated an investigation of an alleged pattern or practice of excessive force throughout the Prince George's County Police Department. Both investigations were commenced pursuant to the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, 42 U.S.C. § 14141, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. § 3789d.

When County Executive Jack B. Johnson assumed office, he sought to resolve the issues regarding the two Department of Justice investigations. The County Executive met with Department of Justice officials to facilitate Prince George's County's cooperation with the Department of Justice investigations and craft agreements addressing all parties' concerns. The Memorandum of Agreement regarding the alleged pattern of abuse and a separate Consent Decree regarding the Canine Section investigation were the result of the cooperative efforts of the Department of Justice; Prince George's County, Maryland; and the Prince George's County Police Department.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), signed on January 22, 2004, was a settlement entered into jointly for the purpose of avoiding the burden of litigation. The agreement called for the review and revision of policies in the following specific areas of concern noted by the DOJ investigation:

- General Policy Regarding the Mentally Ill
- Use of Force Policies
- The Evaluation, Documentation and Review of Uses of Force
- Officer Training
- The Receipt, Investigation and Review of Misconduct Allegations
- Management and Supervision

Updates

The Justice Department ended its official monitoring of the PGCPD in December 2008 and during the final reporting period; the Justice Department reported that the Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) continued to engage in several significant proactive efforts in order to ensure compliance with the requirements of this agreement. The PGPD focused on the five "areas of concern," *Use of Force Reports and Reporting, Early Identification System, Responding to Incidents Involving Mentally Ill Persons, Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) Investigations and Mobile Video Cameras*. This section focuses on these five key "areas of concern."

Use of Force Reports & Reporting

The Police Department has made significant strides in the documentation of use of force incidents. Paragraph #36 of the agreement, for instance, which required the full documentation of an O.C. spray incident, to include, reason for the level of force, the verbal warning, duration and distance proved to be a tremendous challenge for police supervisors. It should be noted that the Department has been in compliance with this paragraph for five consecutive quarters.

Early Identification System

To achieve compliance with the last MOU sections under review regarding the implementation of *Evalis*, an early identification system, the Technical Services Division and the Compliance Coordination Division compared data from the old Early Identification System (EIS) and the *Evalis* system. The data focused on officers who were involved in two or more incidents between August 1, 2008 and September 30, 2008. The exact same time frame and query parameters were used for both systems in an effort to determine whether *Evalis* would generate both a summary and a detailed report that mirrored the EIS reports.

The *Evalis* workgroup met on a weekly basis. This group addressed many of the department-wide issues and proposed resolutions for many of these concerns. In addition, the Department continued to participate in the twice-monthly teleconference with Technical Services, Transglobal and Motorola, in order to address and resolve all remaining concerns.

Responding to Incidents Involving Mentally Ill Persons

The Community Policing Institute and the Psychological Services Division completed the 2008 In-Service training on Emergency Petitions for lieutenants and below. The Compliance Coordination Division will continue to conduct a quality assurance process with the EPS reports, beyond the monitorship, in order to ensure the continued appropriate response and documentation of these incidents by officers.

Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) Investigations

The Police Department continued in its efforts to meet the requirements of the MOA paragraphs governing internal investigations. Paragraph 71, concerning the 90-day timeline for the completion of internal investigations served as the only paragraph that was not in compliance. This is related to the process whereby the complainant is notified, in writing, of the completion of the investigation. The complainant is provided information concerning the review process and further advised that additional notification is forthcoming. This process allows for a timelier advisement to the complainant. The Police Department will endeavor to continue providing a quality investigation and an exhaustive review process.

Mobile Video Cameras

The Technical Services Division, along with the Compliance Coordination Division took several measures to ensure full compliance with the MVS requirements, especially as it related to the audio recording of the prisoner transports. The Supervisory Support Unit staff sent out reminders to supervisors for every use of force number generated, to ensure that the prisoner transport was video and audio recorded or the “Failure to record activation form” completed. This timely reminder was successful in ensuring that the MVS issues were emphasized at the District level.

Appendices

Glossary of Terms

Enabling Legislation

**Complaint against Police Practices
Form (1072)**

Police District Map

Selected Case Summaries

Glossary

The terms defined below pertain to CB-25-1990, and CB-59-2001 which engendered new terms and definitions.

ALLEGATION - The specific charge for each act or behavior investigated in complaints alleging that a law enforcement officer has violated standards imposed by law or the Prince George's County Police Department (PGCPD) procedures. The allegations investigated by IAD and reviewed by CCOP include, but are not limited to the following categories:

Use of Force:

Aggressive Force - Force unreasonable in scope, duration, or severity under circumstances (e.g., continued use of force when resistance has ceased).

Excessive Force - Intentional, malicious, or unjustified use of force resulting in injury or potential for injury.

Unnecessary Force - Force inappropriate to effect an arrest or control a situation; includes use of force when none is necessary.

Use of Language:

Abusive Language - Harsh, violent, profane or derogatory language that would demean the dignity of any person.

Discriminatory Language - Demeaning, derogatory or abusive language, or other unbecoming conduct relating to the race, color, national origin, gender, or religion of a person(s).

Inappropriate Language - Name calling, sarcastic remarks or other unnecessary language which serves to belittle, or embarrass a citizen, or otherwise inflame an employee/citizen contact.

Conduct - Refers to excessive, unwarranted or unjustified behavior that reflects poorly on the officer the department or on the county government, regardless of duty status. This category includes allegations of misconduct, unbecoming conduct, and unreported misconduct.

Harassment - Repeated, unwarranted verbal or physical annoyances, threats or demands including sexual harassment.

Credibility - Allegations of dishonest behavior that may diminish public trust and undermine the credibility, effectiveness or integrity of the officer or contribute to the corruption of others.

Process Violations - Failure to comply with specific policies and directives related to operational procedures.

Firearms - Complaints or cases related to the intentional and unintentional discharge

CB-25-1990 - The legislation establishing the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel (CCOP) that sets forth its duties and responsibilities and the composition of its members. (See Appendix B)

CB-44-1994 - The legislation that changed the length of terms of panel members from two years to four years, and provided for the staggering of the terms. (See Appendix C)

CB-59-2001 - The legislation that amended CB-25-1990. (See Appendix D)

CCOP - The Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel

COMPLAINT - Any written allegation, signed by the complainant and submitted to the Prince George's County Police Department (PGCPD), alleging that the conduct of a law enforcement officer violated standards imposed by law or the PCGPD procedures. A complaint can also be filed using Form #1072 (PGCPD form).

FORM #1072 - Complaint Against Police Practices - A Prince George's County Government Form for filing complaints against the Prince George's County Police Department.
IAD - Internal Affairs Division of the Prince George's County Police Department.

LETTER OF DETERMINATION - Refers to the summary report of investigations conducted by the HRC prior to January 11, 2001. This function was made obsolete by CB-59-2001.

RECOMMENDATIONS - CCOP's conclusions submitted to the Chief of Police for each of the allegations listed in the Internal Affairs ROI, and are based on IAD's investigation, comments, recommendations, and, when applicable, CCOP's investigation. The CCOP can concur with the IAD findings in their entirety or the CCOP may disagree and make its own recommendations to the Chief of Police with any of

the following conclusions or recommendations” for each allegation as follows:

Sustain - A preponderance of the evidence proves that the alleged act(s) occurred and that the act(s) violated Department policy and procedures.

Not Sustained - The evidence fails to prove or disprove that the alleged act(s) occurred.

Proper Conduct - Also referred to as “Exonerated” is a finding that the investigation found the alleged acts did occur, but they were justified, lawful and proper.

Unfounded - The investigation found the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve police employees.

Panel Investigation - Substantive issues were not adequately or impartially addressed by the Internal Affairs investigation; the Panel may conduct its own investigation; or Remand to Chief of Police - The Panel defers disposition to send complaint back to the Chief for further investigation and/or additional investigation.

REPORT/REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

(ROI)- The report by IAD that is the written record of its investigation.

Enabling Legislation

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session _____ 1990

Bill No. _____ CB-25-1990

Chapter No. _____ 30

Proposed and Presented by The Chairman (by request -
County Executive)

Introduced by Council Members Bell, Mills and Pemberton

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction _____ June 12, 1990

BILL

AN ACT concerning

Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel

FOR the purpose of establishing the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel; providing for the composition and terms, powers and duties of the Panel; and establishing certain procedures to be followed by the Panel, the Chief of Police and the Human Relations Commission when a complaint of excessive force, abusive language or harassment is filed against a Prince George's County Police Officer.

BY repealing:

SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

Section 2-231,

The Prince George's County Code

(1987 Edition, 1988 Supplement).

BY adding:

SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

Section 2-231,

The Prince George's County Code

(1987 Edition, 1988 Supplement).

1 SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.

2 Sections 18-186.01 through
3 18-186.08, inclusive,
4 The Prince George's County Code
5 (1987 Edition, 1988 Supplement).

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince
7 George's County, Maryland, that Section 2-231 of the Prince George's
8 County Code be and the same is hereby repealed.

9 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

10 DIVISION 12. HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION.

11 Subdivision 8. Discrimination by Law Enforcement
12 Officers.

13 [Sec. 2-231.]

14 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that new Sections
15 2-231 and 18-186.01 through 18-186.08, inclusive, be and the same
16 are hereby added to the Prince George's County Code to read as
17 follows:

18 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

19 DIVISION 12. HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION.

20 Subdivision 8. Discrimination by Law Enforcement
21 Officers.

22 Sec. 2-231. Complaints against members of the Prince George's
23 County Police Department.

24 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2-230, if a
25 complaint pursuant to Section 2-229 involves a member of the Prince
26 George's County Police Department the Human Relations Commission
27 shall complete its investigation, conduct a public hearing before
 three members of the Law Enforcement Panel of the Commission, in

1 accordance with Sections 2-205 and 2-206 of this Code and shall
2 report in writing its comments and recommendations to the Chief of
3 Police and to the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel, within twenty
4 (20) working days after the completion of the investigation by the
5 Internal Affairs Division, in accordance with the provisions of
6 Sections 18-186.01 through 18-186.08 of this Code.

7 SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.

8 DIVISION 5. POLICE DEPARTMENT.

9 Subdivision 3. Citizen Complaint Oversight
10 Panel.

11 Sec. 18-186.01. Legislative Findings.

12 (a) The procedures to be used when any law enforcement officer
13 is subject to investigation or interrogation for any reason which
14 could lead to disciplinary action, demotion or dismissal are
15 established under Article 27, Sections 727-734D of the Annotated
16 Code of Maryland ("Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights") and
17 are in no way supplanted by the procedures set forth in this
18 Subdivision.

19 (b) It is found and declared that when a complaint is filed or
20 an incident is reported in which a Prince George's County Police
21 Officer is alleged to have used excessive force, abusive language or
22 harassment involving a citizen, the public needs assurance that the
23 investigation is complete, thorough, and impartial, and that the
24 report and recommendations of the investigating unit are reasonable
25 and appropriate under the circumstances.

26 (c) It is declared that the purpose of the Citizen Complaint
27 Oversight Panel is to review the report of the investigation and to
advise the Chief of the Prince George's County Police Department if

1 the investigation was complete, thorough, and impartial.

2 (d) It is a further declared purpose of the Citizen Complaint
3 Oversight Panel to review the processing of complaints of excessive
4 force, abusive language or harassment and to comment on the action
5 taken on such complaints, to report its comments and recommendations
6 to the Chief Administrative Officer upon the final disposition of
7 each case, and to issue an annual report to the public.

8 Sec. 18-186.02. Definitions.

9 (a) As used herein, the following words shall have the
10 following meanings:

11 (1) "Abusive language" means harsh, violent, profane or
12 derogatory language which would demean the dignity of any person.
13 "Abusive language" includes, but is not limited to, profanity, and
14 racial, ethnic or sexist slurs.

15 (2) "Chief of Police" means the Chief of the Prince
16 George's County Police Department.

17 (3) "Excessive force" means the use of greater physical
18 force than reasonably necessary to repel an attacker or terminate
19 resistance and shall not include that force which is reasonably
20 necessary to effect a lawful purpose.

21 (4) "Harassment" means repeated, unwarranted verbal or
22 physical annoyances, threats, or demands.

23 (5) "Hearing Board" means the Police Hearing Board as
24 defined in Article 27, Section 727 of the Annotated Code of
25 Maryland.

26 (6) "Human Relations Commission" means the Prince
27 George's County Human Relations Commission.

(7) "Law enforcement officer" means a sworn officer of

1 the Prince George's County Police Department.

2 (8) "Panel" means the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel.

3 Sec. 18-186.03. Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel created;
4 composition; appointment; compensation.

5 (a) There is hereby created a Citizen Complaint Oversight
6 Panel.

7 (b) The Panel shall consist of seven (7) members who shall be
8 appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County
9 Council.

10 (c) Of the initial appointments, three (3) shall be for a term
11 of one (1) year and four (4) shall be for a term of two (2) years.
12 Thereafter, all appointments shall be for two (2) year terms. In
13 the event that a member does not complete a term, the vacancy shall
14 be filled in the same manner as initial appointments. No member
15 shall be appointed for more than two (2) consecutive full terms.

16 (d) Members shall be residents of Prince George's County and
17 broadly representative of the citizens of the County; however, no
18 person may be appointed nor serve as a member who is a municipal,
19 bi-county, County or State employee, or who is a municipal, County
20 or State elected official or candidate for any such elected office,
21 or who is employed by any law enforcement organization.

22 (e) Members may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred
23 in the performance of their duties and shall be compensated at the
24 rate of Fifty Dollars (\$50) per hour for meetings, but no member
25 shall receive more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) in any twelve
26 (12) month period.

27 (f) The County Executive shall designate a member to serve as
Chairperson of the Panel.

1 form. The law enforcement officers shall advise such individuals of
2 the correct procedures to be followed under this Section. Upon
3 request, a copy of the citizen complaint form will be mailed to the
4 complainant at the address furnished.

5 (c) The Police Department shall place posters in all police
6 stations, and elsewhere throughout the County to explain the
7 procedure for filing a complaint.

8 (d) An explanation of the complaint procedure shall be made to
9 all officers of the Prince George's County Police Department in a
10 General Order to be included in the Manual of Rules and Procedures
11 of the Police Department, and shall be included in the training
12 program for all new officers.

13 Sec. 18-186.05. Investigation of Complaints.

14 (a) The Internal Affairs Division of the Police Department,
15 upon receipt of any citizen complaint form which alleges that a law
16 enforcement officer used excessive force, abusive language or
17 harassment shall commence an investigation within a reasonable
18 amount of time, ordinarily within thirty (30) calendar days from the
19 date of receipt of such complaint. The purpose of such
20 investigation shall be to evaluate the merits of the complaint in an
21 objective manner. Before taking the duress statement from the law
22 enforcement officer under investigation, the Internal Affairs
23 Division shall provide the officer and his representative the
24 opportunity to read the complaint.

25 (b) Upon the completion of its complaint investigation, the
26 Internal Affairs Division shall immediately forward to the Chief of
27 Police a full report of its investigation including comments and
recommendations, if any, either that the complaint should be

1 (g) The County Executive shall provide appropriate staff,
2 including an Administrator who shall be an attorney admitted to the
3 practice of law in the State of Maryland. The Administrator shall
4 be compensated as provided in the annual budget.

5 (h) The chairperson shall designate five (5) members of the
6 Panel to review each complaint referred to the Panel pursuant to
7 this Subdivision. A quorum of four (4) members of the Panel shall
8 be required to conduct the business of the Panel.

9 Sec. 18-186.04. Citizen Complaints.

10 (a) Whenever an individual believes that he or she has been
11 the object of police misconduct, such individual may file a written
12 complaint with the Chief of Police on a form provided by the Police
13 Department.

14 (1) The complaint shall include the name of the
15 complainant, and to the extent known, the name of the law
16 enforcement officer allegedly involved, and the time, place and
17 circumstances involved in the incident. The complaint shall also
18 include an explanation of the conduct that is deemed to be wrongful.

19 (2) Sufficient supplies of citizen complaint forms shall
20 be readily available at every Prince George's County Police station,
21 every public library branch within the County, and at a designated
22 office in the County Administration Building. These written
23 complaint forms may be submitted in person or sent by mail to any
24 office of the Prince George's County Police Department or to any
25 office of the Panel.

26 (b) Individuals who present oral complaints by telephone or in
27 person to police headquarters or to individual law enforcement
officers shall be instructed to fill out a written citizen complaint

1 sustained, not sustained or dismissed, or for exoneration.

2 Sec. 18-186.06. Duties of Chief of Police.

3 (a) The Chief of Police shall send to the Human Relations
4 Commission a copy of every signed and sworn complaint alleging use
5 of excessive force, abusive language or harassment by a law
6 enforcement officer. The copy of the complaint shall be sent within
7 twenty-four (24) hours after the initial evaluation by the Police
8 Department, and shall be accompanied by a statement indicating
9 whether the Internal Affairs Division will conduct a full
10 investigation of the alleged incident. The Chief of Police shall
11 send the law enforcement officer under investigation a written
12 notice that the complaint has been received. The notice shall
13 include the time, date and place of the conduct which is the subject
14 of the complainant as well as a brief description of the nature of
15 the complaint and shall be sent within twenty-four (24) hours after
16 the initial evaluation by the Police Department.

17 (b) Within twenty-four (24) hours after receipt, the Chief of
18 Police shall send to the Panel a copy of the Internal Affairs
19 Division report of the investigation of every case alleging use of
20 excessive force, abusive language or harassment by a law enforcement
21 officer and shall notify the Human Relations Commission that the
22 investigation has been completed.

23 (c) The Chief of Police shall direct a member of the Internal
24 Affairs Division to attend, upon request of the Panel, the meeting
25 of the Panel for the purpose of providing clarification of any
26 information in the report.

27 (d) The Chief of Police shall give due consideration to the
comments and recommendations of the Panel, and shall instruct the

1 Internal Affairs Division to continue the investigation if, in the
2 judgment of the Chief of Police, substantive issues have not been
3 adequately or impartially addressed.

4 (e) After the Chief of Police has reviewed the comments and
5 recommendations of the Panel, the Chief of Police may proceed to act
6 upon the recommendations of the Internal Affairs Division in
7 accordance with the provisions of Article 27, Sections 727 through
8 734D of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

9 (f) The Chief of Police shall notify the Panel within two (2)
10 working days of the final disposition of the case.

11 Sec. 18-186.07. Duties of the Human Relations Commission.

12 (a) The Human Relations Commission shall investigate every
13 case alleging use of excessive force, abusive language or harassment
14 by a law enforcement officer in accordance with the provisions of
15 the Human Relations Code. If the allegation is also being
16 investigated by the Internal Affairs Division, the Human Relations
17 Commission shall conduct its investigation simultaneously, shall
18 conduct a public hearing before three members of the Law Enforcement
19 Panel of the Commission, in accordance with Sections 2-205 and 2-206
20 of this Code and shall report in writing its comments and
21 recommendations to the Chief of Police and to the Panel, within
22 twenty (20) working days after the completion of the investigation
23 by the Internal Affairs Division.

24 (b) If requested by the Panel, the Human Relations Commission
25 shall direct the person who conducted the investigation to attend
26 the meeting of the Panel for the purpose of providing clarification,
27 if needed, of any information in the report.

(c) The investigation and hearing by the Human Relations

1 Commission shall not be construed to constitute an investigation or
2 hearing that could lead to disciplinary action, demotion or
3 dismissal of a law enforcement officer. The comments and
4 recommendations may be used by the Panel to assist the Panel in its
5 evaluation of the completeness and impartiality of the investigation
6 by the Internal Affairs Division.

7 Sec. 18-186.08. Duties of the Panel.

8 (a) For every investigation into alleged use of excessive
9 force, abusive language or harassment by a law enforcement officer,
10 the Panel shall review the report of the Internal Affairs Division
11 and the report of investigation and hearing by the Human Relations
12 Commission, if provided by the Human Relations Commission within the
13 time set forth in Sections 2-231 and
14 18-186.07 (a) of this Code.

15 (b) Within ten (10) working days after receiving the report of
16 the investigation and hearing by the Human Relations Commission, but
17 no later than thirty (30) working days after the completion of the
18 report of the Internal Affairs Division, the Panel shall review the
19 reports received and shall issue to the Chief of Police a written
20 report as to the completeness and impartiality of the reports
21 together with any of the following recommendations:

22 (1) Sustain the complaint;

23 (2) Approve, disapprove or modify the recommendations of
24 the Internal Affairs Division;

25 (3) Dismiss the complaint because of lack of
26 insufficiency of evidence;

27 (4) Exonerate the police officer because of the absence
of clear and convincing evidence;

1 Commission shall not be construed to constitute an investigation or
2 hearing that could lead to disciplinary action, demotion or
3 dismissal of a law enforcement officer. The comments and
4 recommendations may be used by the Panel to assist the Panel in its
5 evaluation of the completeness and impartiality of the investigation
6 by the Internal Affairs Division.

7 Sec. 18-186.08. Duties of the Panel.

8 (a) For every investigation into alleged use of excessive
9 force, abusive language or harassment by a law enforcement officer,
10 the Panel shall review the report of the Internal Affairs Division
11 and the report of investigation and hearing by the Human Relations
12 Commission, if provided by the Human Relations Commission within the
13 time set forth in Sections 2-231 and
14 18-186.07 (a) of this Code.

15 (b) Within ten (10) working days after receiving the report of
16 the investigation and hearing by the Human Relations Commission, but
17 no later than thirty (30) working days after the completion of the
18 report of the Internal Affairs Division, the Panel shall review the
19 reports received and shall issue to the Chief of Police a written
20 report as to the completeness and impartiality of the reports
21 together with any of the following recommendations:

22 (1) Sustain the complaint;

23 (2) Approve, disapprove or modify the recommendations of
24 the Internal Affairs Division;

25 (3) Dismiss the complaint because of lack or
26 insufficiency of evidence;

27 (4) Exonerate the police officer because of the absence
of clear and convincing evidence;

1 (5) Remand the complaint for further investigation to the
2 Internal Affairs Division.

3 (c) Upon written application to the Chief of Police and for
4 good cause shown, the Chief of Police may grant an extension of
5 time, not to exceed ten (10) additional working days, to the Panel
6 to complete their review and report. If the Panel is unable to
7 complete their review and report within the time allowed, including
8 any extension granted by the Chief of Police, then the report of the
9 Internal Affairs Division and the report of investigation and
10 hearing by the Human Relations Commission, if available, shall be
11 forwarded to the Chief of Police without comment for action as
12 provided in Section 18-186.06 (e).

13 (d) The Panel shall base its comments and recommendations
14 solely on the investigative reports. It shall not conduct its own
15 investigation, nor hear from witnesses. The Panel may request a
16 member of the Internal Affairs Division and an investigator from the
17 Human Relations Commission to attend the Panel meetings to provide
18 clarification, if needed, of any material in the respective reports
19 of investigation.

20 (e) The Administrator of the Panel shall advise the Panel on
21 all legal issues, including but not limited to rules of evidence and
22 confidentiality of information. The Panel shall protect
23 confidentiality but may otherwise make public its comments and
24 recommendations no sooner than one (1) working day after submitting
25 its report to the Chief of Police.

26 (f) Upon direction of the Chairperson of the Panel, a member
27 or staff of the Panel shall observe the proceedings of a hearing
 board, if one is convened.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 1994

Bill No. CB-44-1994

Chapter No. 56

Proposed and Presented by The Chairman (by request -
County Executive)

Introduced by Council Member Pemberton

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction June 14, 1994

BILL

AN ACT concerning

Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel

For the purpose of changing the length of terms of panel members from two years to four years, and providing for the staggering of the terms.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.

Section 18-186.03.

The Prince George's County Code

(1991 Edition, 1992 Supplement).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 18-186.03 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.

DIVISION 5. POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Subdivision 3. Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel.

Adopted this 19th day of July, 1994.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: F. Kitwan Wineland
F. Kitwan Wineland
Chairman

ATTEST:

Joyce F. Sweeney
Joyce F. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: August 2, 1994

BY: Parris N. Glendening
Parris N. Glendening
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.
Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2001 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-59-2001

Chapter No. 51

Proposed and Presented by Council Members Estepp, Bailey and Russell

Introduced by Council Members Estepp, Bailey and Russell

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction October 16, 2001

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel

3 For the purpose of amending the responsibilities of the Chief of Police, the Human Relations
4 Commission, and the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel in the investigation of complaints
5 against County law enforcement officers; and generally relating to the Citizen Complaint
6 Oversight Panel.

7 BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

8 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

9 Sections 2-229 and 2-231,

10 The Prince George's County Code

11 (1999 Edition, 2000 Supplement).

12 SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.

13 Sections 18-186.01, 18-186.02, 18-186.05,

14 18-186.06, 18-186.07, and 18-186.08,

15 The Prince George's County Code

16 (1999 Edition, 2000 Supplement).

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
18 Maryland, that Sections 2-229, 2-231, 18-186.01, 18-186.02, 18-186.05, 18-186.06, 18-186.07,
19 and 18-186.08, of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby repealed and
20 reenacted with the following amendments:

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SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

DIVISION 12. HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION.

Subdivision 8. Discrimination by Law Enforcement Officers.

Sec. 2-229. Prohibited acts by law enforcement officers.

(a) The Human Relations Commission shall have the authority to investigate, and hold a formal hearing, on any sworn complaint against any law enforcement officer operating within the County, except a complaint against a member of the Prince George's County Police Department, which alleges any of the following categories of complaints that are defined and prohibited by law or regulation:

- (1) Police harassment;
- (2) The excessive use of force in the performance of his duties;
- (3) The use of language which would demean the inherent dignity of any person.

(b) The Commission's staff shall upon receipt of a sworn complaint, transmit a copy of any such complaints to the Chief of any Law Enforcement Agency involved, and the State's Attorney promptly after filing.

* * * * *

Sec. 2-231. Complaints against members of the Prince George's County Police Department.

Norwithstanding the provisions of [Section 2-230, if a complaint pursuant to] Section 2-229 if a complaint filed with the Commission involves a member of the Prince George's County Police Department, the [Human Relations] Commission shall [complete its investigation, conduct a public hearing before three members of the Law Enforcement Panel of the Commission, in accordance with Sections 2-205 and 2-206 of this Code, and shall report in writing its comments and recommendations] forward a copy of the complaint and all related documents to the Chief of Police and to the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel, within [twenty (20)] one working day(s) after the receipt of the complaint by the Commission [completion of the investigation by the Internal Affairs Division, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 18-186.01 through 18-186.08 of this Code].

SUBTITLE 18. POLICE.

DIVISION 5. POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Subdivision 3. Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel.

1 **Sec. 18-186.01. Legislative Findings.**

2 (a) The procedures to be used when any law enforcement officer is subject to investigation
3 or interrogation for any reason which could lead to disciplinary action, demotion, or dismissal
4 are established under Article 27, Sections 727-734D of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("Law
5 Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights"), and are in no way supplanted by the procedures set forth
6 in this Subdivision.

7 (b) It is found and declared that when a complaint is filed or an incident [is reported]
8 occurs in which a Prince George's County Police Officer is alleged to have [used excessive force,
9 abusive language, or harassment involving a citizen] discharged a firearm in an attempt to strike
10 or control another person regardless of whether injury occurs, accidentally discharged a firearm,
11 a person dies during a law enforcement officer's use of force or while in the custody of a law
12 enforcement officer, or a law enforcement officer or other person has filed a complaint with the
13 Prince George's County Police Department or the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel regarding
14 the conduct of a law enforcement officer, the public needs assurance that the investigation is
15 complete, thorough, and impartial, and that the report and recommendations of the investigating
16 unit are reasonable and appropriate under the circumstances.

17 (c) It is declared that the purpose of the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel is to review the
18 report of the investigation and to advise the Chief of the Prince George's County Police
19 Department if the investigation was complete, thorough, and impartial.

20 (d) It is a further declared purpose of the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel to review the
21 processing of complaints [of excessive force, abusive language, or harassment] by law
22 enforcement officers or other persons and to comment on the action taken on such complaints, to
23 report its comments and [recommendations] conclusions to the Chief Administrative Officer
24 upon the final disposition of each case, and to issue an annual report to the public.

25 (e) It is a further declared purpose of the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel, that, if in the
26 judgment of the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel, substantive issues have not been adequately
27 or impartially addressed by the investigation of complaints by the Internal Affairs Division, the
28 Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel may conduct its own investigation.

29 **Sec. 18-186.02. Definitions.**

30 (a) As used herein, the following words shall have the following meanings:

1 [(1) **Abusive language** means harsh, violent, profane, or derogatory language which
2 would demean the dignity of any person. "Abusive language" includes, but is not limited to,
3 profanity and racial, ethnic, or sexist slurs.]

4 [(2) ~~(1)~~ **Chief of Police** means the Chief of the Prince George's County Police
5 Department.

6 (2) **Complaint** means any written allegation, signed by the complainant, that the
7 conduct of a law enforcement officer violated standards imposed by law or departmental
8 procedures.

9 [(3) **Excessive force** means the use of greater physical force than reasonably
10 necessary to repel an attacker or terminate resistance and shall not include that force which is
11 reasonably necessary to effect a lawful purpose.]

12 [(4) **Harassment** means repeated, unwarranted verbal or physical annoyances, threats,
13 or demands.]

14 [(5) ~~(3)~~ **Hearing Board** means the Police Hearing Board as defined in Article 27,
15 Section 727 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

16 [(6) **Human Relations Commission** means the Prince George's County Human
17 Relations Commission.]

18 [(7) ~~(4)~~ **Law enforcement officer** means a sworn officer of the Prince George's
19 County Police Department.

20 [(8) ~~(5)~~ **Panel** means the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel.

21 (6) **Police Department** means the Prince George's County Police Department.

22 (7) **Use of force** means but is not limited to, any action taken by a law enforcement
23 officer to strike or control another person including the use of firearms, canine dogs, impact
24 weapons, electrical stun devices, chemical or natural agents, physical contact and restraint
25 devices.

26 • • • • • • • • •

27 **Sec. 18-186.05. Investigation of Complaints.**

28 (a) The [Internal Affairs Division of the] Police Department, [upon receipt of any citizen
29 complaint form which alleges that] in all cases where a law enforcement officer [used excessive
30 force, abusive language, or harassment] discharged a firearm in an attempt to strike or control
31 another person regardless of whether injury occurs, accidentally discharged a firearm,

1 a person dies during a law enforcement officer's use of force or while in the custody of a law
2 enforcement officer, or a law enforcement officer or other person has filed a complaint with the
3 Prince George's County Police Department or the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel regarding
4 the conduct of a law enforcement officer, shall commence an investigation within a reasonable
5 amount of time, ordinarily within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of receipt of such
6 complaint. The purpose of such investigation shall be to evaluate the merits of the complaint in
7 an objective manner. [Before taking the duress statement from the law enforcement officer
8 under investigation, the Internal Affairs Division shall provide the officer and his representative
9 the opportunity to read the complaint.]

10 (b) Upon the completion of [its complaint] the investigation, the [Internal Affairs Division
11 shall immediately forward to the] Chief of Police shall receive a full report of [its] the
12 investigation including comments and recommendations, if any, either that the complaint should
13 be sustained, not sustained or dismissed, or for exoneration.

14 **Sec. 18-186.06. Duties of Chief of Police.**

15 (a) The Chief of Police shall notify the Panel within twenty-four (24) hours or the next
16 business day after a law enforcement officer discharged a firearm in an attempt to strike or
17 control another person regardless of whether injury occurs, accidentally discharged a firearm, a
18 person dies during a law enforcement officer's use of force or while in the custody of a law
19 enforcement officer, or a law enforcement officer or other person has filed a complaint with the
20 Prince George's County Police Department or the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel regarding
21 the conduct of a law enforcement officer,

22 ~~[(a)]~~ (b) The Chief of Police shall promptly send to the [Human Relations Commission]
23 Panel a copy of every signed [and sworn] complaint [alleging use of excessive force, abusive
24 language, or harassment by a law enforcement officer] against a law enforcement officer. The
25 copy of the complaint [shall be sent within twenty-four (24) hours after the initial evaluation by
26 the Police Department, and] shall be accompanied by a statement indicating whether the Internal
27 Affairs Division will conduct a full investigation of the alleged incident. [The Chief of Police
28 shall send the law enforcement officer under investigation a written notice that the complaint has
29 been received. The notice shall include the time, date and place of the conduct which is the
30 subject of the complainant as well as a brief description of the nature of the complaint and shall
31 be sent within twenty-four (24) hours after the initial evaluation by the Police Department.]

1 [(b)] (c) Within twenty-four (24) hours or the next business day after receipt, subject to the
2 provisions of State law, the Chief of Police shall send to the Panel a complete copy of the
3 [Internal Affairs Division] report of the internal affairs investigation of every case [alleging use
4 of excessive force, abusive language, or harassment by a law enforcement officer] that a law
5 enforcement officer discharged a firearm in an attempt to strike or control another person
6 regardless of whether injury occurs, accidentally discharged a firearm, a person dies during a law
7 enforcement officer's use of force or while in the custody of a law enforcement officer, or a law
8 enforcement officer or other person has filed a complaint with the Prince George's County Police
9 Department or the Citizen Complaint Oversight Panel regarding the conduct of a law
10 enforcement officer, and shall notify the [Human Relations Commission] Panel that the
11 investigation has been completed.

12 (d) If the Chief of Police determines that the disclosure of information to the Panel
13 mandated under subsections (a) through (c) would reasonably be expected to compromise or
14 impede a pending criminal or internal affairs investigation, within twenty-four (24) hours or the
15 next business day after receipt of the information, the Chief of Police may petition the County
16 Executive or his designee for a temporary exemption. Such a petition shall be in writing, must
17 contain all information that subsections (a) through (c) requires to be disclosed to the Panel and
18 shall provide specific facts demonstrating that the disclosure would reasonably be expected to
19 compromise or impede the pending investigation. The County Executive or his designee shall
20 respond in writing and may grant a temporary exemption from the mandated disclosures of no
21 longer than thirty (30) days. At the expiration of a temporary exemption, the Chief of Police
22 may renew his petition and the County Executive or his designee may grant additional temporary
23 exemptions of no longer than thirty (30) days every time the petition is renewed.

24 [(c)] (e) The Chief of Police shall direct [a member of the Internal Affairs Division] the
25 internal affairs investigator to attend, upon request of the Panel, the meeting of the Panel for the
26 purpose of providing clarification of any information in the report.

27 [(d)] (f) The Chief of Police shall give due consideration to the comments and
28 [recommendations] conclusions of the Panel, and shall instruct the Internal Affairs Division to
29 continue the investigation if, in the judgment of the Chief of Police, substantive issues have not
30 been adequately or impartially addressed.

1 ~~[(e)]~~ (g) After the Chief of Police has reviewed the comments and [recommendations]
2 conclusions of the Panel, the Chief of Police may proceed to act upon the recommendations of
3 the Internal Affairs Division in accordance with the provisions of Article 27, Sections 727
4 through 734D of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

5 (h) The Chief of Police shall provide copies of the following to the Panel concurrent with
6 service, transmittal, or notice to a law enforcement officer:

7 (1) All administrative charges served upon a law enforcement officer;

8 (2) All notices of hearing boards or suspension hearings served upon a law
9 enforcement officer;

10 (3) All notices of suspension of police powers and/or pay served upon a law
11 enforcement officer;

12 (4) All reports of the hearing board transmitted to the Chief of Police; and

13 (5) All notices of disciplinary action issued by the Chief of Police.

14 ~~[(f)]~~ (i) The Chief of Police shall notify the Panel within two (2) [working] business days
15 of the final disposition of the case.

16 **Sec. 18-186.07. [Duties of the Human Relations Commission] Reserved.**

17 (a) The Human Relations Commission shall investigate every case alleging use of
18 excessive force, abusive language, or harassment by a law enforcement officer in accordance
19 with the provisions of the Human Relations Code. If the allegation is also being investigated by
20 the Internal Affairs Division, the Human Relations Commission shall conduct its investigation
21 simultaneously, shall conduct a public hearing before three members of the Law Enforcement
22 Panel of the Commission in accordance with Sections 2-205 and 2-206 of this Code, and shall
23 report in writing its comments and recommendations to the Chief of Police and to the Panel
24 within twenty (20) working days after the completion of the investigation by the Internal Affairs
25 Division.

26 (b) If requested by the Panel, the Human Relations Commission shall direct the person
27 who conducted the investigation to attend the meeting of the Panel for the purpose of providing
28 clarification, if needed, of any information in the report.

29 (c) The investigation and hearing by the Human Relations Commission shall not be
30 construed to constitute an investigation or hearing that could lead to disciplinary action,
31 demotion, or dismissal of a law enforcement officer. The comments and recommendations may

1 be used by the Panel to assist the Panel in its evaluation of the completeness and impartiality of
2 the investigation by the Internal Affairs Division.]

3 **Sec. 18-186.08. Duties of the Panel.**

4 (a) For every investigation [into alleged use of excessive force, abusive language, or
5 harassment by a law enforcement officer] alleging that a law enforcement officer discharged a
6 firearm in an attempt to strike or control another person regardless of whether injury occurs,
7 accidentally discharged a firearm, a person dies during a law enforcement officer's use of force
8 or while in the custody of a law enforcement officer, or a law enforcement officer or other person
9 has filed a complaint with the Prince George's County Police Department or the Citizen
10 Complaint Oversight Panel regarding the conduct of a law enforcement officer, the Panel,
11 subject to the provisions of State law, shall review the complete internal affairs investigation
12 [report of the Internal Affairs Division and the report of investigation and hearing by the Human
13 Relations Commission, if provided by the Human Relations Commission within the time set
14 forth in Sections 2-231 and 18-186.07(a) of this Code].

15 (b). All testimony, information or material obtained or created by the Panel shall be
16 considered confidential and shall not be disclosed except in the performance of its functions.

17 [(b)] (c) [Within ten (10) working days after receiving the report of the investigation and
18 hearing by the Human Relations Commission, but no] ~~No~~ later than thirty (30) working days
19 after the completion of the internal affairs investigation report [of the Internal Affairs Division],
20 the Panel shall review the reports received and shall issue to the Chief of Police a written report
21 as to the completeness and impartiality of the reports together with any of the following
22 [recommendations] conclusions for each allegation in a complaint:

- 23 (1) Sustain the complaint;
24 (2) Approve, disapprove, or modify the recommendations of the Internal Affairs
25 Division;
26 (3) Dismiss the complaint because of lack or insufficiency of evidence;
27 (4) Exonerate the police officer because of the absence of clear and convincing
28 evidence;
29 (5) Remand the complaint for further investigation to the Internal Affairs Division.]

30 (1) Sustained. A preponderance of the evidence proves that the alleged act or acts
31 occurred and that the act or acts violated Department policy or procedure;

1 (2) Not Sustained. The evidence fails to prove or disprove that the alleged act or acts
2 occurred.

3 (3) Proper Conduct. The evidence proves that the alleged act or acts occurred;
4 however, the act or acts were justified, lawful, and proper.

5 (4) Unfounded. The evidence proves that the alleged act or acts did not occur or that
6 the accused law enforcement officer was not involved.

7 (5) Panel Investigation . If, in the judgment of the Panel, substantive issues have not
8 been adequately or impartially addressed by the investigation of complaints by the Internal
9 Affairs Division, the Panel may conduct its own investigation.

10 (6) Remand to Chief of Police. The Panel may defer disposition to remand a
11 complaint back to the Chief of Police for further investigation and/or additional reports.

12 [(c)] (d) Upon written application to the Chief of Police and for good cause shown, the
13 Chief of Police may grant an extension of time, not to exceed ten (10) additional working days,
14 to the Panel to complete [their] its review and report. If the Panel is unable to complete [their] its
15 review and report within the time allowed, including any extension granted by the Chief of
16 Police, then the internal affairs investigation report [of the Internal Affairs Division and the
17 report of investigation and hearing by the Human Relations Commission, if available,] shall be
18 forwarded to the Chief of Police without comment for action as provided in Section 18-
19 186.06(e).

20 [(d)] (e) The Panel shall base its comments and [recommendations solely] conclusions on
21 the investigative reports. [It shall not conduct its own investigation, nor hear from witnesses.]
22 The Panel may request the internal affairs investigator [a member of the Internal Affairs Division
23 and an investigator from the Human Relations Commission] to attend the Panel meetings to
24 provide clarification, if needed, of any material in the respective reports of investigation.

25 [(e)] (f) The Panel may conduct its own investigation independently from, but
26 concurrently with, the internal affairs investigation.

27 [(f)] (g) The Panel may, upon a majority vote of the members present, apply to the County
28 Council for the issuance of subpoenas upon any person to require such person to attend, testify
29 under oath, and produce documents and records regarding the subject of any investigation by the
30 Panel in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland. A complete record, either written,
31 taped, or transcribed, shall be kept of a person's testimony. All testimony, information and

1 material obtained or created by the Panel during its investigation will be sent to the Chief of
2 Police for consideration.

3 [(e)] (h) The Administrator of the Panel shall advise the Panel on all legal issues,
4 including, but not limited to, rules of evidence and confidentiality of information. The Panel
5 shall protect confidentiality but may otherwise make public its comments and
6 [recommendations] conclusions no sooner than one (1) [working] business day after submitting
7 its report to the Chief of Police.

8 [(f)] (i) Upon direction of the Chairperson of the Panel, a member or staff of the Panel
9 shall observe the proceedings of a hearing board, if one is convened.

10 [(g)] (j) The Panel shall report its comments and [recommendations] conclusions in
11 writing to the Chief Administrative Officer in each case [upon the closing of the case by the Chief
12 of Police] in a timely manner.

13 [(h)] (k) The Panel shall make public an annual report of its activities. The annual report
14 shall contain summary reports of case conclusions, a statistical analysis of cases by type and
15 disposition, including discipline imposed, any recommendations for policy changes, recruitment,
16 supervision, operational procedures and training, and any other information that the Panel deems
17 appropriate.

18 (l) The Panel shall inform the complainant of the following in a timely manner:

19 (1) Notice of the time and location of any hearing board; and

20 (2) Final disposition of a complaint.

21 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take forty-five (45) calendar
22 days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 5th day of November, 2001.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: Ronald V. Russell
Ronald V. Russell
Chairman

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: 26 Nov 2001 BY: Wayne K. Curry
Wayne K. Curry
County Executive

KEY:

- Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
- [Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.
- Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

Complaint against Police Practices Form 1072

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FOR COMPLAINTS OF EXCESSIVE FORCE OR POLICE BRUTALITY. THIS INFORMATION IS NOT INTENDED TO DISCOURAGE LEGITIMATE COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS. IN FACT THE VALIDITY OF A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION DEPENDS UPON TIMELY AND TRUTHFUL INFORMATION.

Maryland Law, Article 27, Section 728 (b) (4)

A complaint against a law enforcement officer, alleging brutality in the execution of his duties, may not be investigated unless the complaint be duly sworn to by the aggrieved person, a member of the aggrieved person's immediate family, or by any person with firsthand knowledge obtained as a result of the presence at, and observation of, the alleged incident, or by the parent or guardian in the case of a minor child before an official authorized to administer oaths. An investigation which could lead to disciplinary action under this subtitle for brutality may not be initiated and an action may not be taken unless the complaint is filed within 90 days of the alleged brutality.

Maryland Law, Article 27, Section 734C

Any person who knowingly makes a false statement, report or complaint in the course of an investigation or any proceeding conducted under the provisions of this subtitle is subject to the same penalties as provided in Article 27, § 150. (1977, ch. 366.)

Maryland Law, Article 27, Section 150

Any person who makes a false statement, report or complaint, or who causes a false statement, report or complaint to be made, to any peace or police officer of any county, city or other political subdivision of this State, knowing the same, or any material part thereof, to be false and with intent to deceive and with intent to cause an investigation or other action to be taken as a result thereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500 or be imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED FOR COMPLAINTS OF EXCESSIVE FORCE OR POLICE BRUTALITY

I do solemnly declare and affirm under penalty of perjury that I have read or have had read to me the foregoing laws pertaining to this complaint and that the contents of this document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

SIGNATURE (IN PRESENCE OF NOTARY)

(DATE)

STATE OF MARYLAND

;

COUNTY OF _____

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20____
BEFORE ME A NOTARY PUBLIC OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY AFORESAID PERSONALLY
APPEARED _____ AND MADE OATH IN
DUE FORM OF LAW THAT THE MATTERS AND FACTS RELATED HEREIN ARE TRUE.

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES _____

NOTARY PUBLIC



DEPARTAMENTO de POLICIA del CONDADO de PRINCE GEORGE
QUEJA con RESPECTO a PRACTICAS de la POLICIA

Oficina Central
 7600 Barlowe Road
 Palmer Park, Maryland 20785
 (301) 836-8800

Division de Asuntos Internales
 6707 Groveton Drive
 Clinton, Maryland 20735
 (301) 856-2860

(Fecha de Hoy): _____

Su Nombre: _____
(Apellido) (Nombre) (Fecha de nacimiento)

Su Direccion: _____
(Calle) (Calle) (Número de Apartamento)
(Ciudad o Pueblo) (Estado) (Código Postal/Zip Code) Teléfono de su Hogar

¿Dónde se le puede encontrar durante el día? _____
Direccion Teléfono de su Hogar

Si usted está visitando el área metropolitana de Washington, ¿dónde se le puede encontrar en el área? _____
Direccion Teléfono

¿Cuándo y Dónde ocurrió el incidente que inició esta queja? _____
Fecha y Hora

(De Siempre desde ocurrió el incidente o describe la localidad si aplica)
 Escriba el(los) nombre(s) del(los) oficial(es) implicado(s), si es que lo sabe (ID significa el número de identificación del agente o número de la placa).
 (1) _____ ID _____ (2) _____ ID _____
 (3) _____ ID _____ (4) _____ ID _____

¿Pertenecen estos oficiales al Departamento del Condado de Prince George o de otra agencia que ejecuta la ley? Policía del Condado de Prince George _____ otra (por favor haga lista) _____

Por favor indique cualquier identificación del oficial que usted sepa (por ejemplo, Número de ID, placa de Inmatriculación, descripción física): _____

Indique los nombre(s) y direccion(es) de cualquier persona que fue testigo del incidente al cual se refiere en su queja:
 (1) _____ (2) _____

¿Cuál es su queja?, y por favor describa qué sucedió en sus propias palabras (si es necesario use más papel y adjúntelo a este formulario).

Favor de leer el reverso de este formulario

Su firma _____ Testigo a su firma _____

RECEIVED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT _____ BY MAIL _____ IN PERSON _____
 BY: _____ ID _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

La siguiente información concierne las quejas causadas por el uso de fuerza excesiva o brutalidad policiaca. Esta información no es para desanimar quejas legítimas contra oficiales de la policía, ya que el valor de una investigación minuciosa depende de información oportuna y verás.

Artículo 27, Sección 728 (b) (4)

Una queja contra un agente de la policía, alegando brutalidad en la ejecución de sus deberes, no podrá ser investigada a menos que la queja sea debidamente jurada por la persona agraviada, un miembro cercano de la familia de la persona agraviada o por cualquier persona con conocimiento de primera mano obtenido a causa de presenciar el incidente alegado, o por el padre o guardián en el caso de un niño menor de edad frente a un oficial autorizado para administrar juramentos. Una investigación que pudiera resultar en una acción disciplinaria bajo este título por brutalidad no podrá ser iniciada, ni tomada a menos que la queja sea registrada en el espacio de 90 días, Artículo 27, Sección 734c.

Cualquier persona que a sabiendas haga una declaración, informe o queja falsa durante el transcurso de una investigación o procedimiento, será víctima de las mismas penalidades como estipulado en el artículo 27, § 150. (1977, capítulo 366.)

Artículo 27, Sección 150

Cualquier persona que haga una declaración informe o queja falsa, o que cause una declaración informe o queja falsa, a un oficial de paz o la policía de cualquier condado, ciudad u otra subdivisión política de este estado, sabiendo que la misma, o alguna parte material de la misma, es falsa y con intención de engañar y causar una investigación u otra acción que pueda ser tomada como resultado de ello, será considerada culpable de crimen de menor entidad, y al momento de convicción sera sujeta a una multa de no más de \$500 o encarcelamiento durante no más de 6 meses, o ambos.

La seccion del Notario tiene que ser llenada para quejas de usa de fuerza excesiva o brutalidad policiaca.

(THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED FOR COMPLAINTS OF EXCESSIVE FORCE OR POLICE BRUTALITY)

Juro solemnemente y afirmo bajo pena de perjurio que he leído o me han leído las leyes pertinentes a esta queja y que el contenido de este documento es cierto y correcto según mi entendimiento y conocimiento. (I do solemnly declare and affirm under penalty of perjury that I have read or have had read to me the foregoing laws pertaining to this complaint and that the contents of this document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.)

La firma (en presencia del Notario)
SIGNATURE (IN PRESENCE OF NOTARY)

Fecha (DATE)

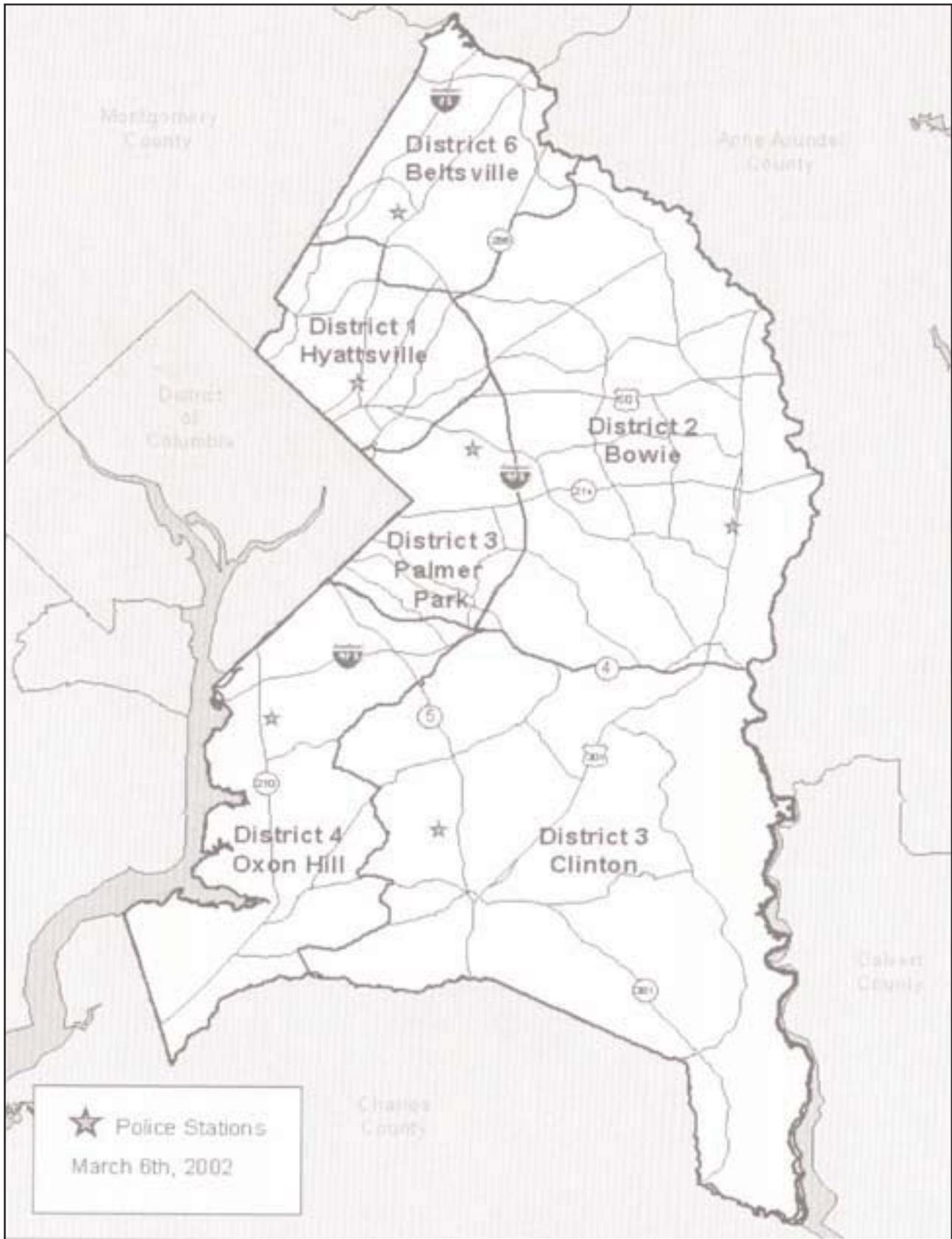
Estado de Maryland :
(STATE OF MARYLAND) : ss
Condado de: _____ :
(COUNTY OF)

Yo certifico que este día _____ de _____ 19____
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 19____
en mi presencia, Notario Público del estado y condado arriba mencionados, hizo su presencia
(BEFORE ME A NOTARY PUBLIC OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY AFORESAID PERSONALLY APPEARED
_____ y juró de acuerdo de la ley que los hechos y casos
relatados aquí son ciertos. (AND MADE OATH IN DUE FORM OF LAW THAT THE MATTERS AND FACTS RELATED HEREIN ARE TRUE.)

Mi comisión expira el _____
(MY COMMISSION EXPIRES)

Notario Público (NOTARY PUBLIC)

Police Districts Map



Selected Case Summaries