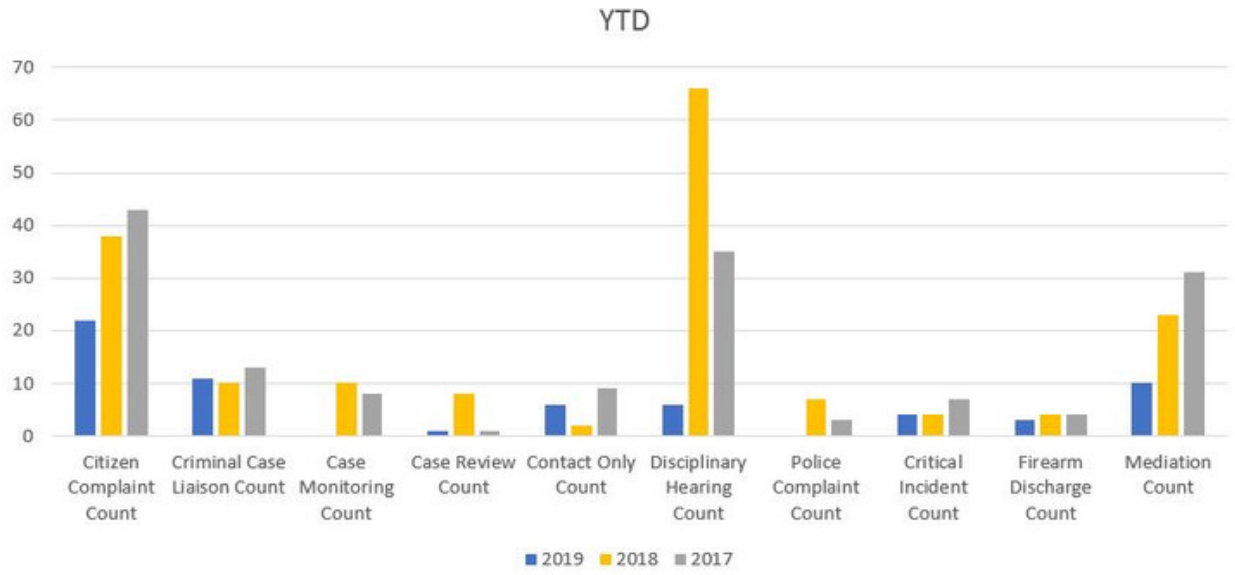
THE OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 2019

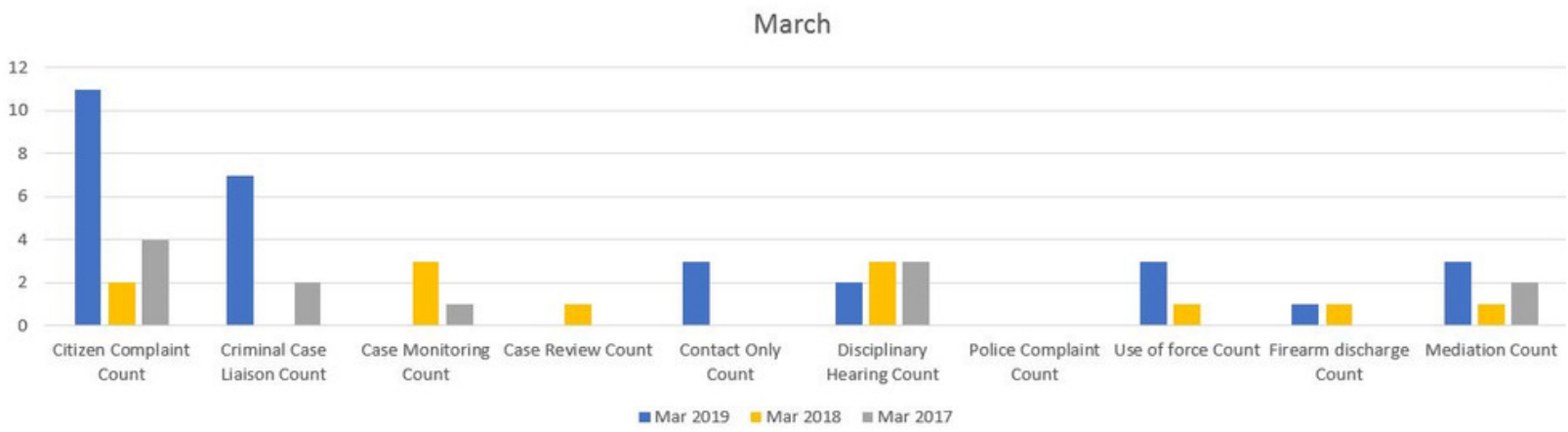
SUSAN HUTSON
INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR

Year to Date Overview



	2019	2018	2017
Citizen Complaint Count	22	38	43
Criminal Case Liaison Count	11	10	13
Case Monitoring Count	0	10	8
Case Review Count	1	8	1
Contact Only Count	6	2	9
Disciplinary Hearing Count	6	66	35
Police Complaint Count	0	7	3
Critical Incident Count	4	4	7
Firearm Discharge Count	3	4	4
Mediation Count	10	23	31
Grand Total	63	172	154

March Overview



	Mar 2019	Mar 2018	Mar 2017
Citizen Complaint Count	11	2	4
Criminal Case Liaison Count	7	0	2
Case Monitoring Count	0	3	1
Case Review Count	0	1	0
Contact Only Count	3	0	0
Disciplinary Hearing Count	2	3	3
Police Complaint Count	0	0	0
Critical Incident Count	3	1	0
Firearm Discharge Count	1	1	0
Mediation Count	3	1	2
Grand Total	30	12	12

March Overview

Complaints	
CC2019-0016	Complainant believes the NOPD has failed to investigate ongoing threats and physical attacks on her and her children from someone in the community. The complainant states she calls for assistance and the police do not speak to her witnesses, review her video footage or evidence, do not provide adequate medical attention at the scene, and have wrongfully arrested the complainant instead of the perpetrator.
CC2019-0017	Complainant believes he was wrongfully arrested under false pretenses when he confronted an insurance company regarding fraudulent billing. Complainant believes the police failed to get his account or appear in court.
CC2019-0019	The complainant alleges that the NOPD officer was rude, unprofessional, and hung up on her when she called.
CC2019-0020	Complainant believes he was racially profiled by the officer when the officer stopped the complainant and asked him was his car stolen and made him do certain gestures that led the complainant to feel like he was being treated as a criminal.
CC2019-0021	Complainant alleges that a sergeant was rude, aggressive, and unprofessional towards her when she arrived to ask for assistance with obtaining her minor child from another family member.
CC2019-0023	Complainant believes the NOPD improperly entered her home without permission and aggressively arrested her without cause, causing bruising to her arms, refused to let her put on shoes, and then took her to a mental health facility.
CC2019-0025	According to the complainant, the NOPD failed to respond to two calls for assistance when an unknown man was knocking on doors in the neighborhood late at night. As of the time of the complaint, the NOPD has not followed up on the call for assistance.
CC2019-0026	Complainant alleges that NOPD took 2 hours to respond to her call for service when her dad was assaulted by another individual. The complainant also alleges that NOPD failed to thoroughly and properly investigate the incident.

March Overview

CC2019-0027	Complainant alleges the NOPD failed to adequately protect him from threats and harassment during a peaceful protest in front of a local business and then provided inaccurate legal information regarding his right to arm himself and stand his ground. As a result of those NOPD actions, the complainant alleges he was wrongfully arrested for protecting himself and believes the NOPD was trying to discredit and silence him since he is a community activist.
CC2019-0028	According to complainant, the NOPD failed to conduct a thorough and timely investigation into her family member's death, resulting in evidence being lost or tampered with, witnesses disappearing, and the wrongful categorization of her family member's cause of death.
CC2019-0029	Complainant alleges that 3 of her co-workers within the NOPD Crime lab have continuously harassed her, made false statements about her, and created a hostile and unsafe environment.
Complaints: 11	

Disciplinary Hearings	
DH2019-0005	Officer is accused of failing to inform a civilian of her Miranda rights, activate his body worn camera, or to thoroughly investigate and collect evidence related to a domestic violence incident.
DH2019-0006	OCDM and the DOJ raised concerns regarding a strip search of a civilian and the search of the civilian's child. The officer is accused of violating NOPD policy regarding necessary probable cause to conduct searches of the body and minors.
Disciplinary Hearings Count: 2	

Mediation
Mediation cases are confidential.
Mediations Held: 3

Data is subject to review until Annual Report is submitted.

March Overview

Critical Incidents	
CI2019-0003	March 5, 2019 at 12:57p.m. Third district officers responded to a call for service of a domestic dispute involving an armed suspected person. An officer relocated to the rear of the residence to cover the rear door. The suspected person allegedly fired twice through the rear door at which time the officer returned fire once and retreated to wait for SWAT's arrival. During the suspected person's surrender to SWAT, two other officers pointed their patrol rifles at the suspected person. He was taken into custody without further incident. There were no injuries.
CI2019-0004	March 20, 2019 at 8:30pm. Two NOPD 6th District Task Force officers spotted a car they believed was stolen. They tried to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle. The initial NOPD patrol car was joined by another NOPD Task force unit that contained two additional officers. The two NOPD patrol cars began following the alleged stolen car and attempted to pull it over. According to the NOPD officers, instead of pulling over, the driver accelerated and began to flee from them. The two patrol units followed behind the vehicle. During the incident the two 6th district task force units were joined by another NOPD unit with two officers. At some point the alleged stolen car lost control and crashed into a beauty salon. The car exploded and caused a three alarm fire at the beauty salon. The occupants of the car were killed and so was an patron of the beauty of salon. Six others were injured including a woman and her two children, two NOPD officers and a firefighter.
Critical Incidents: 2	

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March Overview

Community Liaison	
CL2019-0006	Citizen needed assistance in following up with a police officer about her stalking case.
CL2019-0007	Citizens concerned about an arrest and possible bias during an investigation.
CL2019-0008	Citizen had a negative encounter with the Parking Authority and needed assistance contacting the proper departments.
CL2019-0009	Citizen needed assistance communicating with the District Attorney's Office and NOPD about the investion of her son's murder.
CL2019-0010	Citizen needed assistance in determining if any actions would be taken after she filed a police report on her employer.
CL2019-0011	Citizen requested follow-up information concerning a 2015 complaint.
CL2019-0012	Citizen has not heard from PIB investigator and would like to give a statement.
Community Liaison: 7	

Data is subject to review until Annual Report is submitted.

Complaints and Discipline

OIPM serves as an alternative site for civilians and police officers alike to file complaints of misconduct against the NOPD. These complaints and allegations are compiled into referrals by the OIPM and provided to the Public Integrity Bureau (PIB) for them to investigate. The OIPM monitors and reviews the classification and investigation conducted by PIB. If the complaint continues into a disciplinary proceeding, the OIPM will continue to monitor and review the disciplinary process. OIPM monitors and reviews disciplinary proceedings conducted by NOPD to ensure accountability and fairness. The OIPM reviews the disciplinary investigation and attends the subsequent disciplinary hearings where the OIPM will provide systemic and individualized findings and recommendations based on NOPD's investigation. The OIPM conducts a thorough review of the proceedings, findings, and recommendations that is available for review by both the NOPD and the New Orleans community.

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CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

2

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

0

POLICE INITIATED COMPLAINTS

Community-Police Mediation

Mediation is an alternative to the traditional process of resolving complaints of police officer misconduct. Mediation is a process facilitated by two professionally-trained community mediators to create mutual understanding and allow the civilian and officer to be fully heard and understood in a non-judgmental way.

" This was a good opportunity to express my concerns of how things were handled with the officer. I learned not to categorize the entire department because of one officer's mistake. The officer learned to take time to listen before acting. This program should continue. Please don't stop!"
-Civilian Participant

7

REFERRALS FOR MEDIATION

3

PENDING CONSENT

"I liked the chance to talk and that the mediators were good listeners. The process turned out good." - Officer Participant

3

MEDIATIONS HELD OR SCHEDULED

1

MEDIATION OFFER DECLINED

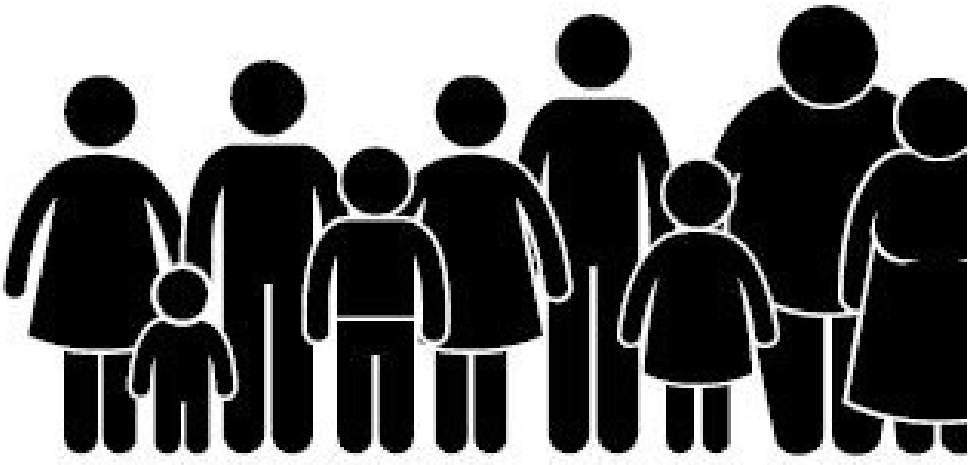
Community Relations

OIPM participates in community events to help extend the message the of OIPM and participates in activities to impact the nature of the relationships the community has with police officers. OIPM is committed to being present in the community, but also presenting helpful information to the public.

2

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS TRAINING

- Liberty's Kitchen
- Day Reporting Center



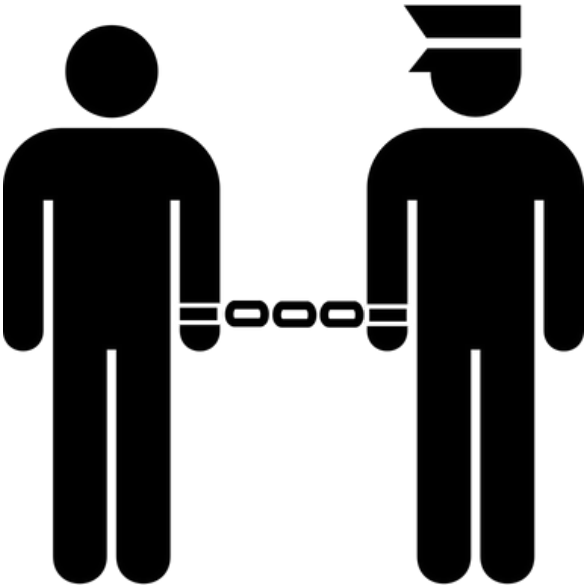
2

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- Informational forums on the Real Time Crime Center

Critical Incidents

The OIPM is required by City Code 2-1121 to monitor the quality and timeliness of NOPD's investigations into use of force and in-custody deaths. If an incident occurs, the OIPM is notified and a member of the incident and will report immediately to the scene. The OIPM will stay engaged from the occurrence of the incident, through investigation, and Use of Force Review Board hearings.

2

Critical Incidents