



THE OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR

MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 2022

STELLA CZIMENT
ACTING INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR

Community Letter

Dear New Orleans Community,

Happy festival season! The return of Mardi Gras has been a welcome joy for the whole city. During these festivities, there were changes to policing and enforcement of city ordinances. The OIPM requested feedback from the community on how the NOPD handled Mardi Gras. Moving forward, the OIPM is developing informational material regarding changes in policing during festivals seasons to be released to prepare the public for such changes.

During February, met with Councilmember Harris and Councilmember Giarrusso to discuss the work, goals, and priorities of the OIPM and how to strengthen collaborations with the city council and the Criminal Justice Committee in order to reach more of the public and create new projects.

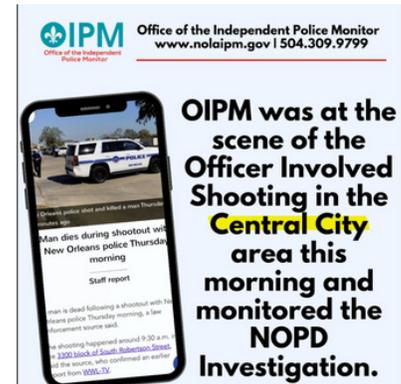
The OIPM thanks these members for their thoughts and contributions and looks forward to working together to serve the community.

In February, the Acting IPM presented to Judge Morgan along with the Office of Police Secondary Employment and the NOPD regarding the investigation and accountability steps being taken in response to allegations of police secondary employment misconduct.

There were two officer involved shootings in February and two accidental discharges of weapons (with no injuries). On February 8, the OIPM monitored an officer involved shooting investigation that occurred on the Lafitte Greenway related to an armed robbery in the surrounding neighborhood. The OIPM was immediately notified of the officer involved shooting and was at the scene monitoring from the start of the investigation to the end. The OIPM monitored and reviewed the investigation conducted by the Force Investigation Team as they searched for evidence in the greenway by flashlights and canvased for cameras and witnesses. That same week, the OIPM monitored another officer involved shooting investigating that resulted in the death of one individual. This shooting was part of a joint response with the U.S. Marshals. In the coming weeks, the OIPM will continue to monitor both investigations through their completion to ensure accountability.

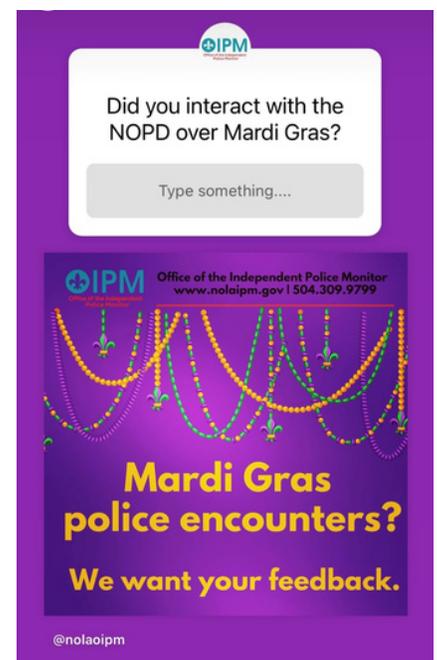
Our Complaint Intake Specialist, Abe Lowe IV, has been the first voice that many members of the community have talked to when reaching out to the OIPM to notify us of officer misconduct. For over four years, Abe Lowe IV conducted case reviews, met with complainants, prepared referrals, and completed legal research but now, Abe is leaving the OIPM for a new adventure. While the OIPM is excited for Abe, we are conscious of how his absence may affect the internal operation of the office. We are currently reimagining the work flow and intend there to be no gaps in service moving forward. While we are short staffed, the OIPM respectfully requests patience if it takes a little longer to respond.

Thank you,



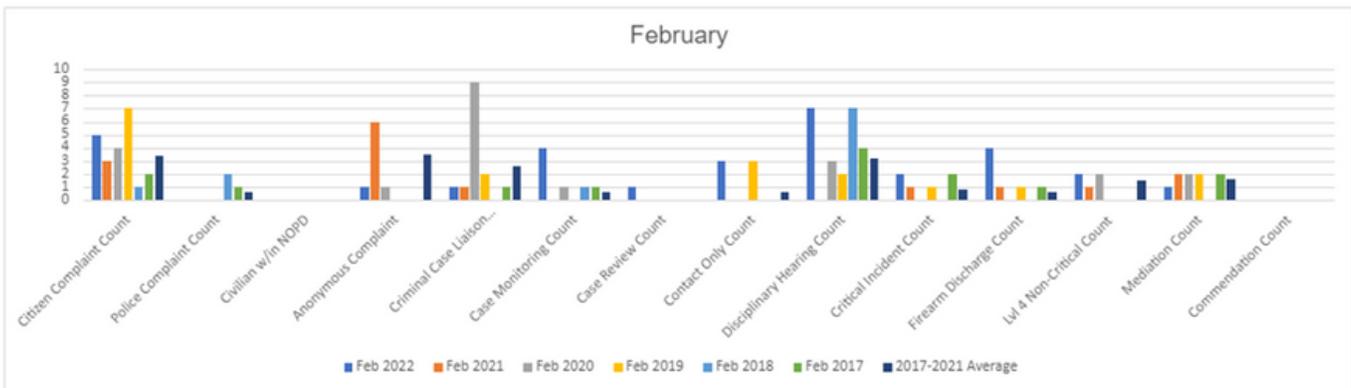
Above is an example of how the OIPM is trying to communicate more with the public regarding Officer Involved Shootings and our work monitoring the scene.

Below is a post that the OIPM made regarding Mardi Gras feedback.



Year to Date Overview

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	Avg 2017-2021
Citizen Complaint Count	8	55	56	74	27	35	49.40
Police Complaint Count	0	4	5	2	5	2	3.60
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	1	1	0	0	0	0.40
Anonymous Complaint	1	19	26	0	0	0	9.00
Criminal Case Liaison Count	3	20	36	17	6	6	17.00
Case Monitoring Count	4	4	10	0	9	8	6.20
Case Review Count	8	5	3	4	8	0	4.00
Contact Only Count	6	17	29	14	2	8	14.00
Disciplinary Hearing Count	7	60	61	41	56	27	49.00
Critical Incident Count	3	7	10	9	7	7	8.00
Firearm Discharge Count	4	6	9	8	4	4	6.20
Lvl 4 Non-Critical	3	8	9	0	0	0	3.40
Mediation Count	5	18	33	30	21	26	25.60
Commendation Count	0	8	1	5	1	2	3.40
Grand Total	52	232	289	204	146	125	199.20



	Feb 2022	Feb 2021	Feb 2020	Feb 2019	Feb 2018	Feb 2017	2017-2021 Average
Citizen Complaint Count	5	3	4	7	1	2	3.40
Police Complaint Count	0	0	0	0	2	1	0.60
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	0	0	0			0.00
Anonymous Complaint	1	6	1				3.50
Criminal Case Liaison Count	1	1	9	2	0	1	2.60
Case Monitoring Count	4	0	1	0	1	1	0.60
Case Review Count	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Contact Only Count	3	0	0	3	0	0	0.60
Disciplinary Hearing Count	7	0	3	2	7	4	3.20
Critical Incident Count	2	1	0	1	0	2	0.80
Firearm Discharge Count	4	1	0	1	0	1	0.60
Lvl 4 Non-Critical Count	2	1	2				1.50
Mediation Count	1	2	2	2	0	2	1.60
Commendation Count	0	0	0	0			0.00
Grand Total	31	15	22	18	11	14	16.00
Community Outreach Events	5	1	3				

February Overview

Civilian Complaints	
CC2022-0011	The complainant stated that an NOPD Officer filed for and obtain an arrest warrant for violating a stay away order without verifying whether the complainant had been served and/or without executing service herself.
CC2022-0012	The complainant stated that she called NOPD to help calm her son down (son has mental health concerns). The complainant stated that the NOPD took hours to arrive and by the time they did her son was asleep. She stated four officers arrived including a Lieutenant who were aggressive and escalated the situation causing a scuffle and her son being physically assaulted by the officers.
CC2022-0013	Complainant was involved in an accident in the parking lot of the Riverwalk mall. He called the police and once officers arrived; he was threatened to be put in jail.
CC2022-0014	According to the complainant, there were many incidents with the 2nd District officers that he wanted to file his complaint on. With each interaction with the police, the complainant believes that the officers are rude and unprofessional.
CC2022-0015	According to the complainant, an officer was rude to him while writing him a parking ticket and made lewd comments under the officer's breath.
Civilian Complaints: 5	

Anonymous Complaints	
AC2021-0016	According to the complainant, the complainant was wrongfully arrested during a call for service for a domestic violence incident even though the complainant was the one who was injured and called 911 for assistance.
Anonymous Complaints Count: 1	

Mediation	
Mediation cases are confidential.	
Mediations Held: 1	

Criminal Case Liaison	
CL2022-0003	A member of the community requested assistance with a complaint regarding a Orleans Parish Sheriff Deputy. The OIPM provided the individual with information regarding how to proceed with their complaint.
Criminal Liaison Count: 1	

February Overview

Case Monitoring	
CM2022-0001 / PIB2022-0015-P	The OIPM assisted a councilmember's office regarding a constituent who wanted an update on the misconduct complaint he filed regarding the NOPD. The OIPM received an update from the Public Integrity Bureau and provided it to the office and the member of the public.
CM2022-0002 / PIB2021-0454-P	A partner organization sought an update regarding the status of a misconduct investigation they filed last year. The OIPM learned the complaint was sustained and the officer is awaiting a disciplinary hearing. The OIPM provided that information to the partner organization and will keep them updated when the hearing is scheduled.
CM2022-0003 / PIB 2021-0091-R; 2021-0372-P	OIPM facilitated a meeting for a complainant and the Captain of the Public Integrity Bureau, the Lieutenant of the Public Integrity Bureau and an investigating Sergeant so the individual could discuss his concerns regarding the previous investigation and start a new misconduct investigation. The OIPM completed a case review on the misconduct investigation.
CM2022-0004 / 2021-0092-P	The OIPM facilitated a meeting for a complainant with the Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau to discuss concerns regarding a completed misconduct investigation. The OIPM committed to completing a case review and a policy recommendation.
Case Monitoring Count: 4	

Case Review	
CR2022-0002	The OIPM was requested to complete a case review of the misconduct investigation conducted on a police response to a disturbing the peace violation involving a community leader and an elected official.
Case Review Count: 1	

Contact Only	
CO2022-0004	The Police Accountability Board of Rochester, NY, reached out to the OIPM to ask about our use of shared case management software with the NOPD and information sharing.
CO2022-0005	The OIPM assisted an individual with a stolen iPhone during Mardi Gras in the French Quarter. The OIPM provided the individual with the non-emergency number and the information for the Eighth District police station.
CO2022-0006	The OIPM assisted an individual with a stolen iPhone during Mardi Gras in the French Quarter. The OIPM provided the individual with the non-emergency number and the information for the Eighth District police station.
Contact Only: 3	

Use of Force - Level 4 Noncritical Incidents	
UF2022-0002	See FD2022-0001
UF2022-0003	See FD2022-0002
Use of Force - Level 4 Noncritical Incidents: 2	

February Overview

Disciplinary Hearings	
DH2022-0001	An officer is accused of failing to notify the NOPD that he had traffic violations initiated against him for having a suspended license, failing to carry proof of car insurance, and missing traffic court.
DH2022-0002	An officer is accused of violating the city ordinance regarding lewd conduct by urinating outside while in uniform.
DH2022-0003	A sergeant is accused of violating the NOPD retaliation policy by trying to report time discrepancies against a former subordinate that the sergeant believed initiated a complaint against her.
DH2022-0004	An officer is accused of violating NOPD policy by failing to complete her police report within the required timeline, failing to book evidence, using a personal cell phone to take photos of the evidence, deactivating her Body Worn Camera multiple times, driving against traffic to complete the arrest, and using degrading language during the arrest.
DH2022-0005	During a response regarding an incident of domestic violence, an officer is accused of failing to document known injuries, complete a full police report, interview available witnesses, and removing his Body Worn Camera during the response. The officer's sergeant is accused of being unprofessional at the scene and with the public and telling individuals at the scene not to record them which is against NOPD policy.
DH2022-0006	An officer is accused of failing to make the necessary notifications after getting into a car crash in his department vehicle and failing to activate his Body Worn Camera during the incident.
DH2022-0007	An officer is accused of failing to notify rank or properly take an allegation of misconduct that a member of the public tried to raise against her.
Disciplinary Hearings: 8	

Critical Incidents	
CI2022-0002	An officer with the NOPD was serving a high-risk warrant on a murder suspect at the location. Officers made contact with the suspect who was armed with a long rifle, the suspect appeared to point the weapon at the officers causing them to fire and fatally wound him. At the time of this incident the NOPD officer was acting as a member of the US Marshal's taskforce.
CI2022-0003	The officer encountered an armed individual while searching for a cellular phone in a field that was taken in an armed robbery. The suspect opened fire towards the officer, the officer fired back striking the individual. The subject was transported to a local hospital by NOEMS. The officer did not sustain any injuries.
Critical Incidents: 2	

Firearm Discharge	
FD2022-0001	Officer was preparing weapon for cleaning and accidentally discharged their weapon. No injuries reported. No damage to property.
FD2022-0002	While the officer was in the restroom, they hung their firearm from the hook on the bathroom stall door. While going to retrieve the firearm, the officer discharged one round into the ceiling tile above. There were no injuries reported.
FD2022-0003	See CI2022-0002
FD2022-0004	See CI2022-0003
Firearm Discharge: 4	

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.

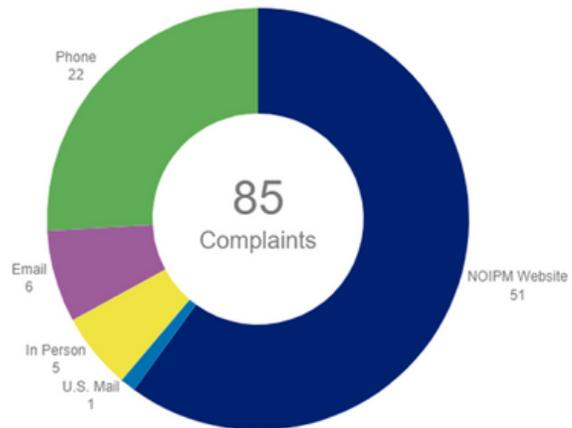
Once the OIPM receives a complaint, the OIPM prepares the complainant's account into a narrative. The OIPM strives to accurately capture the words, emotions, goals and narrative shared by the complainant and selects the policy, practice, or rule that each allegation of behavior / incident could have 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**
- 1 ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS**
- 0 POLICE INITIATED COMPLAINTS**
- 0 CIVILIANS WITHIN NOPD INITIATED COMPLAINTS**

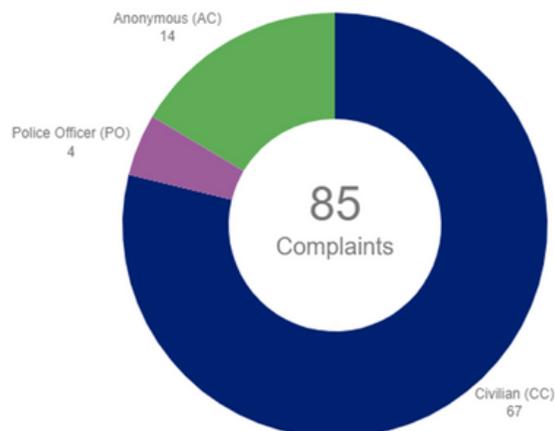
Intake Source

Past 12 Months



Complainant Type

Past 12 Months



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.

9

**MEDIATIONS
REFERRED**

1

**MEDIATIONS
HELD**

5

**MEDIATIONS
PENDING**

2

**MEDIATIONS
SCHEDULED FOR
MARCH**



Use of Force

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 a critical 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 (UFRB) hearings.

The UFRB serves as a quality control mechanism to ensure timely reviews of all serious use of force investigations to determine the appropriateness of the investigative findings, and to quickly appraise use of force incidents from a tactics, training, policy, and agency improvement perspective. The voting members of the UFRB are the Deputy Superintendents of Field Operations Bureau, Public Integrity Bureau, and Investigations and Support Bureau. Other NOPD deputy chiefs serve as non-voting members, and outside groups like OIPM and the Office of the Consent Decree Monitor are present to observe, listen, and participate in discussion.

2

CRITICAL INCIDENTS

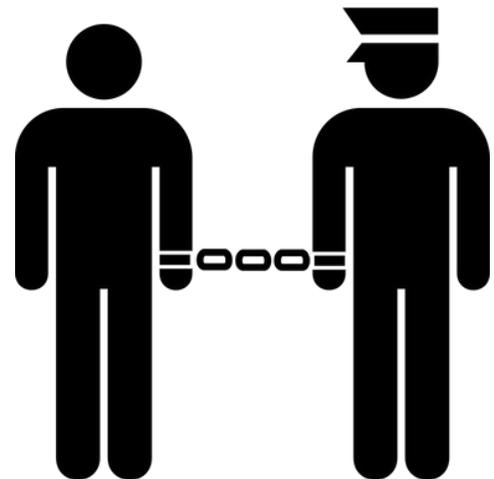
4

FIREARM DISCHARGE

2

LEVEL 4 NON-CRITICAL INCIDENT

No Use of Force Review Board was held in February



Discipline

The OIPM is responsible for monitoring whether NOPD action taken during disciplinary proceedings are compliant with state and federal law, NOPD policy, the Consent Decree, and the Memorandum of Understanding between the NOPD and the OIPM executed on November 10, 2010. The OIPM will review such proceedings to ensure the NOPD is compliant with Federal Consent Decree Section XVII: Misconduct Complaint Intake, Investigation, and Adjudication.

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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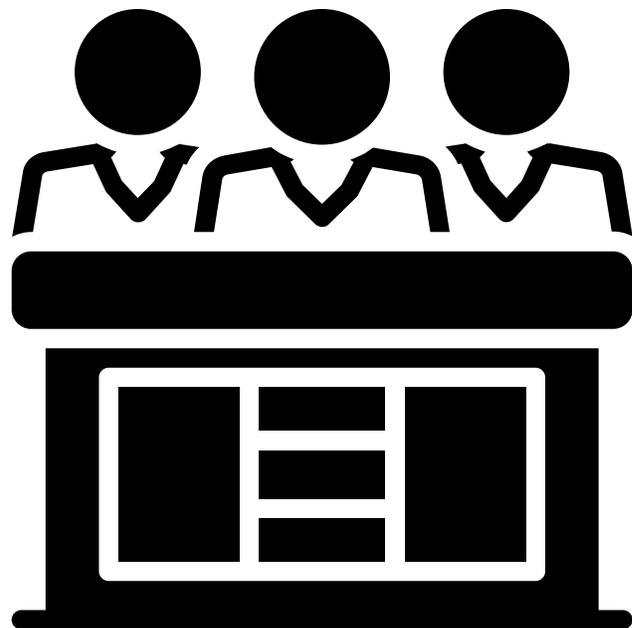
**DISCIPLINARY
PROCEEDINGS**

3

**SUPERINTENDENT
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

5

**CAPTAIN PANEL
PREDISPOSITION
AND PENALTY
HEARINGS**



Community Outreach

5

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.

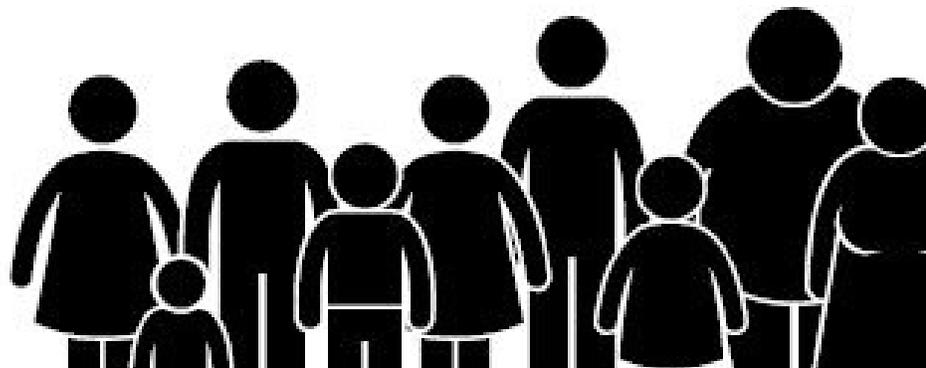
ACTING IPM MET WITH COUNCILMEMBER GIARRUSSO TO DISCUSS POLICING OVERSIGHT, THE WORK AND GOALS OF THE OIPM, AND POLICING CONCERNS IN DISTRICT A.

ACTING IPM MET WITH COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS TO DISCUSS SHARED GOALS AND COLLABORATIONS ON POLICING CONCERNS FOR DISTRICT B.

OIPM ATTENDED THE SILENCE NOT VIOLENCE COMMUNITY MEETING

OIPM PARTICIPATED IN A FORUM PREVIEWING THE VERA INSTITUTE POLICE TRANSPARENCY INDEX

HOSTED 4-HOUR MEDIATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN-SERVICE ROLE PLAY TRAINING HELD ON FEBRUARY 8TH



Budget

OIPM Budget Description	Amount
Personnel	\$732,488.00
Operating	\$308,926.00
2022 Total OIPM Budget	\$1,041,414.00

2022 Total OIPM Budget	\$1,041,414.00
Amounts Spent to Date:	(\$147,388.00)
Unexpended funds	\$894,026.00

2022 Goal Progress

To ensure accountability and transparency with the ERB and the community, the OIPM is reporting out progress on the 2022 OIPM Work Plan.

These benchmarks and goals were achieved in February 2022:

Met with **Councilmember Harris** and **Councilmember Giarrusso** to discuss the work, goals, and priorities of the OIPM. Both councilmembers discussed how to build a working relationship with OIPM on policing concerns in their districts. Discussed partnering on public outreach in the future.

Continued work on the 2021 OIPM Annual Report and **met with the City IT leadership team to discuss data requests and access.**

Started working with community partners including Troy Glover and Sade Dumas to lead community listening sessions with facilitated agendas in order to encourage feedback, questions, and engagement with the IPM. Building on the "Coffee with the IPM" model.

Continued to post the **Data Coordinator Position** to the public. Posted the position on Indeed to receive additional candidates. Currently accepting applications.

In-depth Monitoring and Review of the Audits, Investigations, and Policy regarding Police Secondary Employment

- **Presented along with the Office of Police Secondary Employment (OPSE) and the Public Integrity Bureau to the Department of Justice, Federal Monitors, and Judge Morgan** regarding the misconduct investigations, policy and audit changes, system integration, and communication strategy.
- Met with the leadership of OPSE to discuss **system integration** of the two systems in order for overlapping details to no longer be scheduled.

Mediation

- In process of conducting all the **mediation surveys from 2021** to include the data in the 2021 Annual Report.

Additional Benchmarks:

- **Started training additional OIPM staff to conduct complaint intakes.** In the process of designing an intake form for the staff to utilize with members of the community who walk in to the OIPM to file complaints.

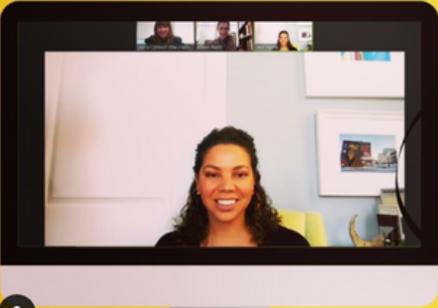
Social Media Highlights

Below are some of the social media posts produced by OIPM over the last month. Some of these posts were re-shared by partners.



OIPM Office of the Independent Police Monitor
www.nolaipm.gov | 504.309.9799

The OIPM met with Councilmember Harris to discuss police oversight and how the OIPM can be a resource in District B.



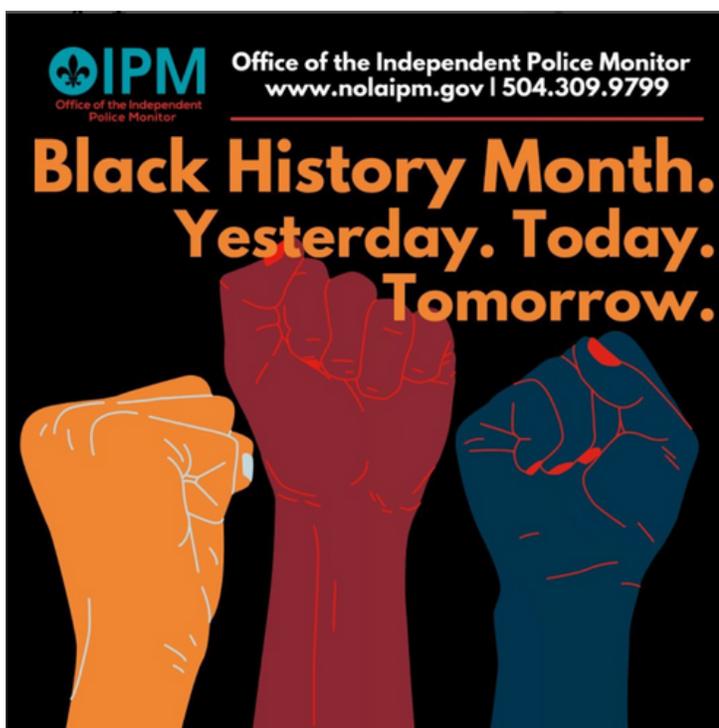
Thanks,
Councilmember
Harris!



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OIPM was at the scene of the Officer Involved Shooting on the Lafitte Greenway Tuesday night and monitored the NOPD Investigation.



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Black History Month. Yesterday. Today. Tomorrow.



OIPM Office of the Independent Police Monitor
www.nolaipm.gov | 504.309.9799

The OIPM met with Councilmember Giarrusso to discuss the Consent Decree, officer discipline, and how OIPM can be a resource in District A.



Thanks for the discussion,
Councilmember
Giarrusso!