

# Civilian Police Oversight Agency

Semi-Annual Report

January 1st 2023 - June 30th 2023

# **Mission Statement**

"Advancing Constitutional Policing and Accountability for the Albuquerque Police Department and the Albuquerque Community"

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Interim Executive Director



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# List of Acronyms

- APD Albuquerque Police Department or "Department"
- *CABQ* City of Albuquerque
- CAO Chief Administrative Officer
- *CASA* Court Approved Settlement Agreement
- *CBA* Albuquerque Police Officer's Association's Collective Bargaining Agreement
- *CPOA* Civilian Police Oversight Agency or "Agency"
- CPOAB Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board or "Board"
- *CPC* Civilian Police Complaint
- *CPCs* Community Policing Councils
- *DAP* Disciplinary Action Packet
- DOJ Department of Justice
- *ECW* Electronic Control Weapons
- FRB Force Review Board
- IA Internal Affairs
- IAPS Internal Affairs Professional Standard
- *IAFD* Internal Affairs Force Division
- NDCA Non-Disciplinary Corrective Action
- *OBRD* On-Body Recording Device
- OIS Officer Involved Shooting
- PNP Policies and Procedures Review Sub-Committee
- PPRB Policy and Procedures Review Board
- PTC Prisoner Transport Center
- *SOPs* Standard Operating Procedures
- SNBOOC Sustained Not Based on Original Complaint
- SUOF Serious Use of Force
- *UOF* Use of Force
- VNBOOC Violation Not Based on Original Complaint



# Report Highlights

- The CPOA recorded 346 complaint notifications and opened 158 complaint investigations against APD personnel during the reporting period starting January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 through June 30<sup>th</sup> 2023.
- \* The Agency completed 115 civilian police complaint investigations during this reporting period, which is almost identical to the 116 complaints completed in the last reporting period.
- The CPOA experienced the onboarding and subsequent departure of the Executive Director during this period. 77.4% of the civilian police complaints closed in this reporting period were closed within 120 days.
- During this period, CPOA investigators reviewed 212 policy violation allegations.
- ❖ 65.2% of completed complaints were self-reported online submissions.
- In this period, the CPOA completed investigations involving 120 APD employees on behalf of 112 identifiable complainants and 11 anonymous complainants.
- 29 APD Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) came under review 254 times in the 115 completed complaint investigations. SOP 1-1 Personnel Code of Conduct was reviewed 90 times, which is the most of any SOP in this reporting period.
- ❖ 3 notifications of non-concurrences were received from the Police Reform Bureau; 1 concerned the recommended discipline and 2 cases disagreed on the finding and discipline.
- ❖ Of the 120 APD employees identified in completed complaint investigations during this reporting period, 49 (40.8%) were Police Officer 1<sup>st</sup> class.
- \* 87.5% of the APD employees identified in complaint investigations were White, 47.5% were Hispanic, and 72.5% were male. 51.8% of known complainants identified as White, 29.5% were Hispanic, and 50.0% were female.
- According to the IA Pro database, 49 Level 3 uses of force occurred during this reporting period.
- The CPOA received 40 commendations for APD personnel during the reporting period.



## Introduction

Although a civilian oversight entity has existed in some capacity since the twentieth century, the Civilian Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) was established in its current form in 2014 after the City of Albuquerque and the Department of Justice (DOJ) entered into a Court Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA) regarding the Albuquerque Police Department's (APD) pattern or practice of use of excessive force against civilians. This agreement followed a two-year DOJ investigation prompted in 2011 by the Albuquerque City Council, who, along with citizens, expressed concern with the high rate of police shootings and the number of liability settlements stemming from these issues against the City. In their findings letter, the DOJ specified community policing and civilian oversight as necessary components of the public safety ecosystem and, consequently, are also monitored under the CASA. To achieve CASA compliance, the CPOA is governed by the CASA itself, city legislation, and the Civilian Police Oversight Ordinance (Oversight Ordinance), which was last amended in January 2023.

Per the Oversight Ordinance (§ 9-4-1-2), the CPOA is an independent agency of the City of Albuquerque, distinct from the City government, City Council, and the Albuquerque Police Department (APD). The oversight structure consists of the Advisory Board (CPOAB) and the Administrative Office (CPOA) led by the Executive Director. The CPOA is charged with fairly and impartially reviewing and investigating complaints and commendations from community members concerning APD personnel. Additionally, the CPOA analyzes data on trends and potential issues concerning police conduct and shares policy, disciplinary, training, and procedural recommendations with the City Council, the Mayor, and APD.

The Oversight Ordinance requires the CPOA to regularly inform the Mayor, the City Council, and the public of their efforts by publishing semi-annual reports (§ 9-4-1-11). Between the CASA and the Oversight Ordinance, these reports are to include:

- Data on the number, kind, and status of all complaints received and investigated, including those sent to mediation, serious force interactions, and officer-involved shootings
- Policy changes submitted by both APD and the CPOA
- Demographics of complainants and subject officers
- CPOA findings and the Office of Police Reform's imposition of discipline



- APD disciplinary, use of force, policy, or training trends
- Information on public outreach initiatives spearheaded by the CPOAB or CPOA
- Issues that may inform the City Council to consider legislative amendments to the Oversight Ordinance
- Time the CPOAB dedicates to policy activities

The information provided in this report is for the period January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023. This report is divided into the following sections:

- I. Legislative Amendments and CPOA Internal Changes
- II. Complaint Details
- III. Employee and Complainant Demographics
- IV. APD Use of Force Interactions
- V. Public Outreach
- VI. CPOA/CPOAB Policy Activities, Policy Recommendations provided to APD,CPOAB Appointments
- VII. Commendations

The first section, 'Legislative Amendments', describes any legislative amendments that occurred during the reporting period.

The second section, 'Complaint Details,' identifies the total number of complaints investigated (assigned CPC numbers) and closed (case investigation completed) during the first six months of 2023. This section covers complaint closure timelines, complaint sources, the number of complaints in each City Council District and Area Command, and the number of complaints investigated and closed compared to previous years. This section also provides information on the SOPs that came under review in completed investigations, identifies the CPOA investigative findings, and provides a selection of the letters of non-concurrences from the Chief of Police on findings or disciplinary recommendations.

The third section, 'Employee and Complainant Demographics,' reports demographic information for both APD employees and the complainants. For complainants, this report provides self-



reported data on gender, race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, housing, mental health status, and age.

The fourth section, 'APD Use of Force Interactions,' provides information collected from IAFD investigations of the use of force interactions that occurred during the period. It includes counts of use of force interactions by month, level of force, location of occurrence, and policy disposition, as well as the types of force used in Level 3 interactions and a listing of the officer-involved shootings that occurred during the period.

The fifth section, 'Public Outreach,' highlights outreach initiatives undertaken by the CPOA/CPOAB and CPCs during this reporting period.

The sixth section, 'CPOA/CPOAB Policy Activities, Policy Recommendations provided to APD, CPOAB Appointments.' discusses CPOAB policy activities, policy, procedural, or training recommendations shared with APD.

Section seven, 'Commendations,' reports on APD employee commendations sent to the CPOA, including demographics of citizens submitting commendations.



#### **Complaint Investigation Process**

Civilian police complaints can be filed with the police department or with the CPOA itself. If the complaint is filed with the police, they must refer it to the CPOA within three business days. Once the complaint is received by the CPOA, the review and assessment of civilian complaints shall begin expeditiously. As cited in the Ordinance, the CPOA will mediate complaints whenever appropriate and with all parties' agreement. During this reporting period, the formal mediation program remained suspended.

For cases not referred to Mediation, Internal Affairs, or Area Command, the CPOA is responsible for opening a case and assigning it to an investigator. The assigned investigator will review the complaint, interview complainants, witnesses, and other APD personnel involved, obtain evidence, review other necessary materials, and make recommended findings. Once the complaint investigation is completed, the Executive Director of the Agency will review the findings to determine if there are any Albuquerque Police Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) violations.

The investigator may close the complaint following a preliminary investigation or may conduct a full investigation. A complaint can be resolved without a full investigation for the following reasons:

- The investigator verifies after initial review that the complaint does not allege misconduct by an APD employee;
- The policy violations are minor;
- The allegations are duplicative;
- There is a lack of information to complete the investigation;
- The complainant requests a withdrawal of the complaint; or
- The complaint was lodged against someone who is not an APD employee.

During an investigation, the assigned investigator will review the complaint, interview complainants, witnesses, and other APD personnel involved, obtain evidence, review other



necessary materials, and make recommended findings within 120 days. Per the revised Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) from January 2022, the Chief of Police no longer has the authority to grant a 30-day extension to the CPOA. Once the complaint investigation is completed, the agency's Executive Director will review the findings to determine if there are any Albuquerque Police Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) violations.

If the CPOA investigation determines that there were SOP violations, it may recommend disciplinary actions to the Office of Police Reform in accordance with the Chart of Sanctions.<sup>2</sup> The Office of Police Reform is provided with the CPOA case file and a Disciplinary Action Packet (DAP). The DAP provides the discipline calculation based on the SOP, class, sanction, and the officer's progressive discipline history. The Office of Police Reform may impose the disciplinary recommendations at its discretion. If the Office of Police Reform deviates from the CPOA's recommended discipline, they have 30 days to explain why they disagree with the CPOA.

Upon receipt of the findings, the civilian complainant has 30 days to request an appeal to the Agency. The Agency and the CPOAB alert the Office of Police Reform of any such appeal and hold a hearing on the matter at their next scheduled meeting. The CPOAB may amend findings or recommendations from the public letter to the complainant and make additional ones to the Office of Police Reform at the hearing based on the criteria established in the Ordinance if the CPOAB finds that the policy was misapplied, the findings or recommendations were arbitrary, or the findings were inconsistent with the available evidence. Following the hearing, the CPOAB provides a written Notice of Decision to the complainant, implicated employee, CPOA Executive Director, and Office of Police Reform. The Office of Police Reform has 20 days after receiving

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The CPOA has remained operational in a modified capacity due to a lack of available office space. While video and phone interviews have become more common since the onset of the coronavirus public health emergency, the CPOA hopes to return to in-person operations when office space becomes available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All policy provisions receive a sanction classification from the Chart of Sanctions (SOP 3-46: Discipline System) and it is used to calculate the recommended disciplinary action to be taken for any sustained allegations investigated by IA or the CPOA. The Chart of Sanctions displays the range of discipline that could be imposed for a sustained violation (minimum, presumptive, and maximum) and ranks violations by Class, with Class 1 offenses being the most severe and Class 7 being the least. Disciplinary authorities must consider aggravating and mitigating circumstances when determining final discipline. Violations are also categorized by type into Attendance, Misconduct, and Performance for the purposes of progressive discipline. Beginning with the least severe, an employee could potentially receive non-disciplinary corrective action (NDCA), a verbal reprimand, a written reprimand, suspension for a varying number of hours/days, demotion, or dismissal from service.



the CPOAB's Notice of Decision to provide the CPOA and civilian complainant with their final disciplinary decision.

Within 30 days of receiving the final disciplinary decision, the civilian complaint may request that the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) review the complaint, the CPOA's disciplinary recommendation, and the Office of Police Reform's final disciplinary decision. Upon completing the review, the CAO has 90 days to override the Office of Police Reform's final disciplinary decision. The CAO is to notify the complainant, implicated employee, Office of Police Reform, and the CPOA Executive Director of their review and any action taken.

Per the renegotiated CBA between the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Police Officers Association, no disciplinary action shall be taken against an investigated officer(s) nor used for progressive discipline in any future infraction when the investigation is out of compliance with timelines set forth in the CBA.<sup>3</sup> However, the investigated officer(s) will receive the investigation results and potential training if training is requested or required. Additionally, the investigation may be used for purposes such as mandatory training for any or all Department officers, non-disciplinary actions such as reassignment to prevent further similar misconduct, policy development, consideration for promotion for the investigated officer(s), evidence in future grievances for purposes such as notice, and as an aggravating circumstance within the applicable sanction range for future similar infractions by the investigated officer(s).

The Agency does not conduct criminal investigations. At any point during the investigative process, if the investigators determine criminal allegations are associated with the civilian complaint, the administrative investigation is transferred to Internal Affairs (IA) at APD.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This Collective Bargaining Agreement was effective January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; Timelines standards set forth in CBA: (1) Every Investigation shall be concluded within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the issuance of notice to the officer or assignment of the case for investigation, whichever is later and within a 15 day time period; (2) Upon completion of the investigation, the department shall have up to forty (40) days for command level review of the investigation and to issue a pre-determination hearing notice; and (3) measured from when the pre-determination hearing ends, a determination with any findings must be sent to the officer within twenty (20) days.



There are six possible CPOA complaint findings:

- **Sustained** Where the investigation determines, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the alleged misconduct did occur.
- **Not Sustained** Where the investigation is unable to determine, by a preponderance of the evidence, whether the alleged misconduct occurred.
- **Exonerated** Where the investigation determines, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the alleged conduct did occur but did not violate APD policies, procedures, or training.
- **Unfounded** Where the investigation determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that the alleged misconduct did not occur or did not involve the subject officer.
- Sustained Violation Not Based on Original Complaint (Sustained/VNBOOC) Where the investigation determines, by a preponderance of the evidence, that misconduct did occur that was not alleged in the original complaint and was discovered during the investigation.
- Administratively Closed Where the policy violations are minor, the allegations are duplicative, or an investigation cannot be conducted because of the lack of information in the complaint.



#### **Data Source and Limitations**

This report highlights complaints opened for investigation and complaints closed (investigation completed) during the reporting period, along with demographic information of employees and complainants and data from use of force cases. It also provides information regarding policy activities at APD during the reporting period, CPOA and CPOAB policy recommendations, CPOAB training statuses, and the CPOA and CPOAB public outreach efforts. Data for this report is retrieved from IA Pro (Internal Affairs record management database), CPOA and CPOAB meeting minutes, and the City of Albuquerque human resources.

Since the majority of the data is extracted from the IA Pro database, it is important to note that the CPOA is not an IA Pro administrator and only has limited control over data entry into the database. The data contained in this report represents the most accurate information available at the time of retrieval. However, the information stored in the database is dynamic and can change as an investigation progresses. Since the complaint and use of force data is exported from live databases, complaint or case specifications, allegations, and outcomes numbers may fluctuate over time and are subject to revision. As such, updated information may lead to discrepancies between the data presented in this report and data published in previous CPOA or other City reports.



# Section I. Legislative Amendments

## **Legislative Amendments**

During this reporting period, several susbstantive legislative amendments to the Ordinance were made. In early January, City Councilors Brook Bassan, Isaac Benton, Pat Davis, and Renee Grout co-sponsored a bill to reform the CPOAB. This proposal passed and was adopted on January 18, 2023. The significant changes are as follows:

- General training, administrative, and procedural changes
  - o Items that went to the Chief for review to go to the Office of Police Reform
  - The jointly made CPOA and APD CPOAB training calendar to be provided to City
     Council within 90 days of its creation, changes, or updates
  - CPOA no longer obligated to report to the Mayor on the status of long-term planning processes or CPOAB member training progress
  - Complainant and officer are to operate in good faith during mediation, or the
     CPOA will proceed with an investigation
  - City Council may amend the CPOAB job description as is appropriate
- The Contract Compliance Officer role was created, and this individual assumes the following responsibilities from the CPOAB or Executive Director
  - o Notifies any CPOAB member of their automatic termination
  - o Establishes the Director's compensation in concert with City Human Resources
  - o Tracks CPOAB members' training progress
  - Handles Director candidate applications
- CPOAB training, composition, and responsibilities changes
  - Replaced the Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board with the Civilian Police
     Oversight Advisory Board
  - o CPOAB size decreased from nine at-large members to five at large-members
  - Training concepts presented to the CPOAB by the APD Civilian Police Academy are now pre-determined
  - Members now receive professionalism training on how to interact with Agency staff, City employees, the public, and other CPOAB members



- CPOAB members now receive \$500 upon completion of their initial orientation,
   \$250 upon completion of annual required ongoing training, and \$100 per regular meeting
- Upon receiving a majority vote, may apply to review complaints pertaining to Garrity information
- o Subcommittees now required to comply with New Mexico Open Meetings Act
- Need to have 14 (previously 10) business days between the receipt of the request for the appeal hearing and the next CPOAB meeting
- Director responsibilities and tenure changes
  - o No longer needs to provide an "active role in the community"
  - No longer reports to the CPOAB
  - No longer has term limits
  - Does not need approval from the CPOAB before submitting recommendations to the Office of Police Reform
  - May issue a subpoena without a simple majority vote of the CPOAB
  - May be removed with a 2/3 City Council majority vote and no longer need a CPOAB recommendation for removal



# Section II. Complaint Details

The CPOA is responsible for receiving and investigating all complaints involving APD employees and ensuring that the complaint process is accessible to all community members. Any person claiming to be aggrieved by the APD's actions may file a complaint against any of its employees.

During the reporting period, the CPOA recorded a total of 346 complaints and opened (assigned CPC numbers in the IA database) 158 complaint investigations. Several complaints opened in the IA database were not assigned to an investigator due to reasons including but not limited to:

- After the initial complaint review, the Lead Investigator determined that the allegations did not constitute misconduct or a possible policy violation,
- The complaint was duplicative (already assigned a CPC number),
- The complaint did not involve APD personnel (out of jurisdiction),
- The complaint was resolved through informal mediation,
- The complaint was a driving complaint and was forwarded to an officer supervisor for resolution,
- There was a lack of information to open an investigation and,
- The complaint contained criminal allegations and was forwarded to IA.

The CPOA completed 115 complaint investigations during this reporting period, which is nearly identical to the 116 complaint investigations completed in the last reporting period. Of the 115 completed investigations:

- 85 were received before this reporting period, while 30 were received and closed during this reporting period,
- 25.2% were closed administratively,
- 16.5% were received in September of 2022.

**Complaints Recorded** 

346

**Complaints Opened** in the IA database

158

**Complaints Closed** 

115



#### **Complaint Sources**

Complaints received by the CPOA can come from different sources. A complainant may email, file online, fax, send the complaint through regular mail, give it over the phone, or file it in person at the CPOA office. Complaint forms are available online or at over fifty locations across Albuquerque, including all police substations, supervisor patrol cars, libraries, and community centers.

Many of the 158 complaints received and opened during the reporting period were submitted online (49.4%).

 Online
 78

 Call-in
 28

 E-mail
 18

 BlueTeam
 14

 In-Person
 12

 Written-Mail
 5

 311
 2

 Written-Faxed
 1

Figure 1.1. Source of Received Complaints

Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

Most of the 115 complaints completed during the reporting period were submitted online (65.2%).

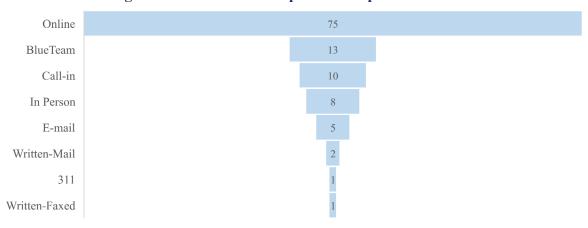


Figure 1.2. Source of Completed Complaints



## **Complaints by City Council Districts**

Most incidents resulting in a complaint completed during this reporting period occurred in City Council Districts 2, 6, and 7, with 18.3% occurring in District 2. The City Council District with the least number of complaints was District 3, with 6. Additionally, 6 complaints did not identify an incident location, so the City Council District is unknown and is reflected in Figure 3. as "Not Reported." 3 complaints stemmed from incidents outside of the City Council's jurisdiction. These are labeled in Figure 3. as "Out of Area."

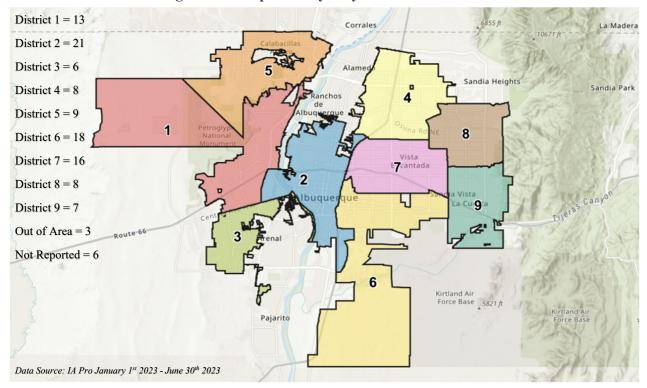


Figure 2. Complaints by City Council District



## **Complaints Trend**

Using data from previous Semi-Annual Reports published by the CPOA, and found on the City of Albuquerque's Website, we observe that the number of complaints received and closed has increased each January – June reporting period since 2021.

Figure 3.1 Complaints Received by Year (2017 – Figure 3.2 Complaints Closed by Year (2017 – 2022) 2022)

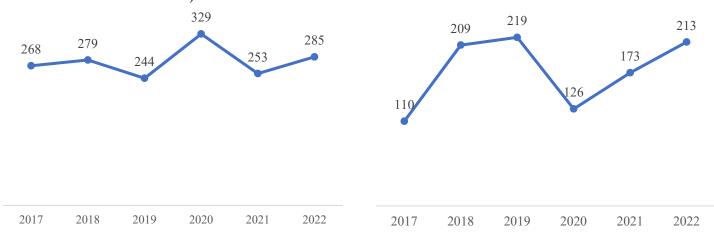


Figure 3.3. Complaints Received in January – June Reporting Period by Year (2018-2023)



Figure 3.4. Complaints Closed in January – June Reporting Period by Year (2018-2023)



Data Source: Past CPOA Reports and IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023



#### **Investigation Completion Timelines**

Per the renegotiated January 2022 CBA, every investigation shall be concluded within 120 days. For this reporting period, 89 (77.4%) investigations were completed within 120 days.

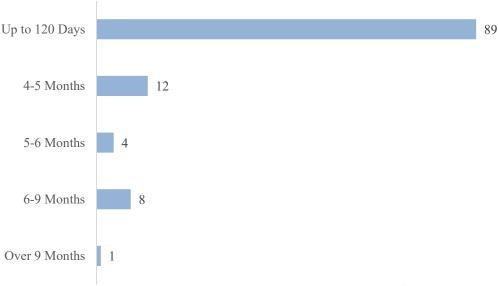


Figure 4. Investigation Completion Timelines<sup>4</sup>

Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 - June 30th 2023

The CPOA receives a high volume of complaints, necessitating a triage process to manage them effectively. Due to the number of submissions and limited investigation personnel, the CPOA must prioritize complaints based on their urgency, severity, likelihood of violation, and imposition of discipline. This prioritization can result in longer investigation times for some complaints, as resources are allocated to investigations that are more likely to result in findings of misconduct first.

<sup>4</sup> 4-5 months is approximately 121-152 days; 5-6 months is approx. 153-182 days; and 6-9 months is approx. 183-274 days.

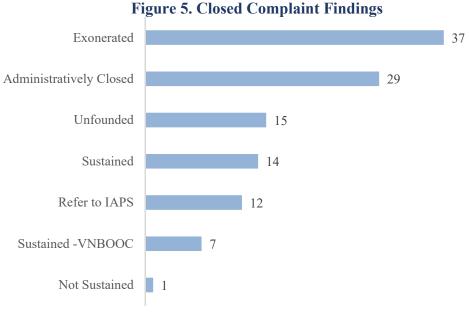
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#### **Complaint Dispositions**

Following the completion of a CPC investigation, the CPOA will determine a finding for each allegation associated with the complaint. There can be more than one allegation and more than one officer involved in one CPC. For complaints such as these, this report will incorporate the highest disposition associated with the complaint in our summary. For example, for a complaint with three allegations, the distinct findings could be Sustained, Unfounded, and Administratively Closed. In this example, this report would include the Sustained finding in our analysis because it is the highest disposition associated with the complaint.

Complaints, writ large, typically led to an exonerated disposition during the reporting period.





Most administratively closed complaints during the reporting period were due to a being withdrawn, a lack of information, or being outside this jurisdiction.

**Table 1. Reasons Complaints were Administratively Closed** 

Reason for Admin Closed	Count
Withdrawn	9
No Jurisdiction	6
Lack of Information	6
No Officer Identified	5
Duplicative	3
Total	29

Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

## **APD SOPs Reviewed in Completed CPOA Investigations**

Investigators are tasked with reviewing allegations against APD standard operating procedures (SOPs) for each officer implicated in a single complaint. In this reporting period, 75 policy directives in 29 APD SOPs came under review 212 times in 115 completed investigations. All complaints that did not allege a violation of policy were either administratively closed or referred to IAPS. SOP 1-1 (Personnel Code of Conduct) was reviewed the most (90), accounting for 42.5% of all allegations.

As a note, 3 complaints were administratively closed or referred to IAPS but were linked to 8 allegations, so they are included in this statistic. Additionally, there were 26 complaints with more than one allegation, 13 with more than two allegations, and 13 with more than three allegations in this reporting period.



Table 2. SOPs for Completed Complaints and the Recommended Finding from CPOA

**Recommended Findings by Disposition** 

	Accommended Findings by Disposition						
SOP Number & Title	Admin. Closed	Exonerated Unfounder		Not Sustained	Sustained	Sustained VNBOOC	Total Reviews
1-1 Personnel Code of Conduct	2	29	53	1	5		90
2-60 Preliminary and Follow-up Criminal Investigations		10	7	3	1	2	23
2-8 Use of On- Body Recording Devices (OBRD)		1	8		2	5	16
2-52 Use of Force-General	5		8				13
2-78 Domestic Abuse Investigations		2	9				11
2-16 Reports		1	2	1	3	2	9
2-71 Search and Seizure Without a Warrant		7	1				8
2-40 Misdemeanor Traffic and City Ordinance Enforcement		3			2		5
2-10 Use of Emergency Communications		2	1		1		4
2-73 Collection, Submission, and Disposition of Evidence and Property	1	1	1				3
2-22 Juvenile Delinquency		1	2				3
2-48 Towing Services		3					3
2-42 DWI Investigations and Revoked/Suspended License		1	2				3
2-81 Off-Duty Conduct; Power of Arrest		1			1		2
2-7 Damage to Civilian Property			1			1	2
3-14 Supervisory Leadership		1	1				2
1-4 Bias-Based Policing and/or Profiling			2				2
3-41 Complaints Involving Department Personnel			1			1	2
1-95 Metro Traffic Division			1				1
2-80 Arrests, Arrest Warrants, and Booking Procedures		1					1
2-41 Traffic Stops		1					1
3-20 Overtime, Compensatory Time, and Work Shift Designation					1		1
1-16 Auto Theft Unit		1					1
4-23 Trespass Notifications <sup>5</sup>			1				1
2-1 Uniforms		1					1
1-78 Police Service Aid Program		1					1
1-62 Internal Affairs Professional Standards (IAPS) Division		1					1
2-33 Rights and Safety of Onlookers					1		1
2-46 Response to Traffic Crashes					1		1
Finding Total	8	69	101	5	18	11	212

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Currently SOP 2-103 Trespass Notifications



The APD SOP with the most sustained violations was SOP 2-8 Use of On-Body Recording Devices (OBRD), representing 24.1% of all sustained recommended findings by the CPOA in the period.

Use of On-Body Recording Devices (OBRD) Reports Personnel Code of Conduct Preliminary and Follow-up Criminal Investigations Misdemeanor Traffic and City Ordinance Enforcement Response to Traffic Crashes Rights and Safety of Onlookers Overtime, Compensatory Time, and Work Shift Designation Complaints Involving Department Personnel Damage to Civilian Property Off-Duty Conduct; Power of Arrest Use of Emergency Communications

Figure 6.1. SOPs with Sustained or Sustained/NBOOC Recommended Findings by CPOA



The figure below provides the most reviewed APD SOPs and their recommended findings by the CPOA in the period, with each SOP having at least 4 recommended findings.

Personnel Code of Conduct 2 29 53 1 5 Preliminary and Follow-Up Criminal Investigations Admin Closed Use of On-Body Recording Devices ■ Exonerated (OBRD) Unfounded Use of Force: General ■ Not Sustained Domestic Abuse Investigations Sustained Sustained/NBOOC Reports Search and Seizure Without a Warrant Misdemeanor, Traffic, and Parking Enforcement Use of Emergency Communications Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

Figure 6.2. Most Reviewed SOPs and the Recommended Findings by CPOA



#### Non-Concurrences with CPOA Findings or Disciplinary Recommendations

In this period, there were 3 instances where APD did not concur with the recommended findings or discipline of the CPOA. I non-concurrence pertained only to the recommended discipline, while 2 cases had a disagreement over the finding and discipline.

**Table 3. Non-Concurrences** 

CPC Number	Dalian	CDO A Einding	APD	CPOA Rec.	APD
CPC Number	Policy	CPOA Finding	Finding	Discipline	Discipline
CPC2022-	1-1-6-C-1	Sustained	Exonerated	Written	None
000192	1-1-0-0-1	Sustained	Latinerated	Reprimand	rvone
CPC2022-	3-41-5-B-1b	Sustained	Unfounded	Written	None
000242	3-41-3- <b>D</b> -10	VNBOOC	Omounaca	Reprimand	TVOIC
CPC2022-	2-60-4-A-5-	Sustained	Sustained	Verbal	NDCA
000264	b&f	Bustamed	Sustained	Reprimand	NDCH

#### CPC2022-000192 - Non-concurrent Findings and Discipline

The CPOA found that an officer violated policy by not adequately investigating an alleged assault – not taking witness statements, issuing a summons, nor writing a report – so that the complainant could obtain a restraining order. APD disagreed, stating that the officer did complete a police report and "made reasonable attempts to contact the alleged offender and witnesses" but was unable to reach any of the parties, making the officer "unable to file the summons correctly." As a result, the APD exonerated this violation, and no discipline was imposed.

#### *CPC2022-000242* – Non-concurrent Findings and Discipline

The CPOA sustained a violation not based on the original complaint regarding an incident's reporting. The CPOA found that the officer did not inform the complainant on how to file a complaint against an officer or APD. APD disagreed, stating that a review of the OBRD videos shows that the "citizen never discusses filing a complaint," making the complaint policy inapplicable. APD also noted that the case was beyond the CBA timelines, so discipline could not be imposed. The final disposition was unfounded, resulting in no discipline.



#### CPC2022-000264 - Non-concurrent Discipline

The CPOA recommended the presumptive level of discipline for this violation, a Verbal Reprimand, but APD applied the minimum level of correction allowable, a Non-Disciplinary Corrective Action (NDCA). APD reached this conclusion because of APD Special Order 22-100, which allowed some incidents to be documented only in the CAD. They also noted that the officer was "relatively new to the profession," lacking any prior disciplinary history.

To view redacted copies of the Non-Concurrence Letters, please see <u>Chief of Police/Police Reform</u>

<u>Bureau: Non-Concurrence Letters</u> on the CPOA website for a yearly listing of the non-concurrence letters received.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup>Redacted Versions of Non-Concurrence Letters: <u>https://www.cabq.gov/cpoa/findings-letters/chief-of-police-non-concurrence-letters</u>



### Sustained Findings and Discipline by APD

Upon reviewing the CPOA's investigations and recommendations, APD upheld 27 Sustained or Sustained VNBOOC policy violations in 21 cases. These cases involved 21 APD employees; 1 employee had two violations in two separate cases, and 3 other employees had two violations in a single case.

Each sustained finding results in a proposed discipline for the implicated employee. Beginning with the least severe, an employee could potentially receive non-disciplinary corrective action (NDCA), a verbal reprimand, a written reprimand, suspension, demotion, or dismissal from service.

Table 4. Sustained Allegations and Final Discipline by SOP

Fine	ding		Discipline					
Sustained	Sustained VNBOOC	SOP Number & Title	NDCA	Verbal Reprimand	Written Reprimand	Suspension		
4		1-1 Personnel Code of Conduct			1	3		
	1	2-7 Damage to Civilian Property		1				
2	5	2-8 Use of On-Body Recorded Devices (OBRD)		2	5			
1		2-10 Use of Emergency Communications			1			
3	2	2-16 Reports	1	3	1			
1		2-33 Rights and Safety of Onlookers		1				
2		2-40 Misdemeanor, Traffic, and Parking Enforcement		2				
1		2-46 Response to Traffic Crashes			1			
1	2	2-60 Preliminary and Follow-Up Criminal Investigations	1	2				
1		2-81 Off-Duty Conduct: Power of Arrest		1				
1		3-20 Overtime, Compensatory Time, and Work Shift Designation				1		

Per the renegotiated CBA between the City of Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Police Officers Association, if the Department begins a disciplinary investigation and does not comply with the timelines set forth within the CBA, then no disciplinary action related to the investigation shall be taken against the investigated officer(s) and investigation results may not be used for progressive discipline in any future infraction. The investigated officer(s) will receive the investigation results and training if requested or required. The results may be used for purposes such as mandatory training for any or all Department officers, non-disciplinary actions such as reassignment to prevent further similar misconduct, policy development, consideration for promotion for the investigated officer(s), evidence in future grievances for purposes such as notice, and as an



aggravating circumstance within the applicable sanction range for future similar infractions by the investigated officer(s). During this period, APD did not issue 14 proposed disciplinary actions because their evaluation of the investigation timeframe exceeded contractual timelines and 2 proposed disciplinary violations because the employee left the department before discipline could be issued, which are shown in parenthesis in the table below.

Table 5. Sustained Allegations and Final Discipline by SOP

			pline ued											
Proposed Action Not				SOP Number										
Disciplin	e	Taken Total	Issued Total	1-1	2-7	2-8	2-10	2-16	2-33	2-40	2-46	2-60	2-81	3-20
NDCA	2	2	0					1				1		
Verbal Reprimand	12	4	7 (1)*		1	2		2 (1)	1	2		2	1	
Written Reprimand	9	4	5	1		1 4	1	1			1			
Suspension	4	1	2 (1)**	$1 \frac{1}{(l)}$										1

Issued discipline is shown in blue, and non-issued discipline is shown in orange.

Any not-issued number in parenthesis represents discipline that could not be issued because the employee left the department before it could be issued. Discipline that could not be issued due to exceeding contractual timelines does not have parenthesis.

The CPOA primarily focuses on citizen complaints against APD employees. Therefore, the discipline addressed in this Report concerns discipline that resulted from citizen complaints. The APD publishes its Internal Affairs Report quarterly, which covers investigations into policy violations that don't arise from a complaint. This report is intended to notify the Administration of the Police Department, the City Council, the Civilian Police Oversight Advisory Board, and the citizens of Albuquerque with statistics and the status of Internal Affairs investigations within the Albuquerque Police Department. The Internal Affairs Reports are listed on the City of Albuquerque's website.<sup>7</sup>

7

<sup>\*</sup>Example 1: 1 Verbal Reprimand, for 2-16, was not issued because the employee left the department before they could be issued. The 7 other Verbal Reprimands were not issued due to contractual timelines.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Example 2: I Suspension, for 1-1, was not issued due to contractual timelines. 2 Suspensions, for 1-1 and 3-20, were not issued due to the employees leaving before discipline could be issued.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Internal Affairs Reports: https://www.cabq.gov/police/internal-affairs/internal-affairs-reports



# Section III. Employee and Complainant Demographics

Section § 9-4-1-11-B of the Oversight Ordinance requires demographic reporting on the APD employees and civilians associated with the complaint. This section is divided into two subsections: the first provides demographic information on APD employees, and the second provides demographic information on complainants for complaints completed during the reporting period. This information can aid in identifying the trends and biases of employees and can also inform the CPOAB on their policy, training, and/or procedural recommendations for APD. We use the employee records in IA Pro as they are exported and do not impute missing values, nor do we correct values.

Complaints can be filed against both sworn and non-sworn APD employees. A total of 120 APD employees were identified in the 115 completed investigations during this reporting period. Out of the 115 completed investigations, 27 complaints did not implicate an APD employee. All complaints without an APD employee were administratively closed or referred to IAPS.



A complaint can involve more than one employee and an employee can be cited in multiple complaints. As seen in Table 6.1., during the reporting period, most complaints only implicate one APD employee. Further, most employees were implicated in a single complaint while 9 APD employees were implicated in more than one complaint, as represented in Table 6.2.

**Table 6.1. Number of Complaints Associated with Multiple Employees** 

Number of	Number of
Complaints	<b>Employees Involved</b>
88	1
19	2
5	3
2	5
1	6

Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

**Table 6.2. Number of Employees Associated with Multiple Complaints** 

Number of Employees	Times Involved
111	1
8	2
1	3



## **Employee Demographics**

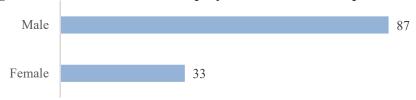
As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, APD reported 876 sworn employees. This is a slight increase of 7 employees from the 869 sworn employees reported as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

## **Employee Gender, Race and Ethnicity in Completed Complaints**

As seen in Figures 7.1 - 7.3, for APD employees implicated in a complaint:

- 72.5% identify as male,
- 87.5% identify as White,
- 47.5% identify as Hispanic

Figure 7.1. Gender of APD Employees Cited in a Completed Complaint



Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

Figure 7.2. Race of APD Employees Cited in a Completed Complaint



Figure 7.3. Ethnicity of APD Employees Cited in a Completed Complaint





## **Employee Median Age**

Many employees cited in a complaint fall in the 30-34 age range (23.3%), followed by the 25-29 age range (22.5%). During this reporting period, the youngest APD employees identified in a closed CPOA investigation were 19 years old, and the oldest employee was 58 years old when the incident occurred.

27 20 11 10 10 8 4 2 15-19 20-24 25-29 30-34 45-49 50-54 55-59 35-39 40-44 years years years years years years years years years

Figure 7.4. Age for APD Employees Cited in a Completed Complaint



## **Employee Rank**

Among the 120 employees identified in complaints completed during the reporting period, the largest number of employees were Police Officer 1<sup>st</sup> class (40.8%), followed by Sergeant (19.2%) at the time of the incident.

Police Officer 1C Sergeant 21 Senior Police Officer 1C Police Officer 2C Master Police Officer 1C Police Service Aide Telecommunication Oper II/cert 3 Lieutenant APD Case Preparation Spec 1 Deputy Chief 1 Property Crimes Regul Official 1 Telecommunication Oper I/cert 1 Court Services Spec 1 Communications & Comm... 1 Chief Of Police 1 APD Prisoner Trans Sergeant 1 Police Comm Shift Supv/cert 1 Police Cadet 1

Figure 7.5. Employee Rank Breakdown for APD Employees Cited in a Complaint



### **Employee's Assigned Bureau**

The majority of the complaints identified employees from the Field Services Bureau. 12 employees did not have information regarding their assigned bureau in the IA database. 2 employees, each involved in two separate complaints, were assigned to the Field Services Bureau in one instance and the Special Operations Bureau in another.

Figure 7.6. Employee Bureau for APD Employees Cited in a Completed Complaint



#### **Employee Assigned Division**

Most employees implicated in completed complaints were assigned to the Southeast and Northeast APD Area Commands.

Southeast Area Command 22 Northeast Area Command Foothills Area Command Valley Area Command 12 No Division Specified 11 Northwest Area Command 10 Southwest Area Command Metro Traffic Division Investigative Services Division Crisis Intervention Division Criminal Investigations Division 3 Homeland Security/Special Events Div 2 Fiscal Division 2 University Area Command Special Operations Division Chiefs Office Command Staff

Figure 7.7. Employee Division for APD Employees Cited in a Completed Complaint



### **Demographics of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints**

After evaluating the CPOA's investigation and recommendation, the APD identified 21 cases involving 27 sustained or sustained VNBOOC findings for specific policy violations.

Demographics of the 21 implicated employees are presented below. Although the number of implicated employees matches the number of cases with sustained violations (21), it should be noted that 1 employee was involved in two separate complaints with sustained violations, while 1 complaint implicated 2 employees with separate sustained violations.

#### Gender of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

The majority of employees cited in a sustained complaint identify as male (81.0%).

Figure 8.1. Gender of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints



Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

#### Race of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

Almost all of the employees cited in a sustained complaint identified as White (95.2%).

Figure 8.2. Race of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints



Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

# Ethnicity of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

Over half of the employees cited in a sustained complaint identified as Hispanic (61.9%).

Figure 8.3. Ethnicity of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints





# Age of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

The majority of employees cited in a sustained complaint fall in the 25-29 or 30-34 age range (52.4% combined) The youngest APD employee identified in a sustained finding during this reporting period was 20 years old, and the oldest employee was 50 years old at the time when the incident occurred.

6 5 3 2 2 2 1 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-49 40-44 45-49 50-54 years years years years years years years

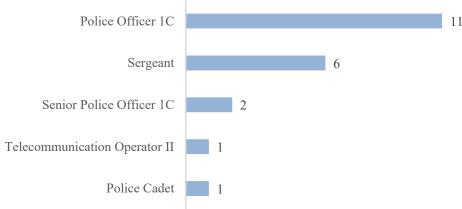
Figure 8.4. Age of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints



#### Rank of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

Just Over half of employees cited in a sustained complaint were Police Officer 1st Class (52.4%).

Figure 8.5. Rank of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

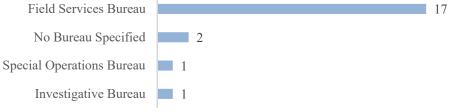


Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

#### Assigned Bureau of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

The majority of the sustained complaints cited employees from the Field Services Bureau (81.0%). 2 employees did not have information regarding their assigned bureau at the time of the incident in the IA database.

Figure 8.6. Bureau of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints





## Division of Employees Cited in Sustained Complaints

Most employees cited in sustained complaints (28.6%) were assigned to the Northwest Area Command. 2 employees did not have information regarding their assigned bureau at the time of the incident in the IA database.

Northeast Area Command

Southeast Area Command

Northwest Area Command

Southwest Area Command

No Division Specified

Valley Area Command

Special Operations Division

Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023



## **Complainant Demographics**

As required by the CASA, the data in this section provides information on complainants' self-reported gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, mental health status, age, housing status, and primary language, which originates from the 'Optional Demographic Section' of the complaint form. Collecting this data and analyzing demographic trends helps to detect evidence of discrimination against specific groups and harnesses policymakers with the data needed to make informed, evidence-based decisions.

The CPOA has maintained the self-reported information without any alterations. For instance, a complainant may initially assert the absence of a mental illness and the subsequent investigation may reveal underlying mental health issues. Despite this, our analysis will encompass the complainant's initial response indicating the absence of a mental illness.

Additionally, some complainants do not respond to all demographic questions, skip the demographic section entirely, or were not given an opportunity to provide demographic information if the complaint was received via direct email, Blue Team, an old complaint form, or was filled out by someone on behalf of the complainant. The CPOA does not impute unreported information, so the complainant demographic section is subject to missingness and may, rarely, reflect the demographics of the individual filling out the complaint, not the complainant themself.



For non-anonymous complainants (112), the figure below illustrates the observed gaps in the demographic data.

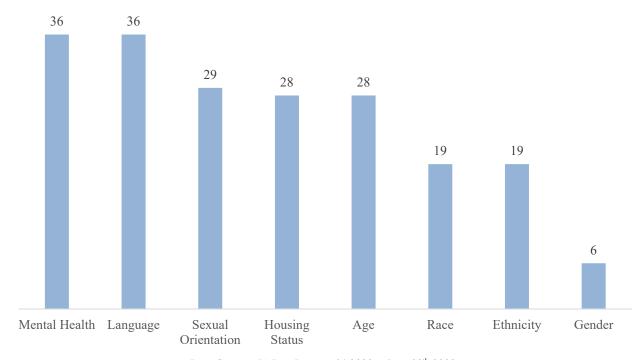


Figure 9. Complaints Missing Demographic Information

Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

For the reporting period, the CPOA completed 115 CPC investigations on behalf of 112 identifiable complainants and 11 anonymous complainants. There were 4 complaints with 2 named complainants, 1 complaint with 4 named complainants, and 1 complaint with 4 named complainants and 2 anonymous complainants (6 total complainants). Additionally, 1 named complainant filed 2 separate complaints, and 1 named complainant filed 3 separate complaints.

For these descriptive summary statistics, anonymously reported complainants will be excluded from the analysis because it is possible for a complainant to submit multiple complaints, including an anonymous complaint. Additionally, the analyst cannot know whether multiple anonymous complaints come from the same person. As such, anonymously reported complainants are excluded to avoid overcounting demographic statistics.



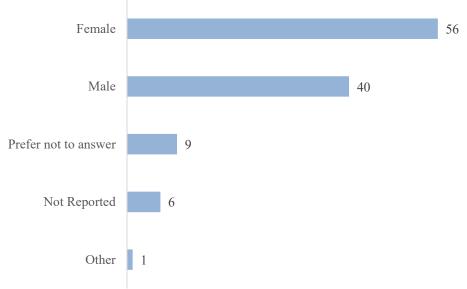
**Table 7. Demographic Information in Anonymous Complaints** 

Race	Ethnicity	Age	Gender	Sexual Orientation	Homeless at Time of Incident	Mental Health Issue
7 Not Reported	9 Not Reported	10 Not Reported	4 Not Reported	5 Not Reported	8 Not Reported	9 Not Reported
2 White	1 Non- Hispanic	<i>1</i> Age - 17	3 Male	2 Heterosexual	<i>3</i> No	2 No
1 Black	1 Prefer Not to Answer		1 Female	1 Bisexual		
1 Prefer Not to			1 Prefer Not to	3 Prefer Not to		
Answer			Answer	Answer		

## **Complainant Gender**

Of the total 112 complainants, half of the complainants (50.0%) identified as female.

Figure 10.1. Gender of Complainants that Filed a Completed Complaint





#### **Complainant Race & Ethnicity**

The majority of the 112 identifiable complainants identify as White (51.8%).

White 58 Not Reported Prefer not to answer 12 Other 11 Mixed Race Native American 3 Black

Figure 10.2. Race of Complainants that Filed a Completed Complaint

Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

Nearly one-third of identifiable complainants identify as Hispanic (29.5%).

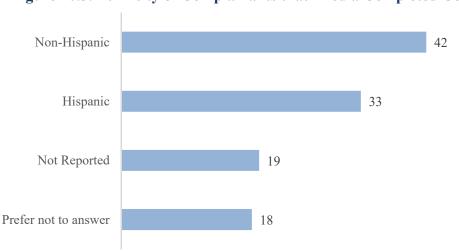


Figure 10.3. Ethnicity of Complainants that Filed a Completed Complaint



#### **Complainant Sexual Orientation**

For the complaint investigations completed during this period, 45 (40.2%) of the complainants identified as heterosexual, while 55 (49.1%) of the complainants did not provide information regarding their sexual orientation (29 did not report, 26 preferred not to answer).

Heterosexual 45 Not Reported 29 Prefer not to answer 26 Homosexual Asexual 3 2 Other Bisexual Data Source: IA Pro January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023

Figure 10.4. Sexual Orientation of Complainants that Filed a Completed Complaint

- 45 -



#### **Complainant Mental Health and Housing Status**

According to Paragraph 175 of the CASA, the CPOA is expected to collect information on the mental health and housing status of complainants. It states: "APD and the Civilian Police Oversight Agency shall track allegations regarding misconduct involving individuals who are known to be homeless or have a mental illness, even if the complainant does not specifically label the misconduct as such." To comply with this stipulation, the CPOA added questions to the complaint form that ask whether the complainant experiences mental health issues, has struggled with homelessness, or was homeless at the time of the incident.

For this reporting period, most complainants self-reported having not experienced mental health issues or homelessness. 8.0% of complainants stated they had experienced mental health issues, while the majority (59.8%) reported not having experienced mental health issues. 32.1% of complainants did not answer this question on the form.

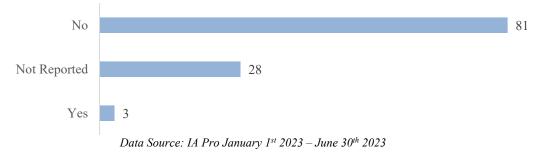
No 67
Not Reported 36
Yes 9

Figure 10.5. Mental Health Status of Complainants that Filed a Completed Complaint



The majority of complainants (72.3%) stated they were not unhoused at the time of the incident. 3 complainants (2.7%) stated they were unhoused when the incident occurred. Again, a large number of complainants (25.0%) did not answer whether or not they were unhoused at the time of the incident.

Figure 10.6. Homelessness Status of Complainants that Filed a Completed Complaint

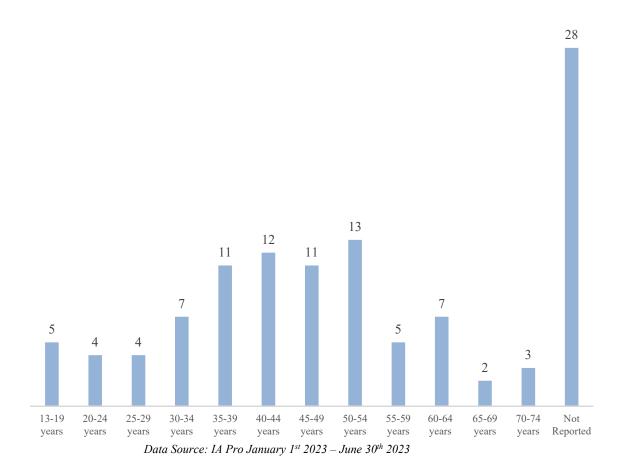




#### **Complainant Median Age**

Many complainants submitting complaints completed during the reporting period did not share age information. For complainants that do report, the age distribution at the time of the incident is highest for the 50-54 age range. The youngest complainant was 13 years old, while the oldest was 74 years old.

Figure 10.7. Age Breakdown of Complainants that Filed a Completed Complaint





# Section IV. APD Use of Force Interactions

Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) at APD is tasked with investigating UOF/OIS interactions. The CPOA/CPOAB reviews the investigative materials created by IAFD, prepares findings, and may recommend disciplinary action for UOF/OIS interactions when appropriate. This process begins at the Force Review Board (FRB), where the CPOA Executive Director is an attendee with commenting authority in order to review a sampling of serious use of force interactions and quarterly use of force analytics. FRB members receive investigatory materials and assess whether the interaction raised equipment, policy, supervisory, tactical, or training concerns that require remediation. The FRB also documents any successes observed during each review. The CPOA/CPOAB then reviews select redacted materials to comply with the CBA that were presented at the FRB and a full case file, when requested, for a case, typically an officer-involved shooting. Upon review, the CPOA Executive Director and CPOAB confer and jointly submit their findings on these select interactions to APD.

#### **Use of Force Definitions**

SOP 2-53 (Use of Force-Definitions), which was revised on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, outlines the list of all events classified among these three force levels. The different levels of force are defined as:

- 1. Level 1 Use of Force: Any use of force that is likely to cause only temporary pain, disorientation, and/or discomfort during its application as a means of gaining compliance; or any show of force.
  - a. Any Level 1 use of force against an individual in handcuffs remains a Level 1 use of force.
- 2. **Level 2 Use of Force**: Any use of force that causes injury, that could reasonably be expected to cause injury, or that results in a complaint of injury greater than temporary pain, regardless of whether the use of force was unintentional or unavoidable. A Level 2 use of force includes:
  - a. Discharge of an ECW, including where an ECW is fired at an individual but misses;
  - b. Use of a beanbag shotgun or 40-millimeter impact launcher, including when it is fired at an individual but misses;
    - i. The use of a 40-millimeter impact launcher as a tool to defeat a window of a commercial or residential structure or a window of an occupied vehicle or



another type of barrier will not be investigated as a use of force unless it strikes an individual.

- c. Use of oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, including when it is sprayed at an individual but misses;
- d. Use of empty-hand techniques that result in injury or complaint of injury (e.g., strikes, kicks, takedowns or leg sweeps);
- e. Strikes and attempted strikes with impact weapons;
  - i. This excludes strikes to the head, neck, throat, chest, or groin, with a beanbag shotgun or 40-millimeter impact launcher and strikes to the head, neck, throat, chest, or groin with a baton or improvised impact weapon, which are considered deadly force.
- f. Deployment of a noise flash diversionary device (NFDD) inside a structure;
  - i. If an NFDD is deployed outside of a structure or outside an enclosed vehicle and is used as a means to gain the attention of an individual, it will not be considered a use of force.
- g. Use of a horse rein strike on an individual's extremities; and
- h. Use of the PIT maneuver at 35 mph or below.
- 3. **Level 3 Use of Force**: Any use of force that results in, or could reasonably result in, serious physical injury, hospitalization, or death, regardless of whether the use of force was unintentional or unavoidable. Level 3 use of force includes:
  - a. Use of deadly force;
  - b. Critical firearm discharge;
  - c. Force resulting in hospitalization, serious medical episode, loss of consciousness, and/or a seizure;
  - d. Police service dog (PSD) directed bite;
  - e. Three (3) or more ECW discharges on an individual during a single interaction, regardless of the mode or duration of the discharge, and regardless of whether the discharges are by the same or different officers;
  - f. An ECW discharge on an individual during a single interaction for longer than fifteen (15) seconds, whether continuous or consecutive, regardless of the mode of discharge;
  - g. Four (4) or more strikes with a baton or improvised impact weapon;



- h. Any Level 2 use of force against a handcuffed individual;
- i. Use of the PIT maneuver thirty-five (35) mph or below that results in, or could reasonably result in, serious physical injury, hospitalization, or death; and
- j. Use of the PIT maneuver above thirty-five (35) mph.

A force interaction, or incident, is an encounter involving a single individual at a specific time and place. A single force case may involve multiple force interactions, occurring either with different individuals or at various locations involving the same individual. A force interaction can also involve multiple officers, each using various force techniques with an individual. In the first half of 2023, APD used force in 251 cases, which included a total of 268 force interactions.

For a detailed review of UOF data from 2023, please see "Annual Use of Force Report 2023" prepared by the APD Analytics Division, found on the City of Albuquerque and APD websites.<sup>8</sup>

According to the IA database, which records all force interactions and tracks the status of all IAFD investigations, there were 268 UOF interactions during the reporting period, 229 Level 1 and Level 2 interactions, and 39 Level 3 interactions.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>.</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> APD Use of Force Report 2023: https://www.cabq.gov/police/documents/apd-2023-annual-use-of-force-report final.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Please note that the data regarding the use of force presented in this report is subject to change upon further review and investigation. The numbers may differ from those published in other public reports based on when the data is retrieved from the IA database. The use of force data presented in this report was exported from the IA Pro database on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.



#### Use of Force by Level and Month

The months with the most UOF interactions in this period were May (59 interactions) and June (57 interactions) of 2023 (116 interactions combined, 43.3% of the total 268 UOF interactions). These months also had the highest counts of Level 2 and Level 3 interactions, with 40.7% of Level 2 interactions and 51.3% of Level 3 interactions occurring in May or June of 2023.

■ Out of policy ■ In policy Level January Febuary March April May June

Figure 11. Force Interactions by Level, Month, and Policy Disposition



#### Level of Force Used by Area Commands/Location of Occurrence

The Southeast Area Command had the most UOF interactions in this period, with 84, accounting for 31.3% of all UOF interactions in the period. It also had the most Level 2 and Level 3 interactions, accounting for 33.0% of all Level 2 interactions and 38.5% of all Level 3 interactions in the period.

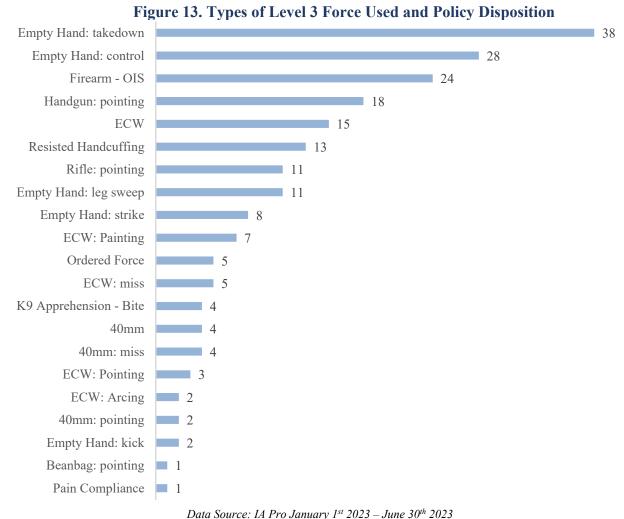
**Occurrence** Southeast 9 60 15 7 Northeast 12 36 29 Valley Level 1 Level 2 Southwest 12 25 ■ Level 3 Foothills 18 2 Northwest 12 Out of Area

Figure 12. Force Interactions by Level and APD Area Commands/Location of



#### **Types of Force Used – Level 3 Interactions (Serious Use of Force Interactions)**

The total counts of the types of force used in the 39 Level 3 interactions during the period are presented below. Please note that multiple types of force techniques, including types of Level 1 and Level 2 force, can be used in a single Level 3 interaction. The figure below includes all force types involved in Level 3 use of force interactions, including the lesser types of force that also may have occurred in the interaction. For instance, in one interaction during this period, "Empty Hand: control" was used twice in a single interaction, with one use being Level 1 and the other being Level 3. Both uses of force are presented below because the lesser interaction was also involved in an interaction with a Level 3 application of force.





#### **CPOAB UOF/OIS Review**

Since the CPOAB was not meeting during this reporting period, they did not review any use of force cases. However, the CPOA continued to participate in the FRB process to review the use of force cases.

Even though the CPOAB did not review any OIS incidents during the period, the table below lists the Officer-Involved Shootings that occurred between January 1st, 2023, and June 30th, 2023. APD conducted reviews of all OIS cases between January and June 2023, and the report can be found on the City's website.<sup>10</sup>

Table 8. OIS Incidents January - June 2023

Date of Occurrence	Was the Incident Fatal	Was the Individual Armed	Call Type	IAFD Investigation Status
03/29/2023	No	Yes – gun	Family Dispute	In Policy
05/10/2023	No	Yes – gun	Shots Fired	In Policy
05/16/2023	No	Yes – gun	Shooting	In Policy
05/19/2023	Yes	Yes – spear	Suicide	In Policy
06/16/2023	No	Yes – gun	Shooting	In Policy
06/24/2023	Yes	Yes – gun, knives	Suspicious Person/vehicle	In Policy
06/29/2023	Yes	Yes - Knife	Stabbing	Out of Policy

Data Source: APD Use of Force Report 2023

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> APD January-June OIS Review: https://www.cabq.gov/police/documents/2023-1st-6-months-ois-review-report final.pdf



# **Section V. Public Outreach**

Given the legislative action to the Ordinance, the CPOAB was not meeting nor engaging in public outreach during this reporting period. While the Community Engagement Specialist position remained unfilled, the community policing councils (CPCs) continued their ongoing community engagement efforts, culminating in a total of 57 events during the reporting period. Notably, the CPCs spearheaded the following select public outreach activities during this reporting period:

- Hosted Coffee with a Cop community meeting in January 2023
- Hosted a youth CPC meeting in February 2023
- Met with Bridges of Life regarding CPC guidelines in February 2023
- Met with Mayor Tim Keller, District Attorney Sam Bregman, City Councilor Tammy Fiebelkorn, and the Gun Violence Task Force in March 2023
- Discussed crime mapping with Chief Harold Medina in March 2023
- Presented at the Dismas Charities Business Mixer in March 2023
- Attended the community engagement public planning meeting in April 2023
- Engaged in a Block Party planning meeting in April 2023 and May 2023
- Participated in the Albuquerque Block Captains annual meeting April 2023
- Presented to the Citizen's Police Academy in May 2023
- Hosted the CPC Summer Kickoff dinner in June 2023



# Section VI. CPOA/CPOAB Policy Activities, Policy Recommendations provided to APD, and CPOAB Appointments

The CPOAB/CPOA is deeply committed to the APD policy development and review process. In their first year of existence, the CPOAB created a set of operating procedures designed to meet policy obligations and later created the Policy and Procedures Review Sub-Committee (PnP) to review and make recommendations on APD policies and procedures to ensure compliance and consistency with the CPOA mission. CPOAB members, the CPOA Executive Director, and staff regularly participate in PnP meetings, during which APD subject matter experts present new policies and modifications to existing policies for review. In this forum, members have the opportunity to ask questions and recommend policy changes. In addition to PnP meetings, the CPOAB designee and the CPOA Executive Director also attend the Policy and Procedures Review Board (PPRB) meetings to finalize and vote on the SOPs before they reach the CPOAB for an additional 30-day review and commentary on further modifications before final approval prior to publishing.

Although the CPOAB is no longer required to dedicate a majority of its time to policy review and analysis, the CPOAB is still a voting member for the APD policy review processes and may still discuss policy issues formally at its meetings. The CPOAB was not actively meeting, so the CPOA undertook all the policy obligations during this reporting period.

The CPOA/CPOAB holds that establishing and implementing sound policies are essential to ensuring quality public safety services because effective police accountability necessitates clear, consistent, and detailed policies. When policies fail, officer and public safety may be affected, resulting in a weakened police-community relationship or bodily harm. In recognizing the magnitude of this charge, the CPOA/CPOAB maintains a good policy recommendation has several features:

- It identifies a problem and proposes a solution,
- It is supported by data,
- It is transparent to the community,
- It is clear, understandable, trainable, and acceptable to the Police Department, and



• It has a good chance of being adopted.

During the reporting period, there were a total of 12 PnP meetings. The SOPs presented and discussed at those meetings are as follows:

	Policies presented at Policy and Procedures Review Unit (PnP)					
1	SOP 1-3: Grooming Standards	27	SOP 2-11: Use of Tire Deflation Devices			
2	SOP 1-84: Records Division	28	SOP 1-37: Crisis Intercention Division and Program			
3			SOP 2-6: Use of Emergency Warning Equipment			
4	SOP 2-111: Records Division Units	30	SOP 2-19: Response to Behavioral Health			
5	SOP 2-24: Hazardous Materials Incident Response	31	SOP 2-49: Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) Inspections			
6	SOP 2-81: Off-Duty Conduct; Power of Arrest	32	SOP 2-79: Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program			
7	SOP 2-99: Naloxone Policy	33	SOP 2-88: Bait Car Program			
8	SOP 1-93: Telephone Reportung Unit (TRU)	34	SOP 1-4: Bias-Based Policing and/or Profiling			
9	SOP 1-95: Metro Traffic Division (Formerly Traffic Division)	35	SOP 1-25: Chaplain Unit			
10	SOP 2-16: Reports	36	SOP 1-28: Downtown Unit			
11	SOP 2-22: Juvenile Delinquency	37	SOP 1-34: Crime Prevention Unit (CPU)			
12	SOP 2-45: Pursuit by Motor Vehicle	38	SOP 2-44: Traffic and Roadway			
13	SOP 2-90: Background Investigations	39	SOP 2-93: Child Abduction and Missing Child Investigations			
14	SOP 3-42: Criminal Investigations of Department Personnel	40	SOP 1-71: Operations Review Section			
15	SOP 1-42: Bomb Squad	41	SOP 2-20: Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments			
16	SOP 1-85: Recruiting Unit	42	SOP 3-11: Command Staff Responsibilities			
17	SOP 1-39: DWI Unit	43	SOP 3-17: Duty Assignment and Transfers			
18	SOP 1-62: Internal Affairs Professional Standards Division	44	SOP 3-24: In the Line-of-Duty Death Notifications and Benefits			
19	SOP 2-29: Child Exploitation Detail	45	SOP 3-53: Self-Assessments			
20	SOP 2-39: Field Services Bureau Responses Demonstrations, Incidents, and Events	46	SOP 1-72: Organized Crime Unit			
21	SOP 2-92: Crimes Against Children Investigations	47	SOP 1-78: Police Service Aid (PSA) Program			
22	SOP 3-47: Acceptance of Disciplinary Action and Right to Appeal	48	SOP 2-35: Emergency Response Program (ERT)			
23	SOP 1-64: K-9 Unit	49	SOP 2-96: Clandestine Drug Laboratory and Indoor Mairjuana Grow Site Investigations			
24	SOP 2-23: Use of K-9 Unit	50	SOP 3-14: Supervision			
25	SOP 2-8: Use of On-Body Recording Devices	51	SOP 3-20: Overtime, Compensatory Time, and Work Shift Designation			
26	SOP 1-60: Interagency Task Force Operations	52	SOP 3-4: Relief of Duty			



A total of 13 APD Policy and Procedures Review Board (PPRB) meetings were held during this reporting period. The SOPs presented and discussed at those meetings are as follows:

	Policies, Forms, Patches presented at Policy and Procedures Review Board (PPRB)					
1	SOP 3-41: Complaints Involving Department Personnel	35	SOP 2-28: Flood Contorl Channel Action Plan			
2	SOP 3-7: Remote Work	36	SOP 2-24: Hazardous Material Incident Response			
3	SOP 2-50: Crash Review Board	37	SOP 2-81: Off-Duty Conduct; Power of Arrest			
4	SOP 2-21: Apparent Natural Death	38	SOP 2-70: Execution of Search Warrants			
5	SOP 2-24: Use of Respirators	39	SOP 2-84: Body Cavitiy Searches			
6	SOP 2-72: Procedures for Serious Crimes	40	SOP 2-111: Records Division Unit			
7	SOP 1-31: Court Services	41	SOP 3-29: Issuance and Usage of Area Command Equipment			
8	SOP 3-41: Complaints Involving Department Personnel	42	SOP 2-16: Reports			
9	SOP 3-46: Discipline System	43	SOP 2-45: Pursuit by Motor Vehicle			
	SOP 2-113: Custom Notification Buy-Back (CNFBB)	44	SOP 3-42: Criminal Investigation of Department			
10	Program		Personnel			
11	SOP 2-68: Interviews and Interrogations	45	SOP 2-98: Gunshot Detection Procedure			
12	SOP 2-67: Lineups and Field Identifications	46	SOP 2-99: Naloxone Policy			
13	SOP 2-10: Use of Emergency Communications	47	SOP 3-31: Physicall Fitness Assessment			
14	SOP 1-81: Proactive Response Team (PRT)	48	SOP 1-42: Bomb Squad			
	•		SOP 1-62: Internal Affairs Professional Standards			
15	SOP 1-57: Identification Disposition Unit	49	Division			
16	SOP 1-2: Social Media	50	SOP 1-5: Harassment/Sexual Harssment in the Workplace			
17	SOP 1-5: Harrassment or Sexual Harrassment in the Workplace	51	SOP 1-39: DWI Unit			
18	SOP 1-12: Volunteer and Internship Program	52	SOP 1-95: Metro Traffic Division			
19	SOP 2-9: Use of Computer Systems	53	SOP 2-16: Reports			
20	SOP 2-68: Interviews and Interrogations	54	SOP 2-90: Background Investigations			
21	SOP 1-75: Grant Administration Division	55	SOP 2-101: Department-Vehicle Grappler Device			
22	SOP 2-5: Department Vehicles	56	SOP 1-12: Volunteres and Internship Programs			
23	SOP 2-36: Police-News Media Relations and Release of Police Identification	57	SOP 1-22: Automated License Plate Reader			
24	SOP 2-86: Auto Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft Related Investigations	58	SOP 1-36: Department Wellness Program			
25	SOP 2-101: Department Vehicle Grappler	59	SOP 2-70: Execution of Search Warrants			
26	SOP 2-110: Facial Recognition	60	SOP 2-86: Auto Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft Related Investigations			
27	SOP 3-23: Retirement Observances	61	SOP 2-29: Child Exploitation Detail (CED)			
28	SOP 1-83: Real Time Crime Center (RTCC)	62	SOP 2-39: Field Services Bureau Response to Demostrations, Incidents, and Events			
29	SOP 1-84: Records Division	63	SOP 1-2: Social Media			
30	SOP 2-30: Emergency Command Post	64	SOP 1-3: Grooming Standards			
31	SOP 1-35: Crime Scene Specialists Unit	65	1-64: K-9 Unit			
32	SOP 2-72: Procedures for Serious Crimes Call Outs	66	2-23: Use of K-9 Unit			
33	SOP 1-21: Bicycle Patrol	67	SOP 2-68: Interviews and Interrogations			
34	SOP 1-93: Telephone Reporting					



#### Policy Recommendations Provided to APD

During this reporting period, the CPOA and CPCs made 16 formal policy recommendations for 12 APD policies. These recommendations are as follows:

- SOP 1-4: Bias-Based Policing and/or Profiling
  - o Add SOP 2-19: Response to Behavioral Health Issues as a reference
- SOP 1-28: Downtown Unit
  - o Update the community-oriented policing definition to be more inclusive
  - Change DTU area boundaries
  - Add language that encourages APD personnel to utilize Albuquerque Community
     Safety (ACS) when appropriate
- SOP 1-66: Missing Persons Unit
  - Provide guidance to personnel on how to handle recovered missing (or runaway)
     minors
- SOP 2-5: Department Vehicles
  - o Update language to account for 311 bumper stickers on newer vehicles
- SOP 2-8: Use of On-Body Recording Devices (OBRD)
  - o Require personnel to record returned calls with civilians
- SOP 2-21: Apparent Natural Death and Suicide of an Adult
  - Require additional documentation for personnel who are called out on a welfare check and discover a deceased individual
  - o Assign responsibility to personnel for securing personal property
  - o Address sensitivity shields within the policy (e.g., privacy screens)
- SOP 2-30: Emergency Command Post
  - o Add clarifying language on who provides maintenance
- SOP 2-41: Traffic Stops
  - Add more specific information on what sworn personnel provide civilians when making initial contact during a traffic stop
- SOP 2-44: Traffic and Roadway Services
  - o Include language that specifies the civilian is responsible for locksmith charges
- SOP 2-60: Preliminary and Follow-Up Criminal Investigations



- Provide clearer guidance regarding contacting and interviewing involved individuals
- SOP 2-68: Interviews and Interrogations
  - o Include all forms of interviews and interrogations, including non-custodial
- SOP 2-93: Child Abduction/Missing Child Investigations
  - o Include a definition of a child

#### **CPOAB Appointments**

Although the CPOAB did not meet during this reporting period, City Council confirmed appointments of two board members in March and April 2023. These members are: Aaron Calderon and Rowan Wymark. In addition, City Council confirmed a third CPOAB member, Leslie Dozzo, who stepped down from this position prior to the beginning of the CPOAB meeting schedule. By the end of this reporting period, three seats on the CPOAB remained unfilled.



# Section VII. Commendations

The CPOA also receives and processes commendations for APD employees that are received by the CPOA. Commendations can be submitted in the same ways as complaints: by form (online or written), email, mail/fax, call-in, and in person.

Commendations can be submitted directly to the APD, and the APD is not required to share commendations they receive with the CPOA. Therefore, the information presented in this section only pertains to commendations received by the CPOA.

During the reporting period, the CPOA received 40 commendations for APD personnel. A total of 31 APD employees were named in the commendation submission, while 8 commendations stated that the employee's names were unknown when filed, 4 of which were driving commendations.

The most common reason (17 commendations) cited in the commendation form was "Professionalism." The "Exceptional Service" (7) category represents situations where APD personnel went beyond expectations to lend service or assistance. Additionally, there were 2 "General Commendations," which highlight commendable behavior without specifying the reasons, broadly acknowledging APDs or an employee's efforts. A complete table is displayed on the next page.



Responding to Emergency/Crisis

Support Services

10

Traffic/Vehicle Assistance

Driving

4

Investigation

2

Event Support/Security

14

Figure 15. Reasons Cited in Commendations

Professionalism

17

Kindness/Patience

Exceptional Service

7

Excellent Driving

Unknown

1

General Commendation

1

Data Source: Commendation Intake January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023



The primary source of commendations came through the submission of the online Complaint/Commendation Forms. While most pertinent to complaints, many people submitting a commendation form included their demographic information.

Table 9. Demographics of Citizens that Filed a Commendation

Age	Gender	Race	Ethnicity	Sexual Orientation	Mental Illness	Homeless
22	14	13	13	13	19	23
Unknown	Male	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	No	No
9 35-44	13 Female	15 White	12 Non- Hispanic	18 Heterosexual	13 Unknown	13 Unknown
6 45-54	9 Unknown	6 Prefer Not to Answer	8 Hispanic	9 Prefer Not to Answer	8 Prefer Not to Answer	4 Prefer Not to Answer
<i>1</i> 75-82	4 Prefer Not to Answer	1 Asian	7 Prefer Not to Answer			
<i>1</i> 85-94		4 Other				
		<i>l</i> Mixed Race				

Data Source: Commendation Intake January 1st 2023 – June 30th 2023



# **Appendix**

# I. Civilian Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) Staff

Diane L. McDermott

Interim Executive Director/Lead

Investigator

Tressler J. Stephenson Misael Palalay

Investigator Investigator

Toni Rodriguez Antonio Coca

Investigator Investigator

**Robert Grooms** Juan Sotres

Investigator Investigator

Katrina Sigala Valerie Barela

Senior Administrative Assistant Administrative Assistant

Kelly Mensah Marteessa Billy

Community Policing Council Liaison CPC Administrative Assistant



# II. Civilian Police Oversight Agency Advisory Board Profiles – Appointments

#### **Aaron Calderon**

Aaron Calderon is a proud veteran of the United States Army, having served in various states across the country. After his military service, he worked in Texas for Baylor Scott and White Healthcare before settling back in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he has lived for the past 7 years. Currently, Mr. Calderon works as a manager of clinic operations at Presbyterian Healthcare Services. With his background and passion for community service, Mr. Calderon wants to bring his expertise to the Citizens of Albuquerque as a member of the CPOA Board. His goal is to ensure a fair and transparent oversight process for the Albuquerque Police Department, to enhance the relationship between the police and the residents. Mr. Calderon believes that the APD has greatly improved and has made changes in their policies and training, focusing on de-escalating situations and using force only as a last resort.

Email: acalderon.oab@cabq.gov

Term: Initial Appointment 03-06-2023, Expires 02-02-2026

#### Rowan Wymark

Ms. Wymark is a dedicated community member and former educator who has lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico for the past thirty-two years. During her time in Albuquerque, she has been actively involved in various community organizations, including serving as co-chair for the Valley Area Command Community Policing Council for seven years and as a board member for the Downtown Neighborhoods Association. She is currently serving on the Mayor's Homeless Advisory Council and on Lew Wallace Elementary School's Community Committee as a community member. Ms. Wymark's professional background includes working as a special education teacher with Albuquerque Public Schools, where she also served as the vice president for elementary teachers with the Albuquerque Teachers Federation for approximately seven years. Additionally, she was a board member on the Central Labor Council for several years. Originally from the UK, Ms. Wymark has lived in the US for forty-three years and considers it her home. She believes in fairness, transparency, and accountability in all aspects of life, including policing. If she is appointed to the CPOAB, she sees the importance of keeping the police honest and committed to fairness, while also ensuring that undue violence towards civilians is not tolerated. She believes that the Civilian Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) plays a crucial role in investigating civilian complaints regarding the use of force by the police and that it is the CPOAB's responsibility to support the CPOA in establishing proper grounds for these complaints. As a member of the CPOAB, Ms. Wymark sees her role as representing the Albuquerque community and their concerns regarding police behavior within the Albuquerque Police Department (APD). She understands the importance of being impartial and transparent in her decision-making and believes that it is crucial to be well-informed of the methodologies and approaches of the APD. As a community member herself, Ms. Wymark feels that it is her right and responsibility to speak out on community concerns according to her own perceptions.

Email: <a href="mailto:rwymark.oab@cabq.gov">rwymark.oab@cabq.gov</a>

Term: Initial Appointment 04-03-2023, Expires 02-02-2026