

# OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR

## MONTHLY COMMUNITY REPORT January 2026



*Above, the Independent Police Monitor and Deputy Police Monitor pose with Chief Kirkpatrick, the guest of the week, after recording the OIPM's final Monitor's Mic radio show. The Monitor's Mic came to a close in January 2026.*

**Transparency. Accountability. Respect.**



# LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear New Orleans Community,

Welcome to a new year with the Office of the Independent Police Monitor. The start of 2026 marked a new beginning of the year and of leadership within the City of New Orleans. City Council members and the new Mayor were sworn into office on January 12, 2026 to begin their terms. The OIPM looks forward to presenting to the new members of the Criminal Justice Committee and working with this administration in the coming year.

In January, the OIPM released our **2026 Work Plan**. Each January, the OIPM releases a work plan outlining our goals for the year. This plan serves as a roadmap to guide our efforts and helps us prioritize where we can best fulfill our mission, provide oversight, and serve the community. In this work plan, the OIPM explained how budgetary changes may affect the services and programming of the OIPM this year and how local oversight will continue now that the Consent Decree was terminated. You can learn more about the work plan in this month's report.

While the OIPM set external oversight goals for 2026 through our work plan, we also set internal goals for the upcoming year. During the month of January, the OIPM did **individual goal setting with our staff** and discussed how they could develop personally and professionally. I look forward to seeing what this small team can achieve when sharing their talents and work with you in 2026.

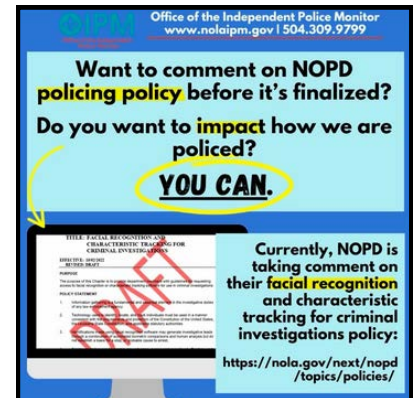
This month, the OIPM joined other partners and leaders in their engagement with the community to learn more about policing concerns and needs. The OIPM attended a listening session at the St. Peter Claver Catholic Church in the Treme hosted by State Senator Royce Duplessis and attended by State Representative Alonzo Knox and New Orleans City Councilmembers Green and King. The OIPM also attended a book talk at Baldwin Books with Professor Andrea Armstrong and author Terence Keel where he discussed his book: "The Coroner's Silence: Death Records and the Hidden Victims of Police Violence." Both of these events were opportunities for the OIPM to listen and learn about how policing impacts the public and the criminal legal system.

Notably, at the end of the month, a **recruit within the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)**. The OIPM has received several questions regarding this detainment and how it reflects on the NOPD's recruitment screening process. First, the OIPM wants to reiterate that this individual has no criminal record, has a driver's license, and has a social security number. The recruit was screened for employment through E-Verify, a system that is authorized by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and was passed. The NOPD followed policy during this recruitment process. Second, the NOPD can hire non-U.S. citizens to be police officers (you can learn more here: <https://joinnopd.org/hiring-process/>). The final question the OIPM received is whether you need to be a citizen to be POST certified? The answer is no, you do not need to be a U.S. citizen to receive POST certification and become a legally recognized police officer for the NOPD.

Finally, at the beginning of February, the **OIPM is hosting Coffee with the IPM sessions at Old Road Coffee** on Bayou Road. These events are a chance to sit down with the leadership of the OIPM and ask questions, talk about policing concerns, and learn more about oversight and our work over coffee. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for your continued support and let's stay safe,

*Stella Cziment*  
Stella Cziment, Independent Police Monitor



Above, the OIPM informed the public that the NOPD takes comment on pending policy.

Below, Deputy IPM, Kirschelle Williams, and Community Engagement and Misconduct Specialist, Kiah Howard, take a picture with author Terence Keel at Baldwin Books.





# ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

## OIPM Releases 2026 Work Plan

Each January, the Office of the Independent Police Monitor (OIPM) releases a work plan outlining our goals for the year. This plan serves as a **roadmap** to guide our efforts and help us prioritize where we can best fulfill our mission, provide oversight, and serve the community. While the work plan sets clear goals, it allows for **flexibility** so the OIPM can **adapt to evolving community and police department needs**. It also considers the office's capacity and budget constraints.

This year, the OIPM work plan included a break down of how the reduction in the city's budget will affect the OIPM and how the end of the Consent Decree will impact the goals and work of local oversight.

Below are goals identified by the OIPM for 2026:

- **Generate Misconduct Case Reviews; Create Truncated Case Review**

- In 2026, the OIPM intends to release a series of **case reviews** evaluating the Public Integrity Bureau investigations into allegations of misconduct. These case reviews will include a variety of topics around investigatory responsibilities, sexual misconduct, criminal allegations, and professionalism.
- Due to public demand, the OIPM is going to explore creating a **truncated case review** that will provide a review of one question or one component of the investigation.

- **Build Virtual Public Archive & Police Misconduct, Award, and Force Database**

- Finish creating a publicly accessible online archive of policing documents, reports, and policy guides.
- Complete the Police Misconduct Database project, including officer disciplinary, force, and award history, under Resolution 20-175.

- **Community Outreach**

- The OIPM will prioritize "Coffee with the IPM" events and other smaller functions enabling the IPM to hold "office hours" at different coffee shops or spaces throughout the city.
- The OIPM intends to collaborate with other organizations, city agencies, and the NOPD to co-host these events around relevant topics or questions from the public.

- **Create Policy and Launch Pilot for Peer-to-Peer Mediation Program**

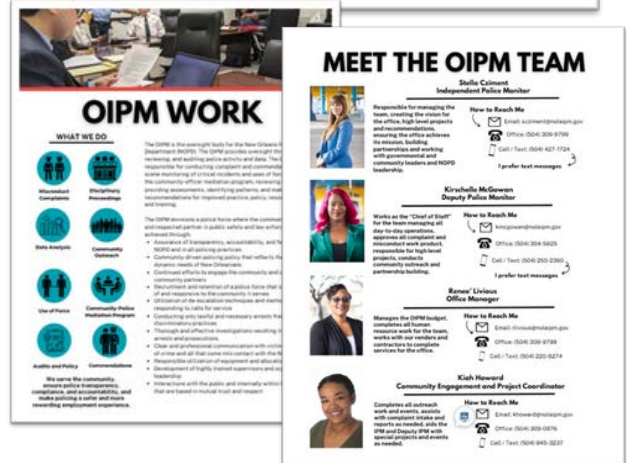
- Create the policy and process for a peer-to-peer mediation program to serve employees within NOPD and aid in solving some of the internal issues and conflicts that inevitably come up within such a large and diverse organization. This pilot is at the request of the NOPD to address internal disputes that occur and often bog down the grievance and misconduct systems.



# ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

## OIPM Releases 2026 Work Plan Continued

- **Expand the District Based Mediation Pilot**
  - Based on feedback and requests received from District Captains in 2025, the OIPM launched a pilot mediation program to serve members of the community who are utilizing police services for ongoing conflicts that could benefit from mediation. Now, in 2026, the OIPM intends to extend this pilot to additional districts.
- **Pursue Creative Opportunities to Collaborate with NOPD, Partners, and the Public**
  - The OIPM will consider innovative ideas such as taking the model of “ride-alongs” and reversing it - instead the community would give a “ride-along” to oversight and relevant police officers to explain the issues they are facing firsthand and where the police department is serving or not serving them.
  - In 2026, the OIPM will explore the possibility of partnerships between our office, community organizations providing services, and NOPD. The goal is to embed more community-based service providers into the NOPD instead of replicating work within the department.
- **Generate More Public Facing Work Product to Explain Oversight Activities; Policing**
  - This year, the OIPM will try to find more ways to generate relevant, creative, and informative work product to explain what oversight is doing and how the police department works. The OIPM will prioritize work product around issues of concern such as officer discipline, use of force, facial recognition, and supervision.
  - The OIPM intends to complete documents on lawsuits and claims, disciplinary appeals, and criminal proceedings against officers.

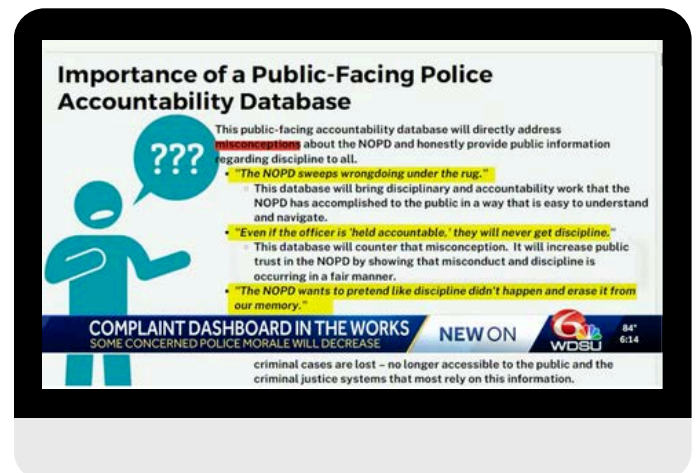


## Update on the Police Accountability Dashboard: Officer Award, Misconduct, and Force Searchable Database

The Police Accountability Dashboard is a collaborative, city-led initiative designed to increase transparency around NOPD disciplinary outcomes and officer commendations. The OIPM is the project manager of this initiative. As the project continues towards completion, we want to clarify its purpose and provide an update on this joint city project.

### What is the purpose of the dashboard and who is behind it?

This is a joint city effort that was spearheaded by the City Council in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd and the demand across the country for increased accountability and transparency in our police departments. This project was pitched to City Council by criminal justice stakeholders, and after a series of discussions, the Office of the Independent Police Monitor and the New Orleans Police Department were brought in as partners.



Right bottom, a still from the WDSU broadcast regarding the police accountability database.



# ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

## Update on the Police Accountability Dashboard: Officer Award, Misconduct, and Force Searchable Database Continued

Currently, the OIPM manages the project and the NOPD is included in every step of the project development. NOPD leadership served on the RFP selection committee and will be involved in both the development of the database and the provision of data.

The primary purpose of the database is to inform the public of the very real accountability that is happening every day in the NOPD. NOPD holds officers accountable, but often that reality is not felt or understood by the public. This database will ensure that the community understands who is policing them, will increase public buy-in to the accountability systems within NOPD, and will communicate that NOPD is committed to ethical and constitutional policing. *Everything available on the database will be public record.*

### Current status of the Database?

Currently, the OIPM and the NOPD are reviewing a beta version of the site and providing feedback and notes to the vendor for changes.

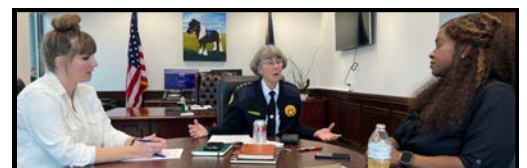
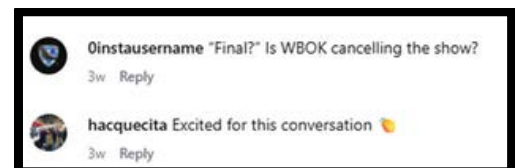
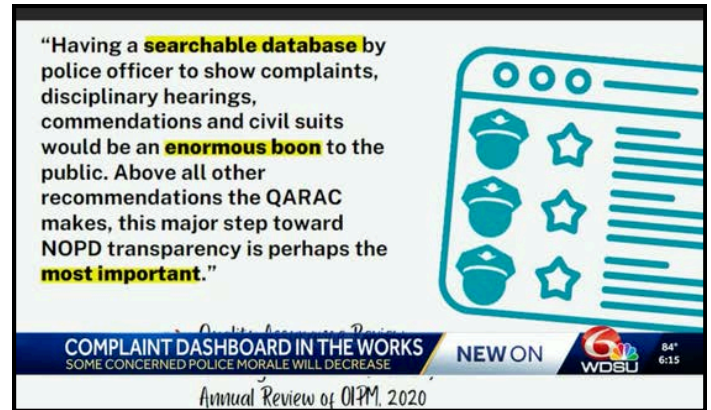
In January, the NOPD, the OIPM, the vendor, and the City's IT department met to discuss how to share information and data between the beta site and the city's databases. Now, the vendor and NOPD are working together to ensure the necessary clearances are received and to ensure the pipeline to connect and populate data is built. Once that process is complete, the site will be reformatted to be compatible with the data pulls and searches that will be conducted and the beta will go through another revision to be as user-friendly as possible. The OIPM looks forward to these next phases and will continue to keep the public informed as the project progresses.

## Final Episode of the Monitor's Mic

This month the OIPM said good-bye to the radio show: "The Monitor's Mic: Where We Talk Oversight, Policing, and You." After a year and half of the Monitor's Mic, the OIPM chose to sunset the show due to the decrease in the OIPM's operating budget for 2026. The OIPM needed to make some difficult programming and service decisions and it was decided that cutting the radio show was the most responsible choice. **WBOK did not cancel the show** and the **OIPM appreciates the station's support during this process.**

The OIPM chose to have **Chief Kirkpatrick** on for the final show. During this episode, Chief Kirkpatrick discussed her goals for the police department in 2026, how she navigates conflicting needs from the public and elected leaders, her perspective on recent ICE actions throughout the country and she explained her thoughts on the role of local law enforcement when interacting with ICE. Chief Kirkpatrick also reflected on what she's learned as a police chief and when she believes a leader of a police department should step down. It was an informative show that took you deeper into the mind and perspective of your police chief - if you want to know more about Chief Kirkpatrick and the NOPD we recommend that you listen to this show on our website.

Again, please check out this episode and previous shows on our website and Spotify, where our libraries of episodes are housed. We enjoyed talking about policing, oversight, and the issues that matter to you on the Monitor's Mic. Thank you for tuning in!



# WHO WE ARE

The OIPM is an independent, civilian police oversight agency created by voters in a 2008 charter referendum. Its mission is to improve police service to the community, community trust in the NOPD, and officer safety and working conditions. Since first opening its doors in August 2009, the Office of the Independent Police Monitor has been responsible for representing the community of New Orleans, providing accountability and oversight to the NOPD, and assisting in the reforms required under the Federal Consent Decree.

The OIPM is protected and required by City Charter and Ordinance. The OIPM operates through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of New Orleans and the New Orleans Police Department and has distinct responsibilities outlined by ordinance. This means this office was created by the people of New Orleans to represent all people interacting with the New Orleans Police Department to improve the way our community is policed.

## Ensuring Compliance and Reform

- The OIPM reviews the NOPD's policies, practices, and investigations to ensure that every action taken is compliant with local, state, and federal law, and Consent Decree reforms.
- The OIPM advises on policy, tactics, training, and supervision to ensure that the NOPD is adopting national best practice and building a nondiscriminatory, safe, effective, and respectful police department that is responsive to the needs of the community and their employees.
- The OIPM does this through monitoring, case reviews, audits, and policy recommendations.

## Amplifying the Needs of the Community

- The OIPM engages with the community to ensure that they both know about our services and understand how the police department works. Through providing information, the OIPM is equipping and empowering the community to navigate police encounters safely and demand what they need.
- Provides Complaint Intake.
- Operates the Community-Police Mediation Program.
- Partners with Families Overcoming Injustice.
- Coordinates public forums and outreach opportunities for the community to provide vital input on the way they are policed.

## Making the NOPD a Safer and Nondiscriminatory Workplace

- The OIPM provides recommendations and assessments to ensure that the NOPD is a safe and nondiscriminatory work place for all employees.
- The OIPM assesses supervision and training to ensure that employees are being equipped and supported.
- The OIPM meets with police associations to hear concerns from their membership.
- The OIPM monitors disciplinary hearings to ensure that discipline is consistent and nonretaliatory.
- The OIPM receives commendations and accounts of positive policing from the community.



# WHAT DO WE DO?

## Mission, Vision, Work

**We serve the community, ensure police transparency, compliance, and accountability, and make policing a safer and more rewarding employment experience.**

### WHAT WE DO



**Misconduct Complaints**



**Disciplinary Proceedings**



**Data Analysis**



**Community Outreach**



**Use of Force**



**Community-Police Mediation Program**



**Audits and Policy**



**Commendations**

The OIPM is the oversight body for the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD). The OIPM provides oversight through monitoring, reviewing, and auditing police activity and data. The OIPM is responsible for conducting complaint and commendation intake, on-scene monitoring of critical incidents and uses of force, overseeing the community-officer mediation program, reviewing investigations, providing assessments, identifying patterns, and making recommendations for improved practice, policy, resource allocation, and training.

The OIPM envisions a police force where the community is a valued and respected partner in public safety and law enforcement. This is achieved through:

- Assurance of transparency, accountability, and fairness within the NOPD and in all policing practices
- Community-driven policing policy that reflects the changing and dynamic needs of New Orleanians
- Continued efforts to engage the community and collaborate with community partners
- Recruitment and retention of a police force that is representative of and responsive to the community it serves
- Utilization of de-escalation techniques and methods when responding to calls of service
- Conducting only lawful and necessary arrests free of discriminatory practices
- Thorough and effective investigations resulting in appropriate arrests and prosecutions
- Clear and professional communication with victims and witnesses of crime and all that come into contact with the NOPD
- Responsible utilization of equipment and allocation of resources
- Development of highly trained supervisors and organizational leadership
- Interactions with the public and internally within the police force that are based in mutual trust and respect

**The OIPM seeks to amplify the voice of the community to ensure that all within the city – visitors and residents alike – can access police services equally and have a positive experience with officers.**



# DATA OVERALL: YEAR TO DATE AND MONTH

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	Avg 2017-2026
Civilian Complaint Count	78	4	10	9	3	6	5	4	3	2	12.40
Police Complaint Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0.20
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Anonymous Complaint	3	3	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1.20
Community Liaison Count	2	0	0	4	2	2	7	3	1	2	2.30
Case Monitoring Count	0	2	0	1	0	1	5	0	1	2	1.20
Case Review Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.10
Contact Only Count	1	7	4	4	3	1	3	0	0	2	2.50
Disciplinary Hearing Count	4	6	0	4	0	3	0	2	2	5	2.60
Critical Incident Count	0	1	2	1	1	0	3	1	0	3	1.20
Firearm Discharge Count	0	1	2	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	0.90
Lvl 4 Non-Critical	1	1	3	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	1.10
Force Monitoring*	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.10
Mediation Count	4	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	2	1.10
Commendation Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26.90</b>

	Jan 2026	Jan 2025	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2022	Jan 2021	Jan 2020	Jan 2019	Jan 2018	Jan 2017	Avg 2017-2026
Citizen Complaint Count	78	4	10	9	3	6	5	4	3	2	12.40
Police Complaint Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0.20
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0.00
Anonymous Complaint	3	3	4	0	0	1	1				1.71
Community Liaison Count	2	0	0	4	2	2	7	3	1	2	2.30
Case Monitoring Count	0	2	0	1	0	1	5	0	1	2	1.20
Case Review Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.10
Contact Only Count	1	7	4	4	3	1	3	0	0	2	2.50
Disciplinary Hearing Count	4	6	0	4	0	3	0	2	2	5	2.60
Critical Incident Count	0	1	2	1	1	0	3	1	0	3	1.20
Firearm Discharge Count	0	1	2	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	0.90
Lvl 4 Non-Critical Count	1	1	3	3	2	0	1				1.57
Force Monitoring*	0	1	0	0							0.25
Mediation Count	4	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	2	1.10
Commendation Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26.90</b>

\*indicates a new category or a category that was not always captured by OIPM

## CURRENT BUDGET



OIPM Budget Description	Amount
Personnel	\$1,004,380.00
Operating	\$186,668.00
2025 Total OIPM Budget	\$1,191,048.00
2025 Total OIPM Budget	\$1,191,048.00
Amounts Spent to Date:	\$84,767.00
Unexpended funds	\$1,106,281.00



# MISCONDUCT WORK

## Relevant Definitions

### Complaint

A complaint is an allegation of misconduct filed against a NOPD officer(s) by a member of the public or civilian (external) or another officer (internal). A complaint may concern an action or lack of action taken by a NOPD officer(s), an interaction with a NOPD officer, or a witnessed interaction with a NOPD officer.

### Complainant

A complainant is the individual who files a complaint against a NOPD officer(s). A complainant may be generated internally (by another officer or a supervisor) or externally (by a member of the public). The complainant does not need to be personally affected by the incident.

### OIPM Complaint Codes

When the OIPM receives a complaint referral, the OIPM organizes the complaint according to the source of the complaint.

- Civilian based complaints are classified as: CC.
- Complaints from police officers are classified as: PO.
- Complaints from civilians working within the NOPD are classified as: CN.
- Anonymous complaints are classified as: AC.

### Misconduct

Officer action or failure to take action that violates any rule, policy, procedure, order, verbal or written instruction of the NOPD or is a violation of any city ordinance, state or federal criminal law. Misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

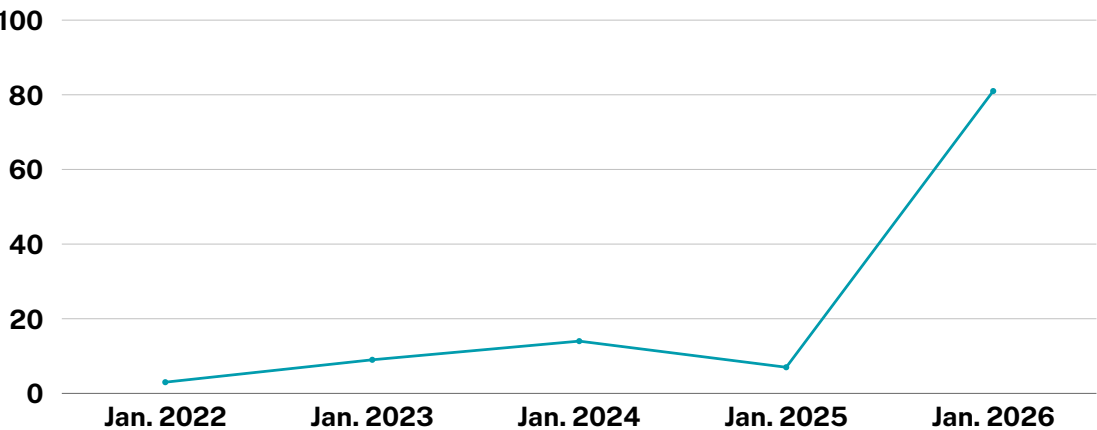
- Use of Force
- Abuse of Authority such as unlawful searches and seizures, premises enter and search, no warrant, threat to notify child services, threats to damage of property, etc., refusal to take complaint, refuse to identify themselves, damages to property seized
- Failure to supervise
- Falsification of records
- Inappropriate language or attitude
- Harassment
- Interference with Constitutional rights
- Neglect of duty
- Discrimination in the provision of police services or other discriminatory conduct on the basis of race, colors, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation
- Theft
- Retaliation for filing complaint with NOPD or the OIPM

## Complaint Procedures

The OIPM does not verify the statements made during complaint intake or agree with the statements provided by the complainant. 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. OIPM personnel may review information in NOPD systems regarding the interaction complained of, including body worn camera video, in car camera video, electronic police reports and field interview cards. The OIPM may include information obtained from NOPD information systems in the complaint referral.

The OIPM assesses whether in the information provided should be provided confidentially or if the OIPM would recommend covert operations conducted by the Special Investigation Squad (SIS). Anything shared in this report is public information.

## Complaint Totals - January



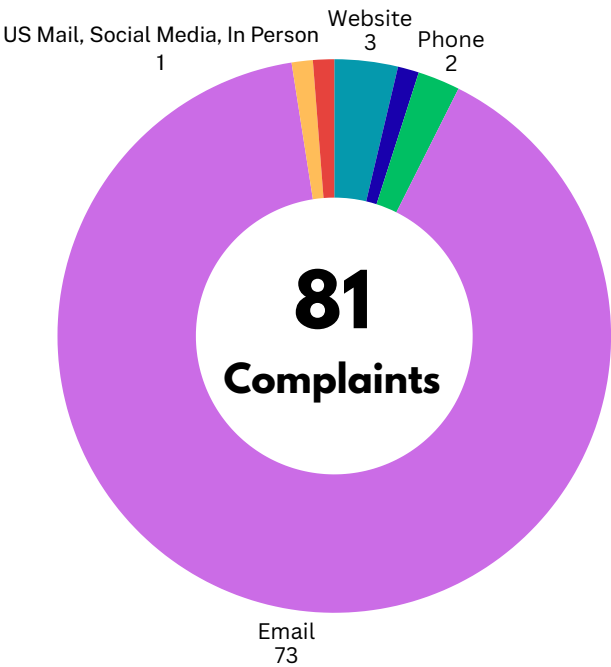
81

Total Complaints  
Received this  
month

81

Total Complaints  
Received This  
Year

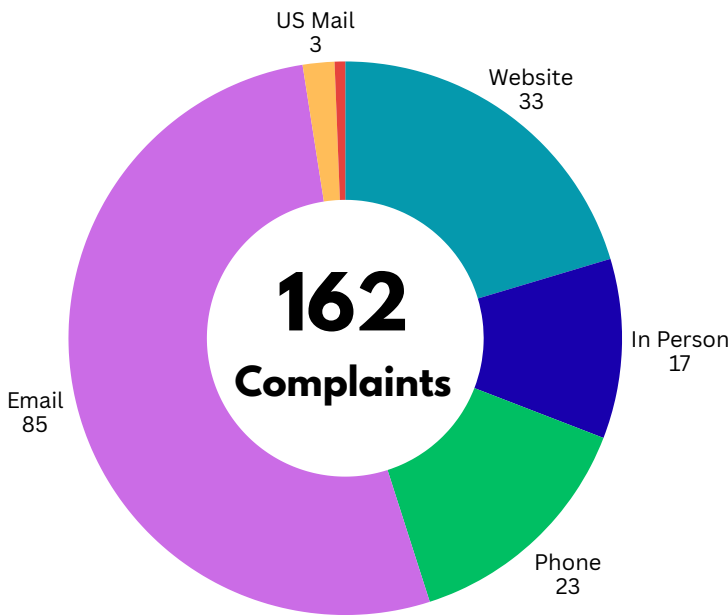
## Complaint Intake Source - 2026



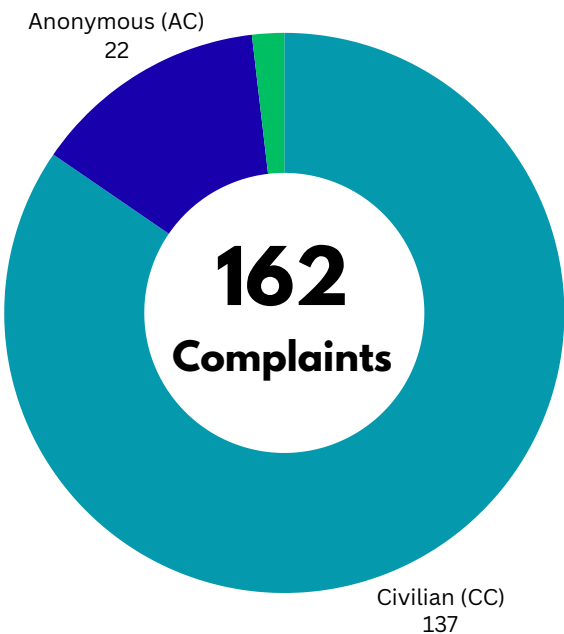
## Complainant Type - 2026



## Complaint Intake Source - Past 12 Months



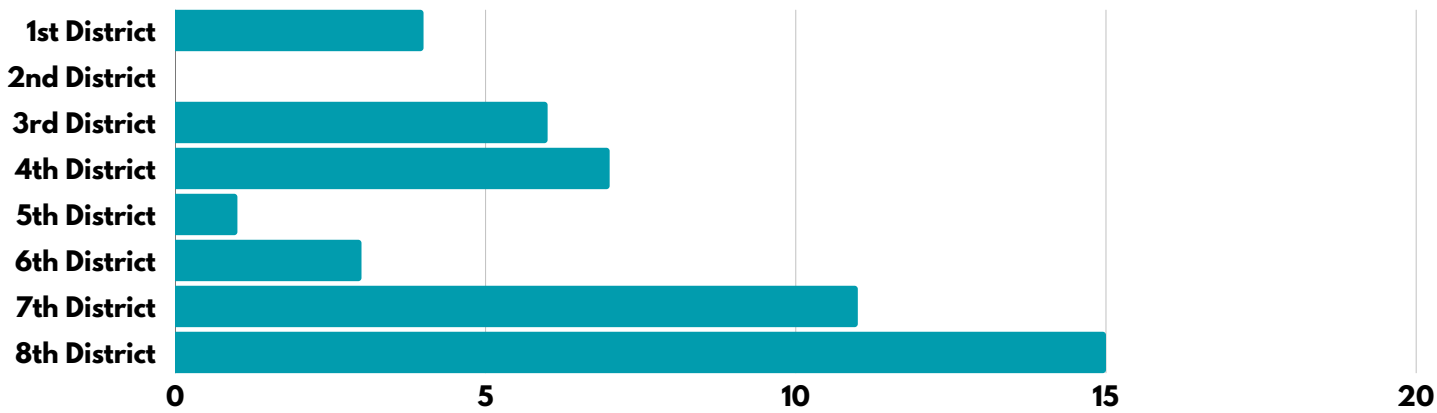
## Complainant Type - Past 12 Months



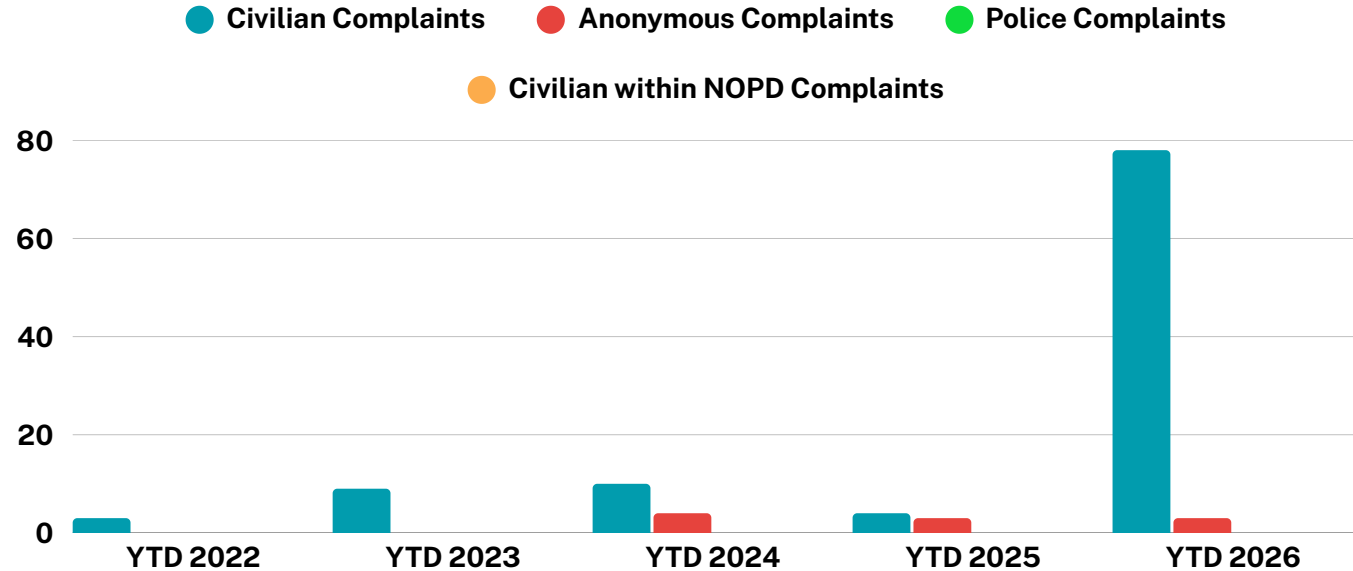


# Districts - Past 12 Months

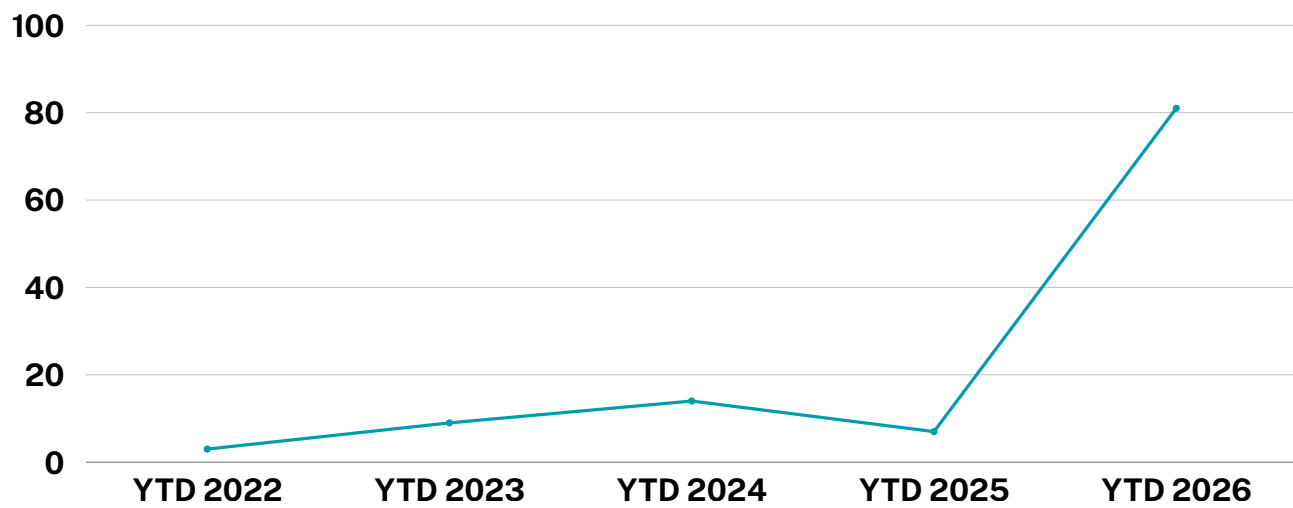
This chart communicates where the alleged misconduct occurred by police district. This requires the misconduct to occur in a physical space (instead of an incident that occurs over the phone or internet for example). This is based on complainant disclosure and the OIPM tries to verify this information through electronic police reports, body worn camera footage, and field identification cards.



## Complaint Type YTD - 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026

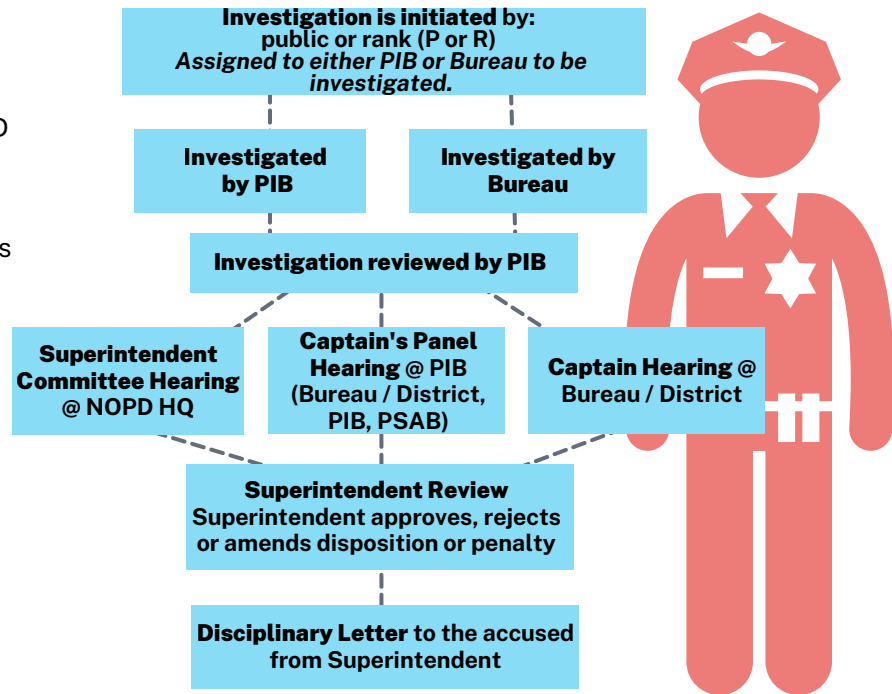


## Complaint Totals YTD - 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026



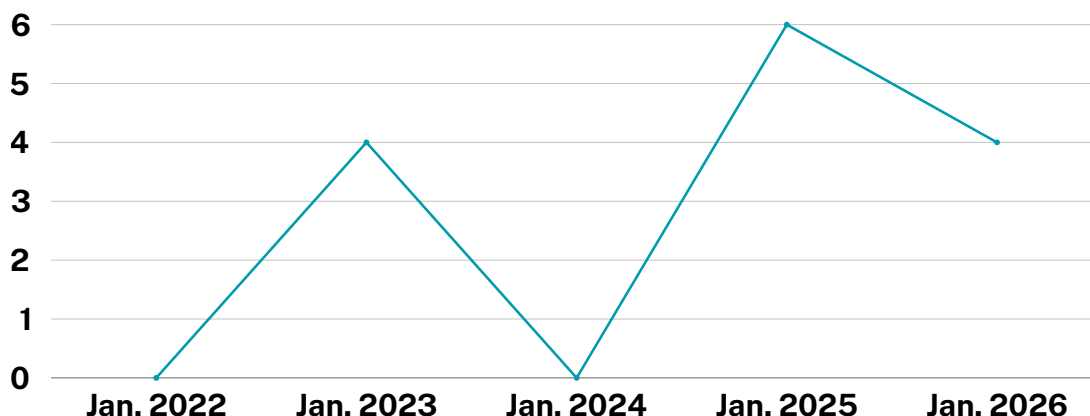
# DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

After the misconduct investigatory process, if the investigating officer sustained an allegation, then that allegation must be affirmed by NOPD leadership in order for that accused officer to be disciplined. This occurs through the disciplinary proceeding process. The disciplinary proceedings are conducted by the NOPD - either by Captains or Deputy-Chiefs. The OIPM monitors and assesses the efforts of NOPD to ensure all disciplinary investigations and proceedings are conducted in a manner that is non-retaliatory, impartial, fair, consistent, truthful, and timely in accordance with NOPD policies and law. Adjudication of misconduct is handled internally by the PIB or the Bureau of the officer / employee.



The OIPM may monitor the process conducted by the PIB or by the Bureau; however, under the MOU, there are detailed directions regarding how the OIPM is notified of investigations by the PIB and similar protocol does not currently exist for Bureaus. For that reason, the OIPM tends to be more involved with investigations and disciplinary proceedings conducted by the PIB. During every disciplinary proceeding, the OIPM remains in the room for deliberation with the NOPD leadership to give the hearing officers feedback and input. This process is how the OIPM provides our recommendations and feedback regarding the strength of the investigation, liability and risk management concerns, and areas where the policy required clarification or was being applied inconsistently. Though OIPM may provide this feedback in memorandums to the NOPD prior to the hearing or supplementing these hearings, these discussions during the deliberation process enable the NOPD to consider and digest our points before any final decision was made on the matter. These discussions are an opportunity for the OIPM to provide and receive insight into the NOPD investigation and often these comments lead to meaningful discussion with not just the hearing officers, but the assigned investigator on the case, since it was an opportunity for that investigator to explain investigatory decisions and to answer questions.

## Disciplinary Proceedings - January



4

**Total  
Disciplinary  
Case Received  
this Month**

OIPM tracks Disciplinary Proceedings based on the date notice is received from NOPD and not necessarily on when the disciplinary proceeding occurs. Additionally, this figure does not account for investigations in which multiple officers are accused, or for hearing notifications received in a prior year but rescheduled to the current month. These proceedings are often rescheduled for scheduling conflicts. Tracking by notification date allows for consistent and accurate data collection.



# USE OF FORCE

## Relevant Definitions

### Critical Incident

Critical incidents are an internal definition that was agreed upon by the OIPM and the NOPD through the November 10, 2010 Memorandum of Understanding. This definition captures that the OIPM should be notified of deaths, certain levels of injuries, and officer involved shootings within an hour so the OIPM has the ability to monitor the on scene investigation by the Force Investigation Team. According to this shared definition, critical incidents are:

- All incidents including the use of deadly force by an NOPD officer including an Officer Involved Shooting ("OIS");
- All uses of force by an NOPD officer resulting in an injury requiring hospitalization;
- All head and neck strikes with an impact weapon, whether intentional or not;
- All other uses of forces by an NOPD officer resulting in death; and
- All deaths while the arrestee or detainee is in the custodial care of the NOPD.

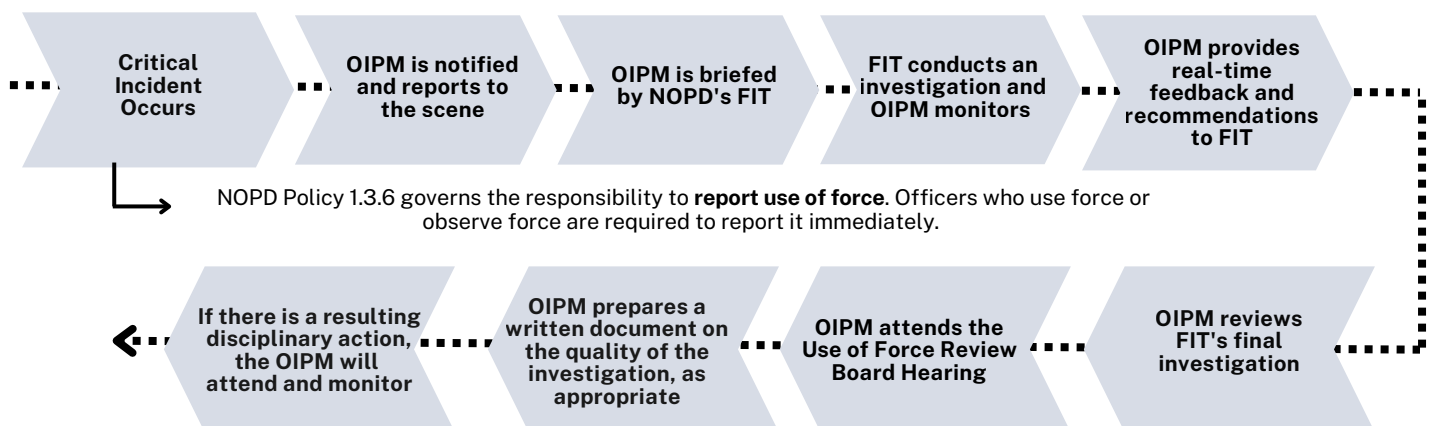
### Use of Force

Use of Force is when an officer uses physical contact on an individual during a civilian-police interaction. The force can be mild to severe based on the levels of force outlined in the NOPD policy. The force may be considered justified by NOPD policy considering the facts and circumstances known to the officer at the time which would justify that appropriate physical contact based on how officers are trained to handle that interaction. Force will be assessed based on the type of contact utilized compared to the resistance encountered, resulting injuries, witness statements, officer statements, and evidence found.

### Levels of Force

- **Level 1:** Includes pointing a firearm at a person and hand control or escort techniques (e.g., elbow grip, wrist grip, or shoulder grip) applied as pressure point compliance techniques that are not reasonably expected to cause injury; takedowns that do not result in actual injury or complaint of injury; and use of an impact weapon for non-striking purposes (e.g., prying limbs, moving or controlling a person) that does not result in actual injury or complaint of injury. It does not include escorting, touching, or handcuffing a person with minimal or no resistance.
- **Level 2:** Includes use of a CEW also known as "tasers" (including where a CEW is fired at a person but misses); and force that causes or could reasonably be expected to cause an injury greater than transitory pain but does not rise to a Level 3 use of force.
- **Level 3:** Includes any strike to the head (except for a strike with an impact weapon); use of impact weapons when contact is made (except to the head), regardless of injury; or the destruction of an animal.
- **Level 4:** Includes all 'serious uses of force' as listed below:
  - (a) All uses of lethal force by an NOPD officer;
  - (b) All critical firearm discharges by an NOPD officer;
  - (c) All uses of force by an NOPD officer resulting in serious physical injury or requiring hospitalization;
  - (d) All neck holds;
  - (e) All uses of force by an NOPD officer resulting in a loss of consciousness;
  - (f) All canine bites;
  - (g) More than two applications of a CEW on an individual during a single interaction, regardless of the mode or duration of the application, and whether the applications are by the same or different officers, or CEW application for 15 seconds or longer, whether continuous or consecutive;
  - (h) Any strike, blow, kick, CEW application, or similar use of force against a handcuffed subject; and
  - (i) Any vehicle pursuit resulting in death, serious physical injury or injuries requiring hospitalization.

## Critical Incident / Use of Force Chain of Events

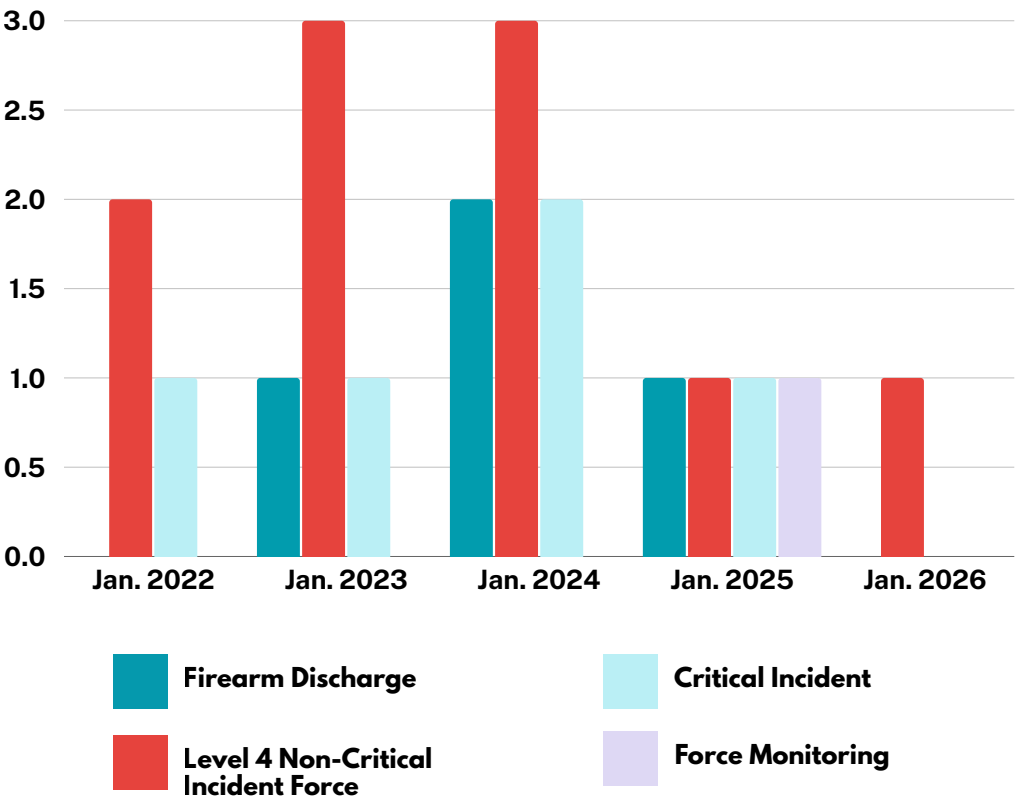


# Use of Force Work

Use of Force monitoring and reviews are an opportunity for the OIPM to conduct a qualitative assessment of an investigation to ensure thoroughness, timeliness, fairness, transparency, accountability, and compliance with law, policy, and the Federal Consent Decree. The OIPM monitors and reviews the use of force, in-custody death, and critical incident investigations conducted by the Force Investigation Team (FIT) within the Public Integrity Bureau (PIB) of the NOPD. The OIPM is required by City Code § 2-1121 and by the MOU to monitor the quality and timeliness of NOPD’s investigations into use of force and in-custody deaths. The OIPM will attend the investigation or the relevant activity, and will document the activity taken and not taken by the NOPD. The expectation is that the OIPM representative does not participate in the activity, but instead observes the police actions and takes notes.

While OIPM is notified of each use of force that occurs, OIPM gives the most attention to the most serious uses of force incidents, Critical Incidents. However, OIPM will often review lower-level uses of force incidents to ensure NOPD policy is being upheld.

## Use of Force This Month 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026



**0**  
**Firearm Discharge this Month**

**0**  
**Critical Incidents this Month**

**1**  
**Level 4 Non-Critical Use of Force this Month**

**0**  
**Additional Force Monitoring this Month**

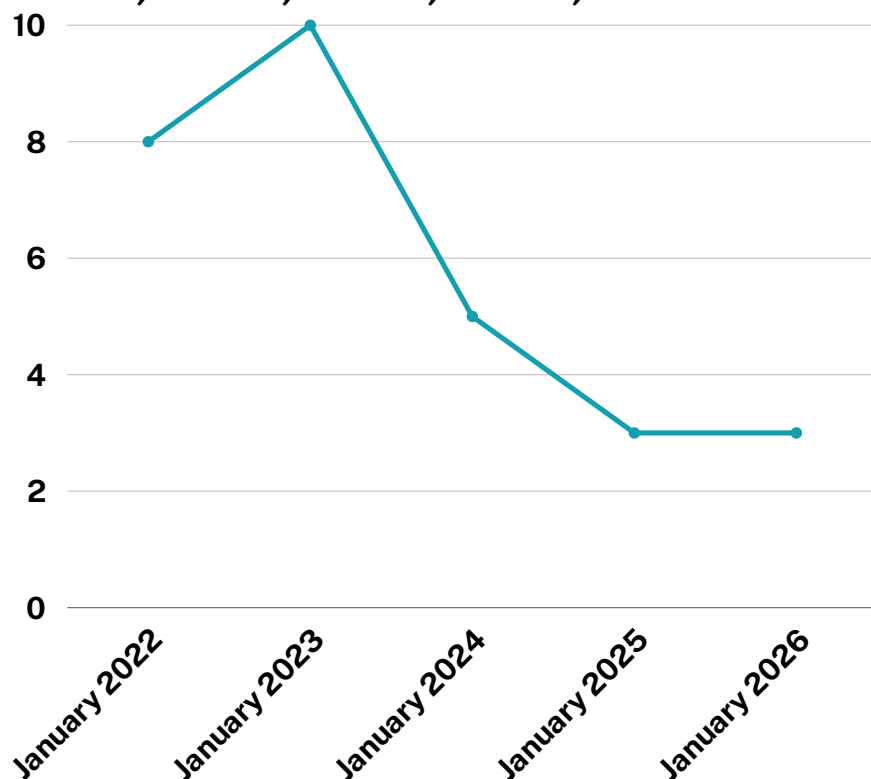


# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community is vital to police oversight and the center of the work conducted by the OIPM. In the Memorandum of Understanding, the OIPM committed to developing relationships with community and civil groups to receive civilian and anonymous complaints, meeting with police associations, and conduct public outreach meetings and engagement activities. In this section of the Monthly Report, the OIPM explains the community outreach and public events that the OIPM coordinated or participated in the last month.

## Outreach - January

2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026



3

**Total Outreach  
Events this Month**



**Professor Armstrong and Author  
Terence Keel at “The Coroner’s  
Silence” Talk and Book Signing**

## Outreach Events

- Mediator In-service Training, January 15<sup>th</sup>
- Attended Community Conversations, hosted by Local Elected Leaders, January 21<sup>st</sup>
- Attended Author Terence Keel’s Talk and Book Signing for ‘The Coroner’s Silence’, January 27<sup>th</sup>



If you want to listen our Monitor’s Mic  
programming, it is all available online. You can  
listen on the OIPM website:

<https://nolaipm.gov/the-monitors-mic/>



**Community Conversations  
hosted by Sen. Royce Duplessis**

# COMMUNITY-POLICE MEDIATION

## What is Mediation?

Mediation is an alternative to the traditional process of resolving complaints of police officer misconduct. Mediation provides a process facilitated by two professionally-trained community mediators to create mutual understanding and allow the officer and civilian to be fully heard and understood in a non-judgmental way. Mediation creates a safe, neutral space for officers and civilians to speak for themselves, share about their interaction and how it impacted them, explain what is important to them, and come to their own agreements and solutions about moving forward.

The Public Integrity Bureau (PIB) of the NOPD determines which complaints are referred to the Mediation Program. The types of complaints that are most often referred to mediation are those that allege lack of professionalism, neglect of duty, or discourtesy.

Complaints such as unauthorized use of force, unlawful search, and criminal allegations are ineligible for mediation and continue through the formal complaint investigation process by the PIB.

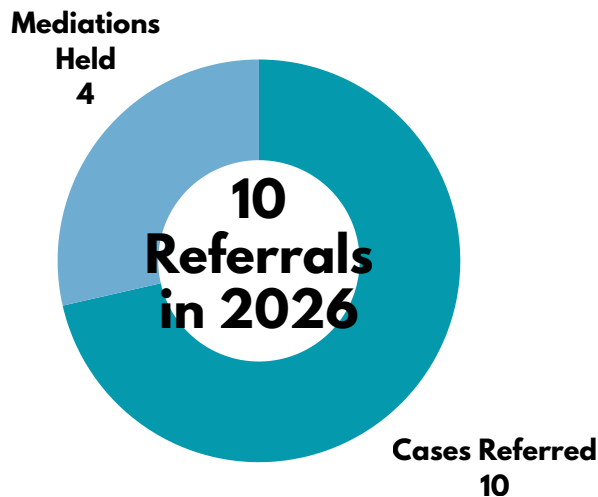
### Voluntary

All participants engage in mediation at their own free will. They can end the process at any time and will not be forced to do anything or say anything they do not want to. No one is forced to agree to anything they do not want to.

### Consent

All parties must voluntarily agree to participate in mediation and give consent. The consent process involves communication between the participant and the Mediation Director or program staff about the mediation process, what to expect, and clarification of any questions. Consent forms are signed in advance of confirming the mediation session.

## Mediation Numbers - January



## Post-Investigation / Cleared by Camera (CBC) Mediation Numbers - January



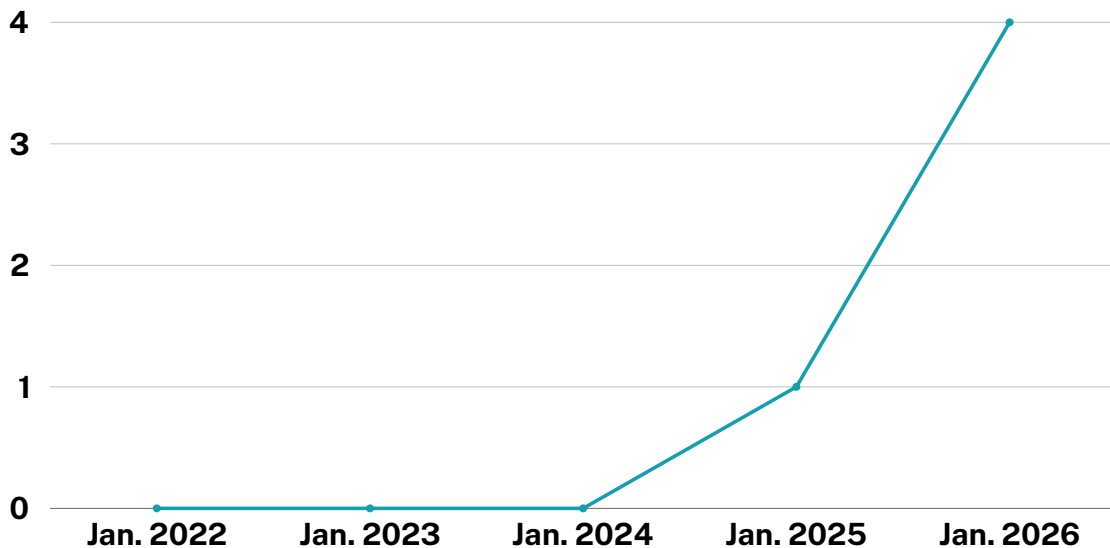
**Non-judgmental**  
**Confidential**  
**Voluntary**



**Mediation is:**

- ➔ A participant-guided process that helps the community member and the officer come to a mutually-agreeable solution. This helps to create mutual understanding and improve relationships.
- ➔ A space of discussion without the need to say who is right or wrong. No evidence is needed. The mediators are not judges. The mediators do not present their thoughts on the issue.
- ➔ It's about dialog, not forced resolutions. People are not forced to shake hands or make-up. The role of the mediators is to be neutral 3rd party facilitators. They will not pressure either participant to come to an agreement.
- ➔ An opportunity for the community member and the officer to be in charge of their own process and outcome. It will not be decided by an outside agency or person. It is outside of any punishment framework or the legal process. There is no appeal because mediation is voluntary.

**Total Mediations Held This Month  
2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026**

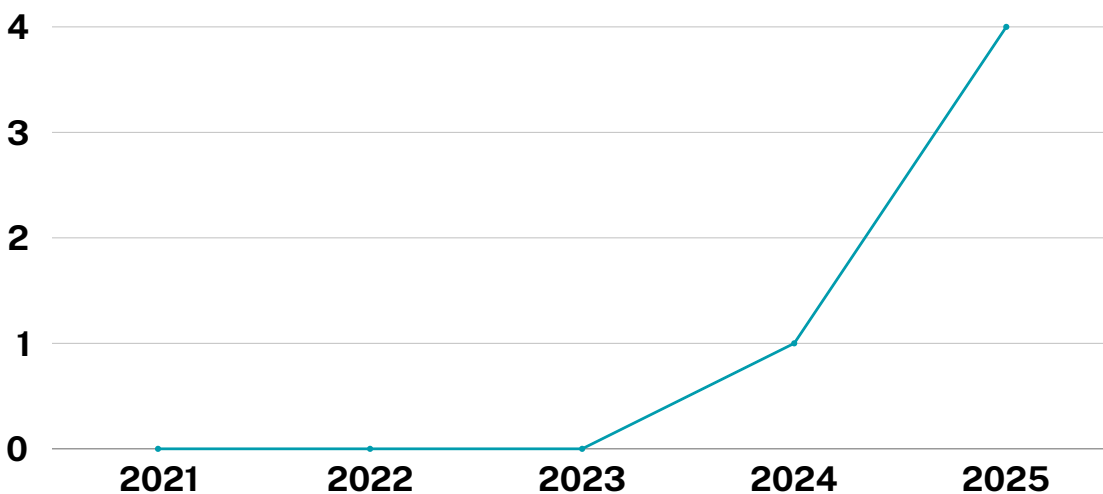


**4**

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**Total  
Mediations  
Held this  
month**

**Total Mediations Held YTD In  
2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026**



**4**

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**Total  
Mediations  
Held YTD**