

THE OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR



MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 2021

Community Letter

Dear New Orleans Community,

Now is the time to get engaged with policing issues in New Orleans. As the city reopens from pandemic mandates, there are new opportunities to interact with our police department and to be heard. Come to a townhall, meeting, or activity and share your thoughts, feedback, and questions with the department that is designed to serve you and respond to public safety concerns. Look for our office at these summer events and follow us our new social media account on Instagram: @NOLAIPM to learn more about how to engage with the NOPD and police oversight in New Orleans. This Instagram account is another platform available for the community to engage with our office about their concerns, receive important information about policing and our services, provide feedback and ask questions. Please follow us to learn more and we look forward to engaging with you over social media and hopefully meeting you this summer.

A couple weeks ago, Derek Chauvin was sentenced to twenty-two and half (22 ½) years in prison for the murder of George Floyd – an act he committed while policing in the community, in his uniform, and was responsible for serving the public. There is a difference between justice and accountability and what we as a nation saw was accountability – not justice. Now, the OIPM reflects on this sentencing and the close of this trial since it represents a needed national step towards healing. We recognize that for people to move forward, there must be responsibility for the past. Accountability is vital in building public trust in police officers and in the ability to move forward – together.

Locally, the OIPM weighed in two examples of accountability in New Orleans over the last month. First, at the end of May, the OIPM provided contributed to an article printed by The Lens about the “Brady List” provided to the District Attorney’s Office by the NOPD. This list includes sustained allegations against officers that could influence officer credibility on the stand. In June, the OIPM continued to work with our partner agencies, including the NOPD, on this matter. The goal is to create an effective process that ensures the NOPD is fulfilling its responsibility to provide necessary and legally required information regarding officer credibility affecting criminal proceedings and prosecutions. Second, the OIPM provided public comment in The Advocate on the completion of the NOPD’s investigation of the Eighth (8th) District Task Force officers. In the article, the OIPM committed to conducting a thorough review of the misconduct investigation completed by the NOPD in response to allegations of officers testifying in contradiction with their Body Worn Camera (BWC) footage and allegedly fabricating cause to approach and search individuals. Both, of these instances are examples of how accountability may look in New Orleans and the important role local oversight plays that process.

During the month of June, the leadership team of the OIPM met with two members of our city council to discuss policing in their districts. We had a very productive and positive conversations with Councilmember Glapion and Councilmember Palmer. The OIPM thanks them for their valuable feedback and insight into how the NOPD is doing and what matters to their constituents.

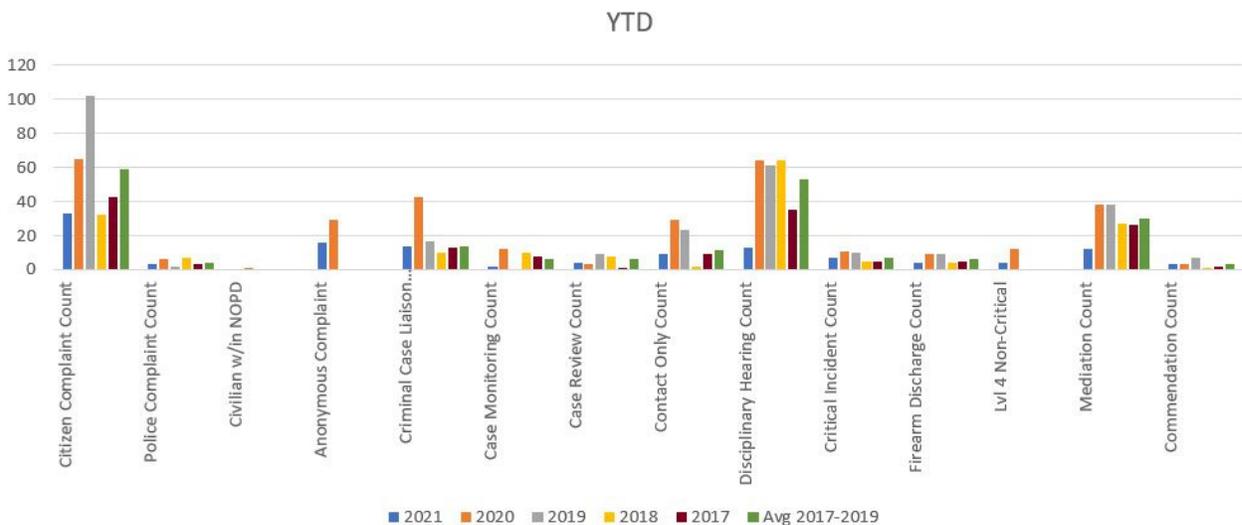
Finally, June is the beginning of hurricane season in New Orleans and the OIPM wants to make sure that all New Orleanians are prepared not only for the potential storms that may occur but for the changes in policing required during hurricanes. This means during evacuation orders, tropical storms, and hurricanes, the NOPD may have to pivot services to respond to the immediate needs that may exist from overpass flooding to working in storm shelters. While the NOPD will always respond to emergencies, other public services may be temporarily paused. Please keep this in mind during this hurricane season and let the OIPM know how the NOPD is doing and serving you.

Thank you,

Stella Cziment

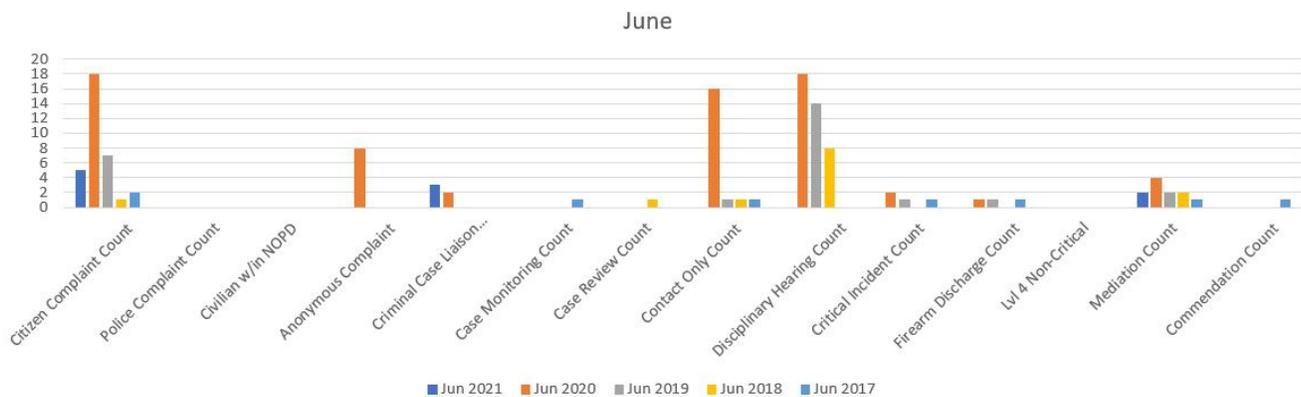
Year to Date Overview

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	Avg 2017-2019
Citizen Complaint Count	33	65	102	32	43	59.00
Police Complaint Count	3	6	2	7	3	4.00
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	1	0	0	0	0
Anonymous Complaint	16	29	0	0	0	0
Criminal Case Liaison Count	14	43	17	10	13	13.33
Case Monitoring Count	2	12	0	10	8	6.00
Case Review Count	4	3	9	8	1	6.00
Contact Only Count	9	29	23	2	9	11.33
Disciplinary Hearing Count	13	64	61	64	35	53.33
Critical Incident Count	7	11	10	5	5	6.67
Firearm Discharge Count	4	9	9	4	5	6.00
Lvl 4 Non-Critical	4	12	0			
Mediation Count	12	38	38	27	26	30.33
Commendation Count	3	3	7	1	2	3.33
Grand Total	124	325	278	170	150	199.33



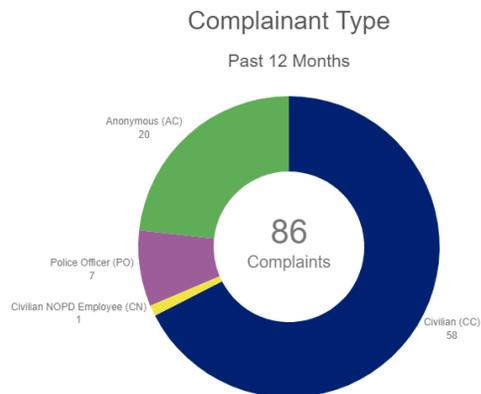
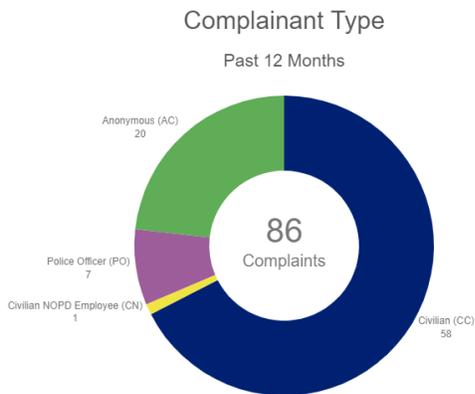
June Overview

	Jun 2021	Jun 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2018	Jun 2017	Avg 2017-2020
Citizen Complaint Count	5	18	7	1	2	7.00
Police Complaint Count	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	0	-	-	-	0.00
Anonymous Complaint	0	8	-	-	-	8.00
Criminal Case Liaison Count	3	2	0	-	-	1.00
Case Monitoring Count	0	0	0	0	1	0.25
Case Review Count	0	0	0	1	0	0.25
Contact Only Count	0	16	1	1	1	4.75
Disciplinary Hearing Count	0	18	14	8	0	10.00
Critical Incident Count	0	2	1	0	1	1.00
Firearm Discharge Count	0	1	1	0	1	0.75
Lvl 4 Non-Critical	0	0				0.00
Mediation Count	2	4	2	2	1	2.25
Commendation Count	0	0	0		1	0.33
Grand Total	10	69	26	13	8	29



June Overview: Complaints

Citizen Complaints	
CC2021-0056	The complainant alleges that an NOPD officer has failed to take necessary and appropriate police action and investigate her claim of theft committed against her.
CC2021-0059	The complainant alleged a NOPD vehicle was illegally parked.
CC2021-0060	The complainant believes that an NOPD officer acted in an inappropriate and harassing manner after assuming she stole something from a store and requesting to check her bag.
CC2021-0061	The complainant alleges that her boyfriend was stopped by NOPD and asked to exit the vehicle without any reasonable suspicion and/or probable cause while on his way home in her car. The complainant also stated that NOPD towed her vehicle and it was damaged because of being towed.
CC2021-0062	The complainant believes that the officer acted unprofessionally when responded to the scene. The complainant indicated he felt ridiculed by the officer that responded and does not believe that the situation was handled in an appropriate manner.
Citizen Complaints Count: 5	



June Overview

Criminal Liaison	
CL2021-0011	OIPM assisted a complainant with getting a new PIB investigator.
CL2021-0012	A citizen contacted the OIPM for assistance contacting the investigatig officer assigned to her case.
CL2021-0013	A complainant contacted OIPM requesting assistance scheduling a meeting with NOPD leadership to have his investigation re-opened.
Criminal Liaison Count: 3	

Mediation
Mediation cases are confidential.
Mediations Held: 2

Complaints

The 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.

Once the OIPM receives a complaint, the OIPM prepares the complainant's account into a narrative. The OIPM strives to accurately capture the words, emotions, goals and narrative shared by the complainant and selects the policy, practice, or rule that each allegation of behavior / incident could have violated if determined to be true. As part of the letter preparation process, OIPM personnel reviews information in NOPD systems regarding the interaction complained of, including body worn camera video, electronic police reports (EPR) and field interview cards (FIC). The OIPM may include information obtained from NOPD information systems in the complaint referral to PIB to ensure that PIB can fully investigate the complainant's concerns.

The OIPM provides a complaint process that is independent, impartial, transparent, fact-based, timely, and communicates in an understandable manner to all those involved. The OIPM maintains that misconduct investigation must be comprehensive, and the complaint process must be accessible, fair, thorough, and transparent.

5 CIVILIAN COMPLAINTS
0 ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS
0 POLICE INITIATED COMPLAINTS
0 CIVILIANS WITHIN NOPD 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.

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

2 MEDIATIONS REFERRED

1 MEDIATIONS HELD

0 MEDIATIONS PENDING



“ 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

Community Outreach

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

OIPM leads and participates in community outreach to inform the public of our services, to increase public engagement with policing, raise awareness of local or relevant police practice, and monitor how the NOPD interacts with our community.

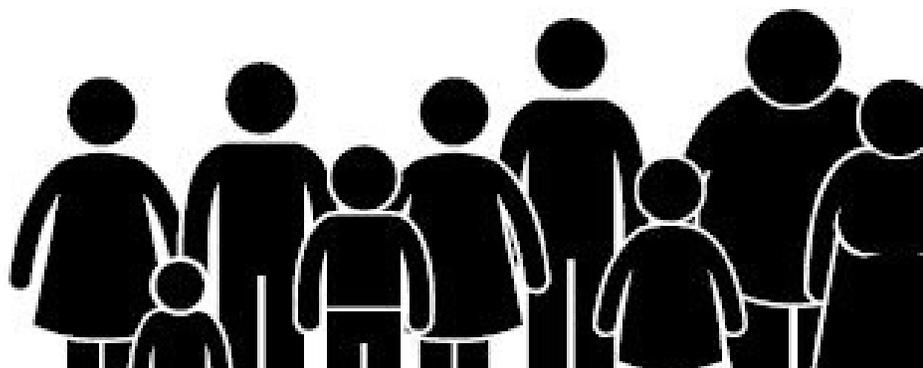
OIPM HOSTED A MEDIATOR IN-SERVICE TRAINING

OIPM HELD A MEDIATOR MEET AND GREET

OIPM ATTENDED "HELP NOT HANDCUFFS" VIRTUAL LISTENING SESSION

OIPM PRESENTED AT A COMMUNITY COALITION MEETING: "A COMMUNITY VOICE"

OIPM ATTENDED "HELP NOT HANDCUFFS" LISTENING SESSION IN DISTRICT E



Budget

OIPM Budget Description	Amount
Personnel	\$688,744.00
Operating	\$324,937.00
2021 Total OIPM Budget	\$1,013,681.00

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Amounts Spent to Date:	(\$611,047.00)
Projected Amounts to be Spent the Rest of the Year:	(\$849,333.34)
Projected Unexpended Funds	\$164,347.66