

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT POLICE MONITOR

MONTHLY COMMUNITY REPORT

August 2026



Above, an OIPM bag hangs on the handlebars of a bike during the 2nd Annual GapFest in Pradat Park. There, the OIPM tabled with other organizations and talked to members of the community about our services.

Transparency. Accountability. Respect.



LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear New Orleans Community,

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall and New Orleans was forever changed. Now, over twenty years later, we reflect on the lasting impact of Hurricane Katrina. To ensure accountability during every hurricane and storm to follow, each year, the OIPM prepares and releases a comprehensive oversight strategy to be implemented during storms and in the immediate recovery afterwards: the **OIPM Hurricane and Emergency Oversight Plan**.

The OIPM's hurricane plan reviews the NOPD's Hurricane Policing Plan and creates clear and detailed rubrics on how the OIPM will both monitor and evaluate all policing actions regarding anti-looting protocol and curfews, use of force, and alleged misconduct that may occur. This plan is presented to the NOPD prior to any public release. This plan was released at the beginning of the hurricane season and is available now on the OIPM website.

Hurricane season is never easy, and the anniversary of such a catastrophic storm may be particularly triggering. On behalf of the OIPM, we extend our thoughts to all who are mourning a loved one or still healing from the pain that storm caused. If you or someone you know may benefit from receiving counseling services, **you can access wraparound free trauma recovery care from Seeds of NOLA at (504) 702-4335.**

In August, the OIPM started moving on some of the **recommendations our office received during the July IPM appointment meeting**. From following up with NOPD leadership on the accessibility of public dashboards with relevant crime data to meeting with city leadership to discuss the future of the Police Community Advisory Boards and revisit the OIPM's proposal to coordinate these boards, this month, the OIPM focused on looking for opportunities for collaboration and to execute the recommendations received from the public. In this report, readers can learn more about how the OIPM is looking ahead with these types of projects and more.

A few notes regarding information in this report. In this report, I revisit some of the topics discussed at the August Ethics Review Board meeting regarding **NOPD's staffing efforts**. On the page following that, there is information regarding **LeadsOnline, LLC**. In July, the contract renewal between LeadsOnline and the NOPD was brought to the OIPM's attention by a member of a partner organization who expressed concern regarding the yearly cost of the service. In August, the OIPM sought to follow up on this concern and in this report, we are sharing what we learned. On that note, if you have a question about a policing issue or would like more information about why the NOPD is operating the way it is - reach out to our office and so we can be a resource.

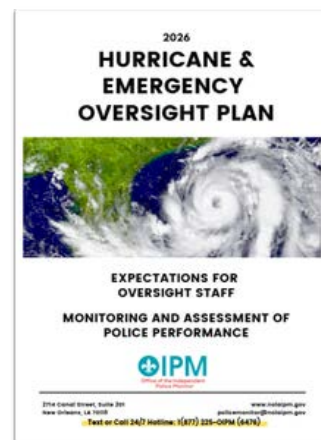
Finally, if you are a member of a community organization or a neighborhood association and **would like the OIPM to attend your meeting to discuss police oversight and how we can serve you, please let us know.**

As always, the OIPM thanks our partners and community for your continued support of this office.

Thank you,

Stella Cziment

Stella Cziment, Independent Police Monitor

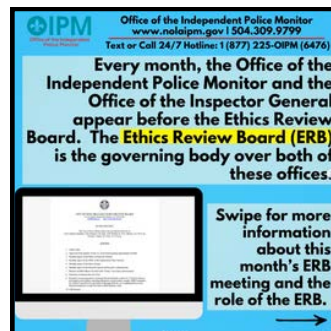


Above, the OIPM Hurricane & Emergency Oversight Plan released in June 2026.



Above, the OIPM tables at the Gap Fest neighborhood event in August.

Below is an informative post the OIPM shared in August about the role of the ERB, what happens at ERB meetings, and how the board positions are appointed.



In order to do our work regarding policing and the community, the Office of the Independent Police Monitor does partner with, work congruently, or may be physically near people who are political leaders, elected officials, or individuals seeking election but the Office of the Independent Police Monitor does not endorse any candidates.

ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

Coordination with Stakeholders and Partners

In August, the OIPM worked with stakeholders and partners to solve problems and ensure the public was being served. Below are some examples of how the OIPM worked with these stakeholders across city agencies and leadership at the NOPD over the last month.

In August, the **OIPM leadership met with the Deputy Chief of the Investigative Services Bureau and the Lieutenant of Homicide** to discuss concerns regarding death investigations conducted by the NOPD and the Orleans Parish Coroner's Office. During this meeting, the OIPM discussed: (1) a cold case that was referred to the OIPM from the Office of the Inspector General to learn if the OIPM could facilitate a meeting between the family of the deceased and the Homicide Division to potentially close the cold case investigation through use of an exception request; and (2) a death investigation that occurred in the Third District in 2025 that was investigated by the Coroner's Office. These meetings are a chance for the NOPD and the OIPM to share necessary information, review investigations, determine if policy was followed, find relevant answers to questions for the public and brainstorm how to move forward to serve the family of the deceased. Based on the information shared, the OIPM was able to communicate answers to the families and coordinate the next steps.



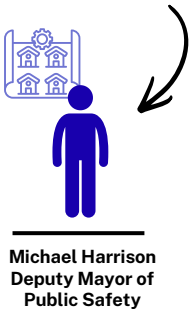
Above, the IPM and Deputy meet with Deputy Chief of the Investigative Services Bureau and the Lietenuant of the Homicide Division in NOPD Headquarters.

Second, **OIPM leadership met with Deputy Mayor of Public Safety (and former police chief), Michael Harrison**. During this meeting the OIPM discussed two matters: the recently filed complaint against Chief Kirkpatrick and what role, if any, the OIPM could play in the investigation of those concerns and the future of the Police Community Advisory Boards (PCABs). In this meeting, the OIPM provided Deputy Mayor Harrison with the OIPM's previously submitted proposal reimagining the role of the PCABs and recommending that the OIPM absorb the coordination of those boards. As mentioned in the July Community Report, there have been questions from PCAB members about the future of the PCABs - particularly since there were citywide budget cuts and there is no longer a dedicated employee coordinating the boards. This summer, there was a renewed interest in the OIPM potentially leading these boards to ensure that they remain operational and relevant post-Consent Decree. The OIPM discussed this with the Deputy Mayor and explained what our coordination of the PCABs could include. As explained, ultimately our concern is that this valuable engagement mechanism will be lost without continued support from the city - and the OIPM is well suited to be that support.

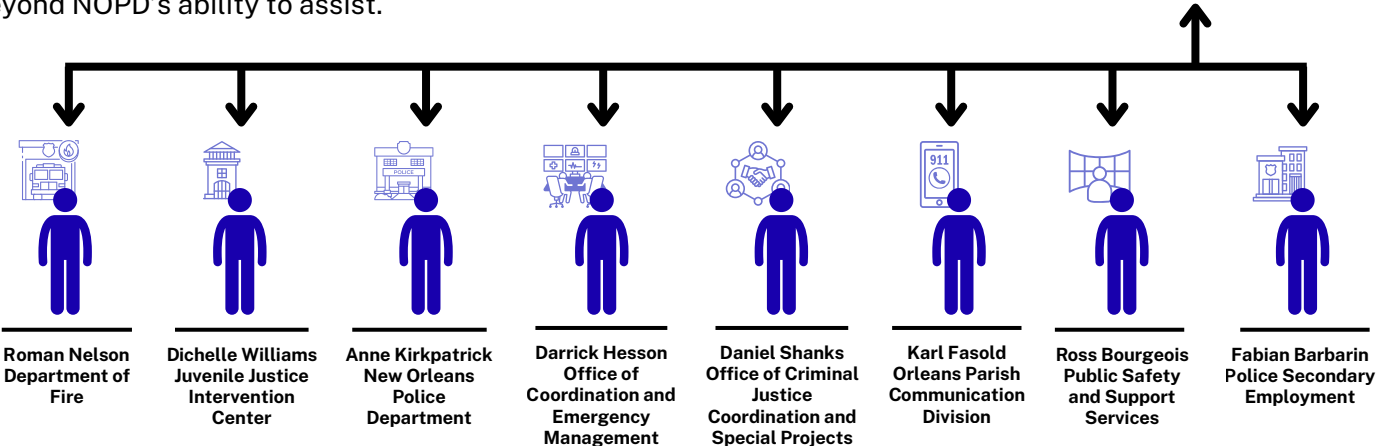


Above, the OIPM meets with Deputy Mayor Harrison.

Below is an organizational chart explaining the different divisions and functions overseen by Deputy Mayor Michael Harrison to explain the importance of our collaboration.



The third example of collaboration and coordination in August is the **OIPM's participation in a cross-agency meeting for public safety offices coordinated by Deputy Mayor Michael Harrison**. During this meeting, different public safety organizations shared asks to one another. The OIPM requested that the Coroner's Office communicate how to get information regarding death investigations and how to advise families to proceed if they have questions on these cause of death reports that go beyond NOPD's ability to assist.



ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

Recognizing the Teams Behind the Officers: Professional Staff Award Ceremony for the NOPD

On August 27, 2026, the Office of the Independent Police Monitor joined the NOPD and city leadership in acknowledging the support staff at the NOPD who help keep the police department operating and serving the public.

The purpose of these ceremonies is to recognize the teams behind the commissioned officers. These are the support teams that do the administrative, operational, logistical, and sometimes investigative work that helps move police investigations forward. These types of award events improve departmental morale and will strengthen efforts to retain staff. The OIPM is happy to participate in these efforts and to support the individuals who are doing the work, at every level, for our community.




Shout Out!
Have you had a positive experience with support staff or an officer at the NOPD? Let us know about it so we can submit a letter of commendation for their file.



Coffee with the IPM at Uptown Starbucks

In August, the OIPM hosted a “Coffee with the IPM” event in the community. This community event was held at an uptown Starbucks on Magazine and State Street. These events are informal opportunities for members of the public to speak directly with OIPM leadership about policing, oversight, and the services our office provides.

This month, we talked with members of the public who belong to neighborhood associations in the area and residents grabbing a coffee on the way to work who wanted to know more about how to collaborate with our office or access our services.

We greatly appreciate all of the community members, visitors, and coffee drinkers who took the time to join us, ask questions, and engage in meaningful conversation.

Let us know what neighborhood you would like to see host the next Coffee with the IPM event!



Above, Independent Police Monitor, Stella Cziment, and Deputy Police Monitor, Kirschelle Williams, talk to members of the public at the “Coffee with the IPM” at the Uptown Starbucks.



ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

NOPD Staffing and Deputized City Employees

On August 18, the IPM appeared before the Ethics Review Board and answered questions about NOPD's workforce and efforts made to reduce work where possible for commissioned officers. Now, the IPM would like to follow up on that information and correct a statement that the IPM has learned is not correct about the deputization of city civilian employees.

NOPD Workforce: Civilian and Commissioned Employees

First, regarding NOPD's staffing numbers. The IPM confirmed that as of mid-August, this is the **current workforce of the NOPD**:



915
Commissioned Officers



360
Civilian Employees



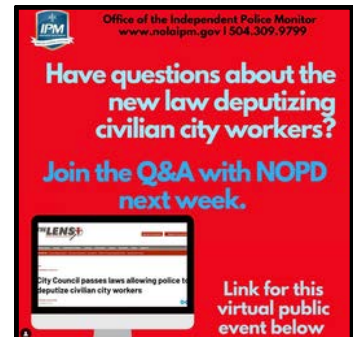
1200
Ideal Number of Commissioned Officers

Deputized City Employees

Second, the IPM made public comments regarding the effort to deputize city employees in order to shift the workload from commissioned officers. At the end of 2021, the NOPD announced that they would deputize select city workers in order for those workers to issue citations in instances of illegal dumping, blight, and other environmental, hazard, and code related responses.

In December 2021, §50-86 of the New Orleans City Code was revised by City Council to grant the ability for specific city employees to take oaths and verify affidavits so they can issue citations for code violations. Departments included in this revised ordinance were the Department of Public Works, Department of Sanitation, Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security, and the Mosquito, Termite and Rodent Control Board. This power enabled the city departments with the expertise on those issues to conduct the regulation and response necessary without the presence of an officer. The envisioned goal was to reduce the NOPD's workload; but the OIPM also highlighted that this is a real step to also reducing or eliminating unnecessary police interactions in the community.

However, according to the NOPD, after this was rolled out in 2021, the actual implementation of this process was stalled and eventually abandoned. There were concerns regarding the safety of the city employees issuing the citations on those sites. **Now, it is the understanding of the OIPM that only the NOPD is issuing these citations.**



In 2021, the OIPM advertised this public forum with the NOPD regarding the (then) new law allowing for city employees to be deputized in order to reduce NOPD's workload.

To the left is an example of how the municipal city code was amended in 2021 to allow for the Superintendent of Police to deputize city employees to receive enforcement and citation powers in order to "police" on issues related to sanitation, illegal dumping, and other code related offenses.

Sec. 138-37. - Penalties; certain violations.

(a) Violators of sections 138-38, 138-39, 138-41, 138-42, 138-43, 138-44, 138-45, 138-46 and 138-47 shall, upon conviction or plea of guilty, be punished as follows:

- (1) The first conviction of a violation shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$150.00;
- (2) The second conviction of a violation shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$250.00;
- (3) For a third conviction and each subsequent offense, a fine of not less than \$500.00 or imprisonment of no less than five days nor more than 90 days or both.

Owners, agents, including commercial haulers, and/or occupants of property may be charged with violations of these sections.

(b) In accordance with section 4.502(2) of the charter, the superintendent of police is hereby authorized to grant enforcement and citation powers to employees of the department of sanitation for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of sections 138-38, 138-39, 138-41, 138-42, 138-43, 138-44, 138-45, 138-46 and 138-47. Such powers, which may be granted by the superintendent of police, shall be in addition to the normal enforcement and citation powers of the police department.

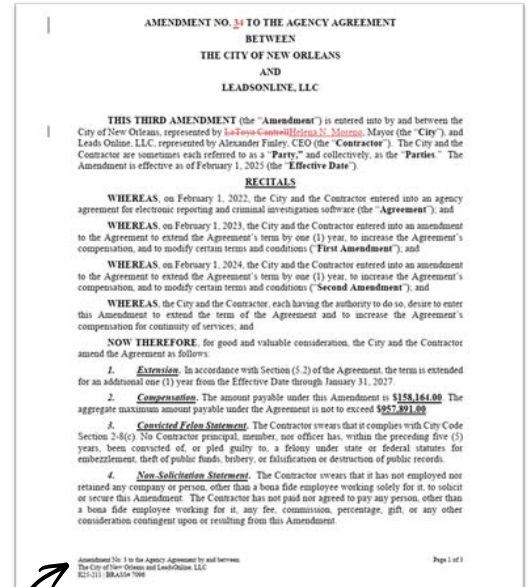
(Code 1956, § 28-1.1; M.C.S., Ord. No. 22601, § 1, 4-19-07; M.C.S., Ord. No. 28883, § 1, 12-16-21)

ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

Understanding the Consent Agenda Item regarding the Renewal of NOPD's Contract with LeadsOnline, LLC

In July, the OIPM received a concerned message from a member of a partner organization regarding LeadsOnline, a service provider to the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD). The contract renewal for LeadsOnline appeared on the Consent Agenda for the City Council, and upon review, the individual was concerned regarding how much the NOPD is paying for LeadsOnline yearly. There was a request for the OIPM to review the matter to determine if the NOPD was paying too much for the program compared to other similarly sized police departments in other parishes in Louisiana and municipalities across the country as there appears to be variations in price. To fulfil that request, below is what the OIPM has learned in our preliminary review. This includes an overview of what LeadsOnline is, what services are provided by LeadsOnline, and some clarity around the varying costs of this service.

At this time, the OIPM is not able to determine if other parishes or municipalities are paying less, the same, or more for the same suite of services as NOPD, but, the hope is that this brief review will provide more information to the public and more transparency to the expense while we continue to determine if this cost is on par with other law enforcement agencies.



Above is the contract renewal that appeared on the Consent Agenda for the Criminal Justice Committee of City Council twice over summer and eventually was approved via vote on August 31, 2026.

What is LeadsOnline?

LeadsOnline is a service provider of a suite of programs available to law enforcement agencies:



LeadsOnline

- Documents and tracks the sale of used items.
- This includes: pawnshops, scrap metal, and other secondhand dealers (antique stores are exempt). This database is used to identify and recover stolen goods, identify those who are selling stolen items, document and identify patterns in the transactions, and track the sales across jurisdictions.



NightHawk

- This service collects and creates timelines from data and information downloaded from (sometimes seized) devices – like calls, texts, social media, and locations. Effectively, it collects all of this data and compiles it into one timeline so a narrative can be developed of what happened, who knew, when it happened, and where it most likely happened.



CellHawk

- CellHawk does a similar compilation of data as NightHawk, but includes mobile and geo-location data gained from cell towers, GPS logs, and other platforms that collect digital forensics. Effectively, when a law enforcement agency receives this raw data, CellHawk will compile it into a narrative to be able to track and map movement of the devices.



Toolbox

- Toolbox is an online resource site with templates and guides on how to access cellular and other data from providers.

ACHIEVEMENTS, UPDATES, & WORK

Understanding the Consent Agenda Item regarding the Renewal of NOPD's Contract with LeadsOnline Continued



Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS)

- LeadsOnline also acquired IBIS which is an Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS). IBIS is utilized by law enforcement agencies to match bullets and shell casings to firearms within a shared database like **BrassTrax** (for cartridge cases) and **BulletTrax** (for bullets). Previously, this service was provided by the Department of Justice; however, now, it's been acquired by LeadsOnline as a service provided in its platform that law enforcement agencies can purchase.

NOPD utilizes both LeadsOnline to track and document secondhand sales in Orleans Parish and the IBIS platform's BulletTrax and BrassTrax for gun related crime.

The IBIS platforms are utilized by the NOPD's Crime Lab within the Investigative Services Bureau while the LeadsOnline is utilized by the individual police districts within the Field Operations Bureau.

At this time, the OIPM anticipates there are **approximately 57 users of LeadsOnline** within the department regarding secondhand searches with an **average of 260 monthly log on activities** and **3,000 searches** of approximately **10,000 transactions** a month. In Orleans, **26 different companies** report to LeadsOnline and have data populate those searches for the detectives searching for stolen items. This data is limited to just the secondhand search platform on LeadsOnline and does not include Crime Lab use of IBIS.

Because of the nature of the platform, and the different services police and law enforcement agencies can purchase, it is difficult to say definitively whether NOPD's contract amount is out of step with other similarly situated agencies. Costs may vary depending on which platform features an agency has purchased, the number of users, or how heavily the platform is used.

Again, the OIPM appreciates the interest and concern of the public in the contracts and services that the NOPD is purchasing from vendors - especially while the city is facing a budgetary crisis. **The OIPM wants our community to be informed about these decisions and to engage with our police department, our office, and our elected officials on these issues.**

If there is a policing matter that you would like additional information or transparency about - please reach out to our office.



57

Approximate Users of LeadsOnline within NOPD



260

Approximate Average Log On Activities a Month



3,000

Approximate Average Searches a Month of 10,000 Transactions



26

Companies Reporting to LeadsOnline in Orleans Parish



\$158k

Annual Cost of NOPD's contract with LeadsOnline Platform (including the IBIS platforms)

The user numbers above do not include Crime Lab use of the IBIS platforms of LeadsOnline.

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	143	38	79	79	44	47	48	55	17	27	57.70
Police Complaint Count	0	1	1	0	1	4	2	1	4	2	1.60
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.10
Anonymous Complaint	13	16	16	11	23	19	23	0	0	0	12.10
Community Liaison Count	18	13	12	24	11	19	29	15	3	6	15.00
Case Monitoring Count	0	4	2	3	7	4	9	0	9	8	4.60
Case Review Count	0	0	0	1	4	4	2	4	8	0	2.30
Contact Only Count	25	33	75	36	25	14	27	14	2	4	25.50
FDI Notification Count	34	24	35	33	42	20	42	38	53	21	34.20
Disc. Hearing Attended Count*	36	31	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.50
Critical Incident Count	3	8	4	3	5	7	9	8	5	6	5.80
Firearm Discharge Count	4	8	3	2	5	6	8	7	3	3	4.90
Lvl 4 Non-Critical	8	9	14	7	16	6	8	0	0	0	6.80
Force Monitoring*	3	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.00
Mediation Count	17	24	24	22	14	15	25	25	16	21	20.30
Commendation Count	3	1	6	5	0	6	1	4	0	2	2.80
Community Outreach Events	52	42	69	44	77	14	20	3	0	0	32.10
Grand Total	359	253	373	271	274	186	253	174	120	100	236.30

	Aug 2026	Aug 2025	Aug 2024	Aug 2023	Aug 2022	Aug 2021	Aug 2020	Aug 2019	Aug 2018	Aug 2017	2017 - 2026 Avg
Civilian Complaint Count	9	6	7	10	4	7	3	8	5	7	6.60
Police Complaint Count	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1			0.50
Civilian w/in NOPD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0.00
Anonymous Complaint	1	1	3	1	2	0	1				1.29
Community Liaison Count	3	1	1	4	1	1	2	1	1	0	1.50
Case Monitoring Count	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0.50
Case Review Count	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0.50
Contact Only Count	1	2	13	6	5	2	1	0	0	0	3.00
FDI Notification Count	5	4	18	4	14	2	2	2	1	4	5.60
Disc. Hearing Attended Count*	11	6	16								11.00
Critical Incident Count	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.20
Firearm Discharge Count	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0.40
Lvl 4 Non-Critical	3	3	3	0	4	2	0				2.14
Force Monitoring*	0	0	2	0							0.50
Mediation Count	2	4	4	3	1	2	4	0	2	0	2.20
Commendation Count	1	0	1	2	0	3	0	3			1.25
Community Outreach Events	4	3	9	6	15	2					6.50
Grand Total	41	31	78	36	47	24	16	15	16	13	31.70

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

CURRENT BUDGET



OIPM Budget Description	Amount
Personnel	\$944,243.00
Operating	\$216,663.00
2026 Total OIPM Budget	\$1,160,906.00
2026 Total OIPM Budget	\$1,160,906.00
Amounts Spent to Date:	\$730,317.00
Unexpended funds	\$430,589.00

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 complaint 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:

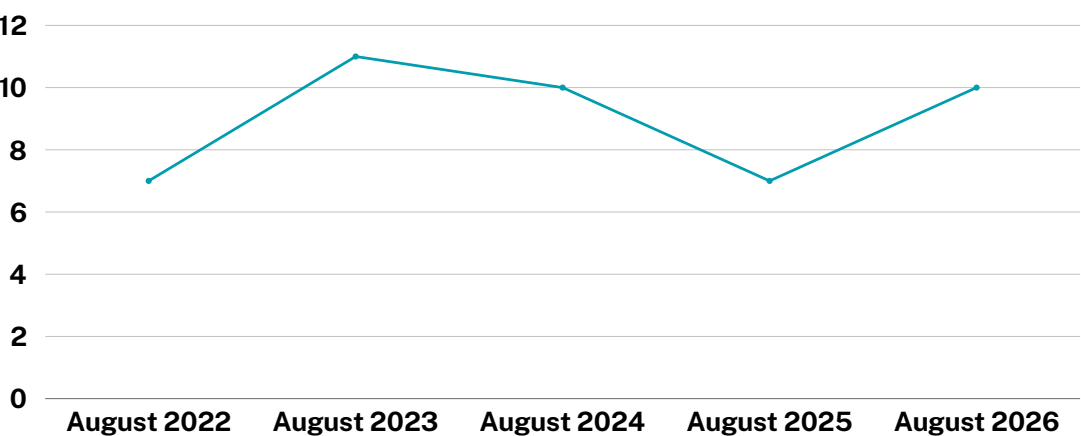
- Use of Force
- Abuse of Authority: such as unlawful searches and seizures, enter and search of premises with no warrant, threat to notify child services, threats to damage of property, refusal to take complaint, refuse to identify themselves, damages to property seized
- Failure to supervise
- Falsification 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 - August



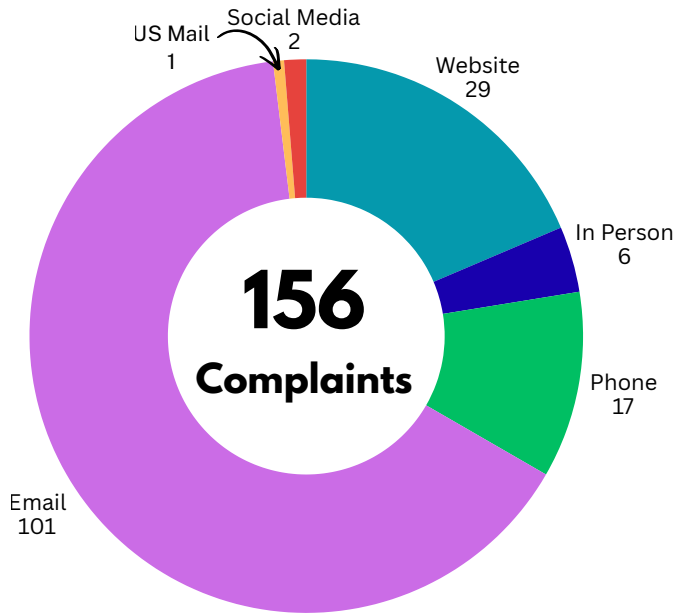
10

Total Complaints
Received this
month

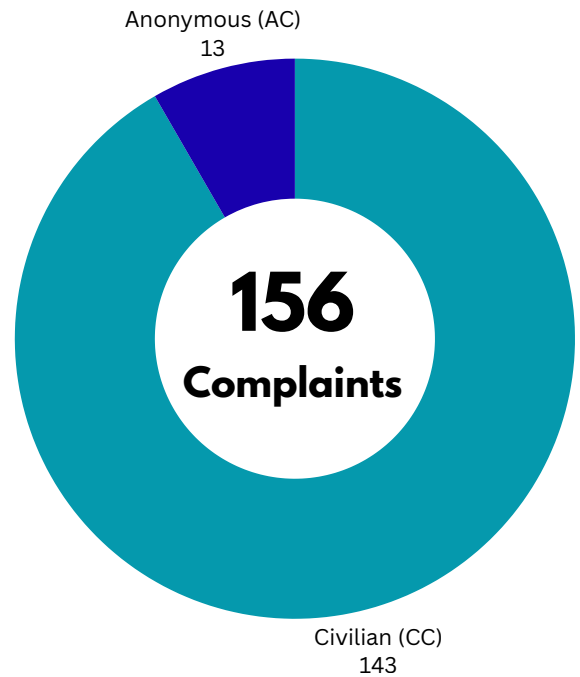
156

Total Complaints
Received This
Year

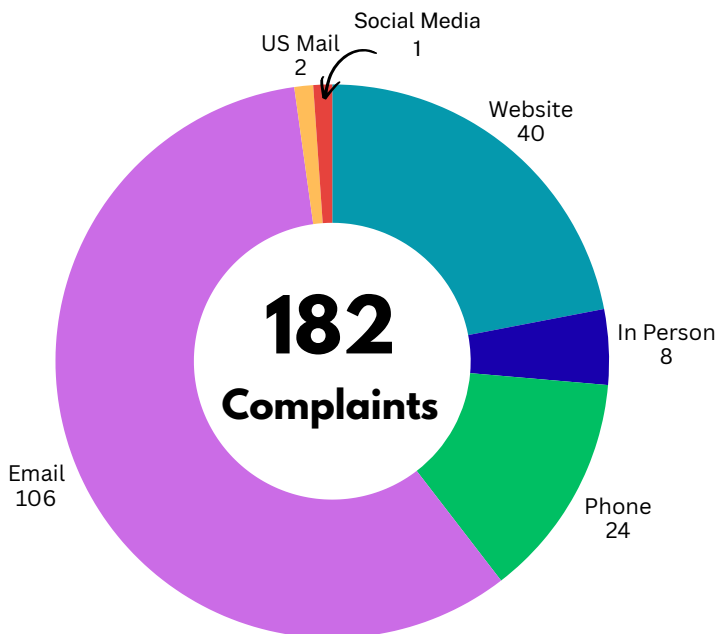
Complaint Intake Source - 2026



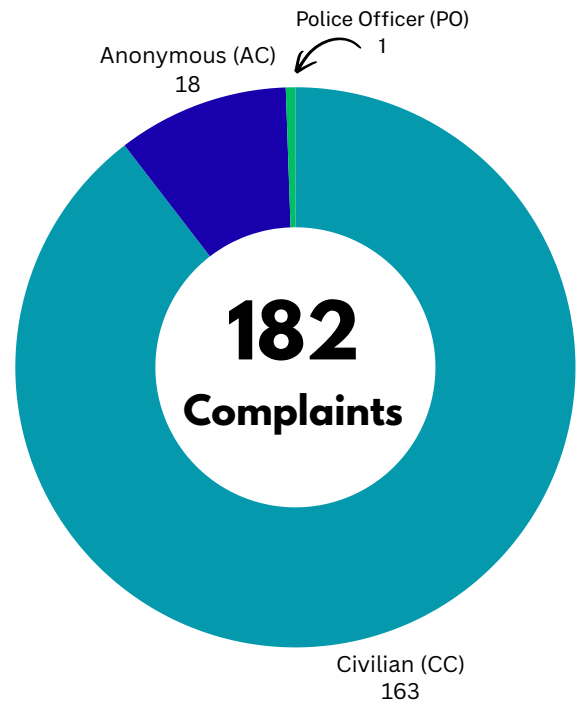
Complainant Type - 2026



Complaint Intake Source - Past 12 Months



Complainant Type - Past 12 Months



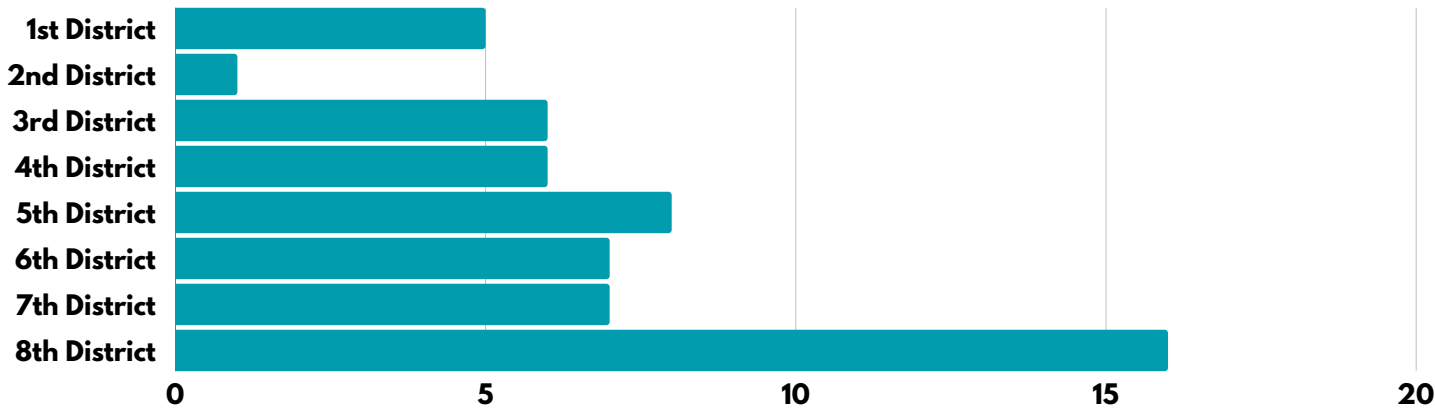
How Can You Submit Complaints?

You can file a complaint with us in several ways:

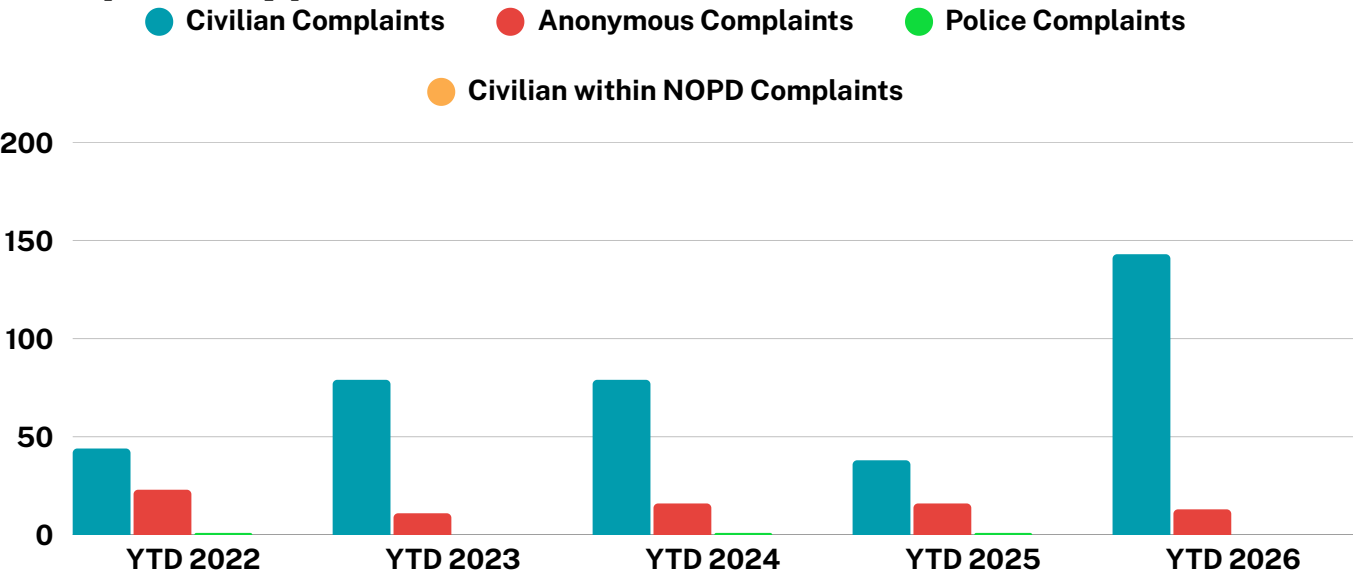
- Through our website: www.nolaipm.gov
- By calling or texting our 24-hour hotline: **1-877-225-6476 (OIPM)** (available in English, Spanish, or Vietnamese)
- By visiting our office in person: **2714 Canal Street, Suite 201**
- By mailing us a complaint: **2714 Canal Street, Suite 201**
- Emailing us a complaint: policemonitor@nolaipm.gov

Districts - Past 12 Months

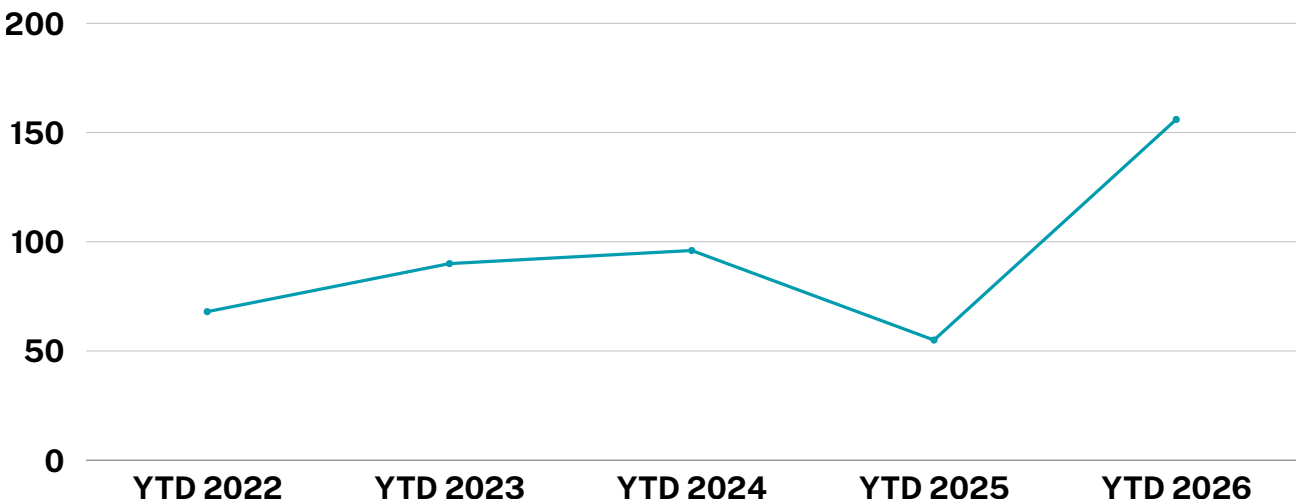
This chart communicates where the alleged misconduct occurred by police district. This requires the misconduct to occur in a physical space (instead of an incident that occurs over the phone or internet for example). This is based on complainant disclosure and the OIPM tries to verify this information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



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

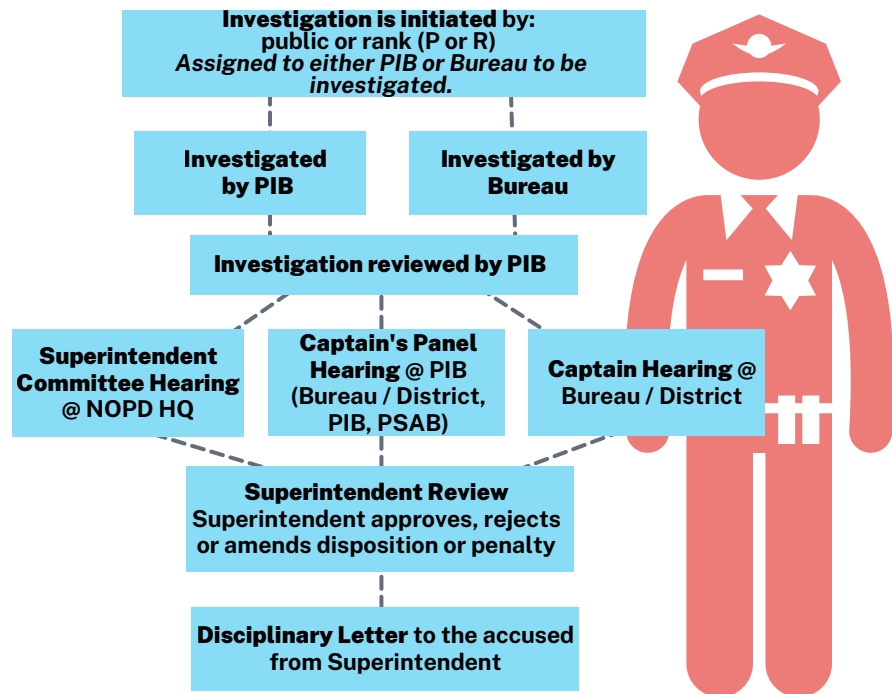


Complaint Totals YTD - 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026



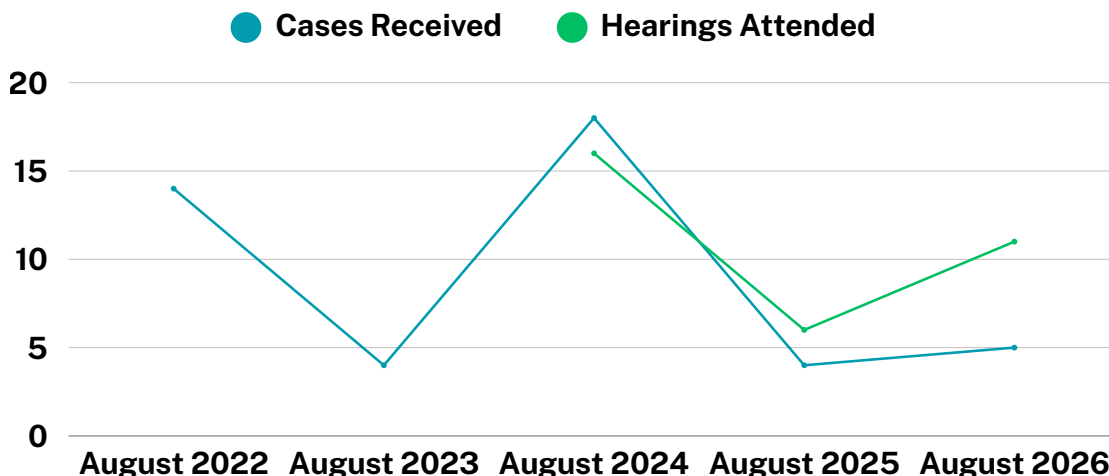
DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

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 - August



5

**Disciplinary
Cases Received
this Month**

11

**Disciplinary
Hearings Attended
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.

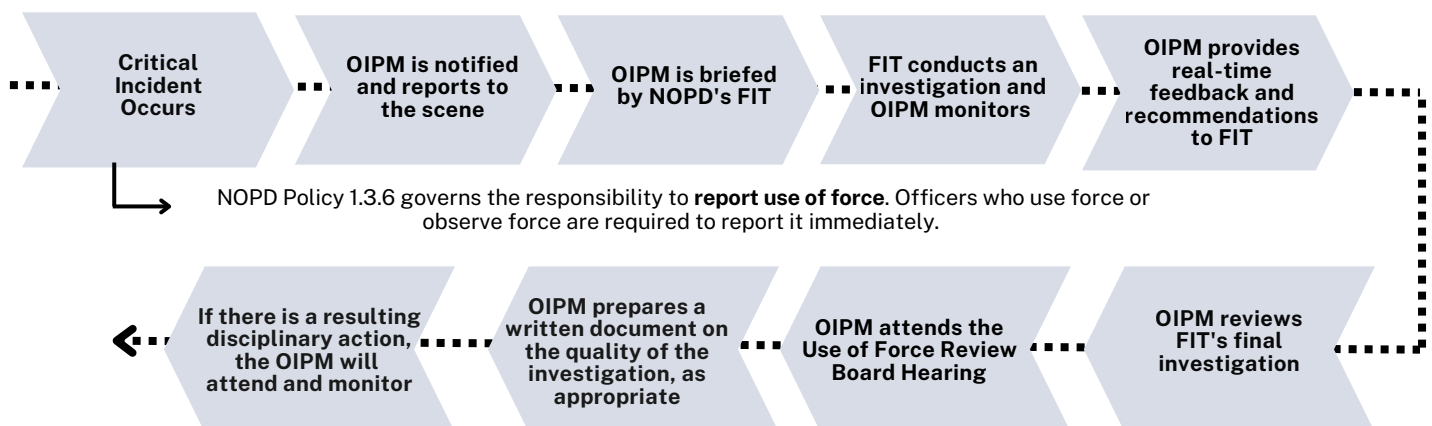
Use of Force

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

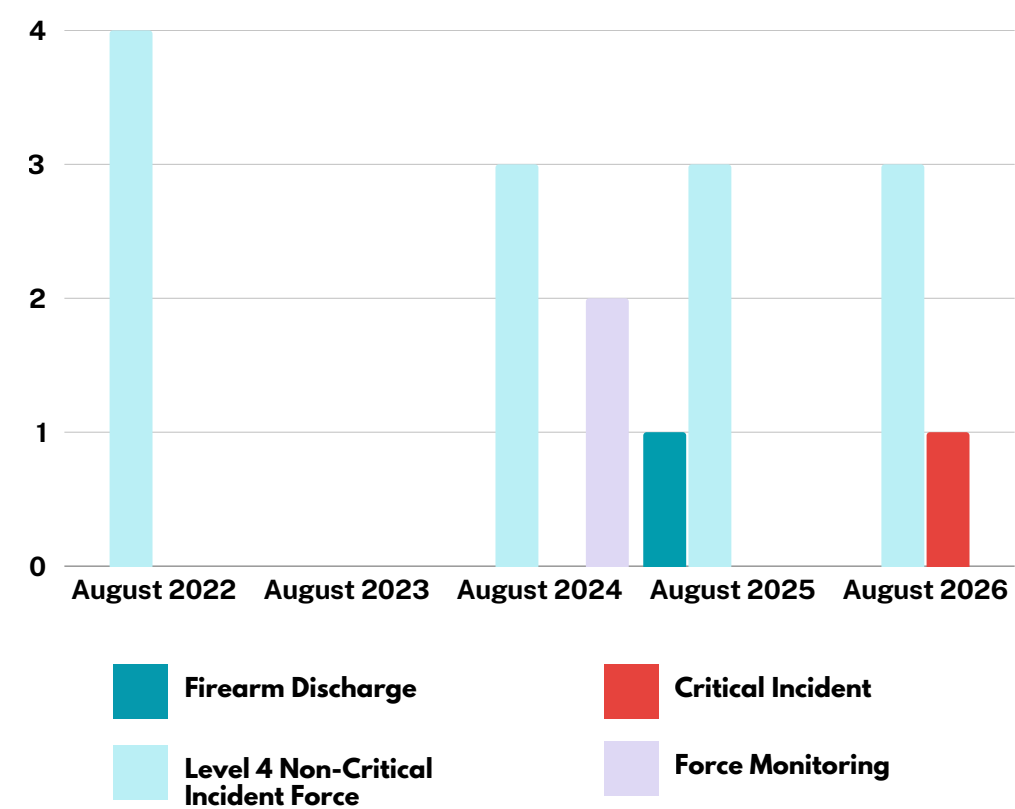


Use of Force Work

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 and policy. 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

1

Critical Incidents this Month

3

Level 4 Non-Critical Use of Force this Month

0

Additional Force Monitoring this Month

2

On-Scene Monitoring

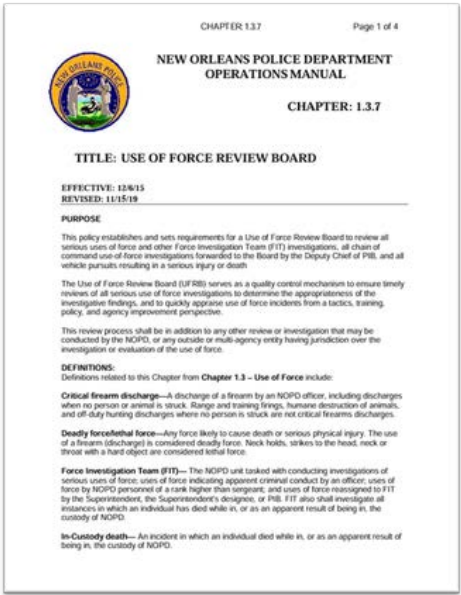
Use of Force Review Board (UFRB)

The Use of Force Review Board (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.

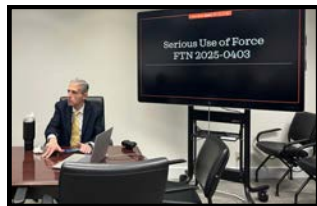
The voting members of the UFRB are the Deputy Chiefs of Field Operations Bureau, Public Integrity Bureau, and Investigations and Support Bureau. Other NOPD deputy chiefs and commanders serve as non-voting members, and outside groups like OIPM, are invited to observe, listen and participate in discussion.

The FIT investigator prepares a written report, presents the cases, and provides recommendations to the Use of Force Review Board (UFRB). The Board makes the final determination of whether a NOPD officer's use of force is within policy, regulations, and guidelines based on the facts and evidence presented in the investigation. The force is evaluated using NOPD Policy Chapter 1.3. If the Board determines the use of force violated NOPD policy, the Board will refer it to PIB for disciplinary action.

By policy, UFRB should occur every 30 days to review use of force incidents or investigations that have been submitted since the prior UFRB meeting. The month, the UFRB was held on **August 13, 2026**, reviewing **3** cases.



Above is the NOPD's Use of Force Review Board policy.



When a UFRB is held, the OIPM receives the cases ten (10) days before the hearing and has approximately one week to review the investigation and respond with our questions and feedback prior to the hearing. The OIPM attends the Use of Force Review Board as a nonvoting member of the board and provides input and assessments. The OIPM may provide feedback formally or informally prior to the UFRB. The OIPM often provides feedback to FIT investigators throughout the entirety of the investigation.

13

UFRB cases heard YTD in 2026

21

Total UFRB cases heard in 2025

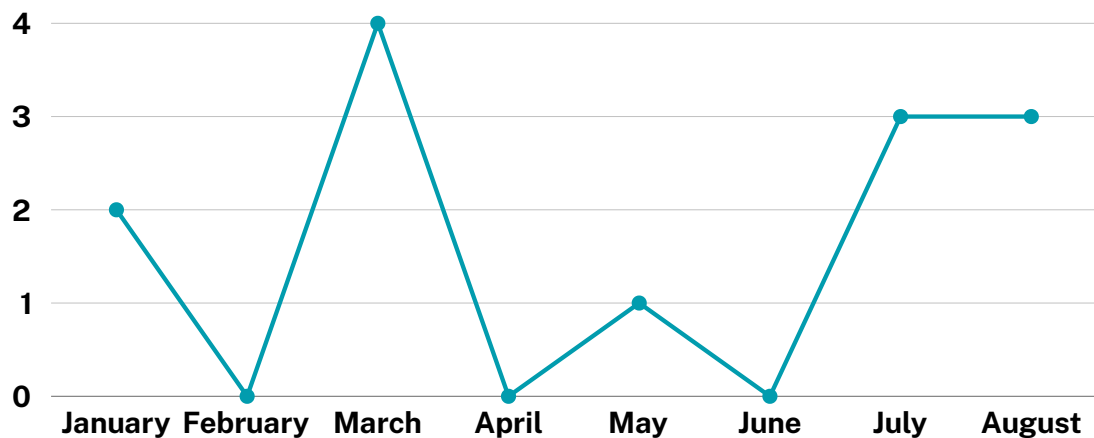
25

Total UFRB cases heard in 2024

18

Total UFRB cases heard in 2023

UFRB Cases Heard By Month: 2026



COMMUNITY-POLICE MEDIATION

What is Mediation?

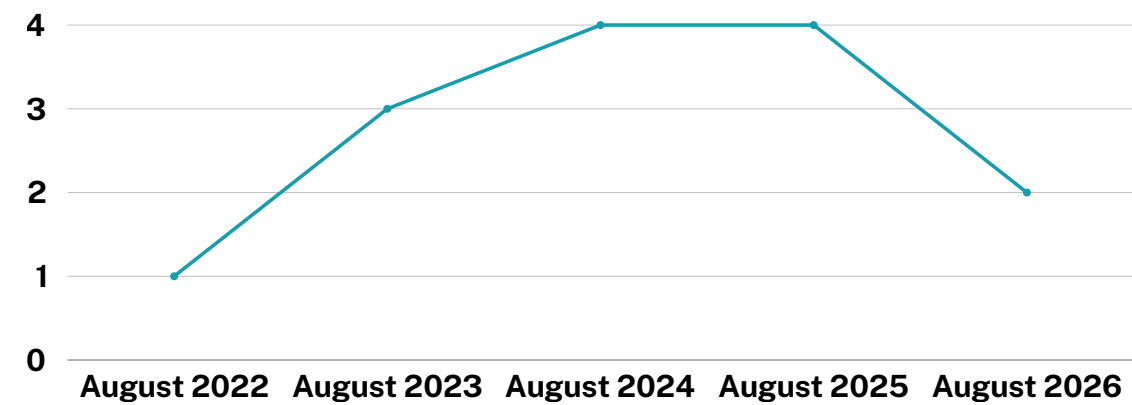
Mediation is an alternative to the traditional process of resolving complaints of police officer misconduct. Mediation provides a process facilitated by two professionally-trained OIPM community mediators to create mutual understanding and allow the officer and civilian to be fully heard and understood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

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. The consent process involves communication between the participants - in the community and within the NOPD - and the OIPM Mediation Director or OIPM 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.

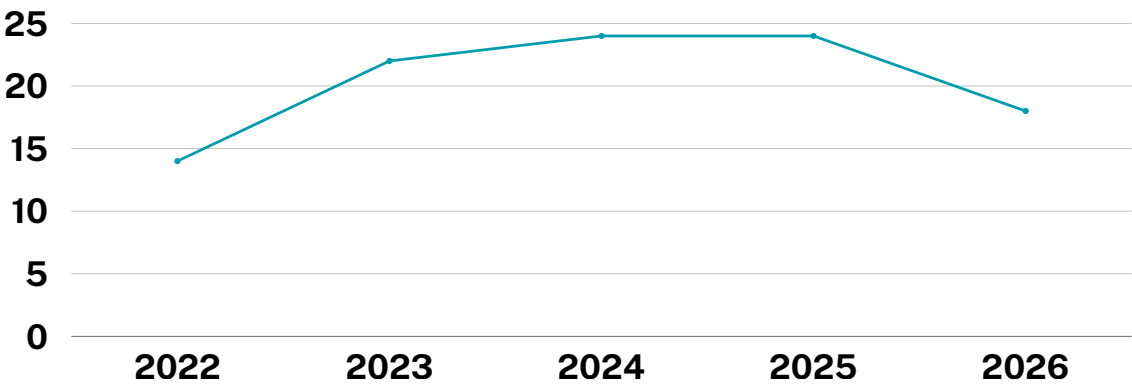


Total Mediations Held This Month 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026



2
Total Mediations Held this Month

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



17
Total Mediations Held YTD

Different Types of Mediation, Different Types of Cases

The OIPM Mediation Program has grown over the years and now includes different types of mediation opportunities, cases, and corresponding processes. Below, are the three (3) different streams of mediation work that the OIPM currently provides:

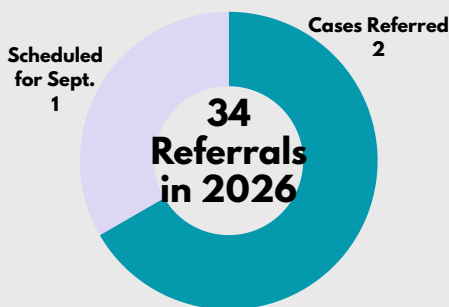
Community-Police Mediation Program

Referred by PIB through the Formal Disciplinary (FDI) Investigation Process

This is the original program that began at OIPM in 2014, and continues to be the main component of our mediation work. This program involves complaints that are marked as Formal Disciplinary Investigations (FDI) by PIB.

These complaints are referred to us by PIB if they are eligible for mediation according to NOPD Policy Chapter 52.3. Mediation is offered as an alternative to the traditional investigation process.

Community-Police Mediation Program Numbers - August



Employee to Employee Mediation Numbers - August



Upon request from the NOPD, the OIPM Mediation program will conduct peer-to-peer mediation to serve employee conflict within NOPD. The OIPM has received two of these requests in 2026

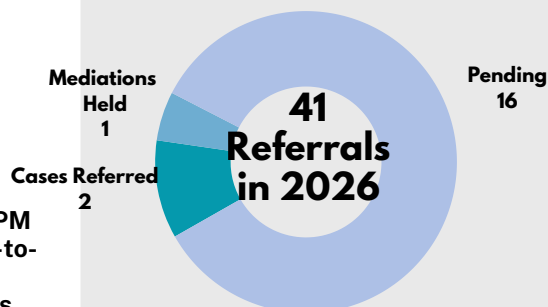
Post-Investigation Mediation

Referred by PIB through the Cleared By Camera (CBC) Process and OIPM Selection and Referrals

Beginning in 2024, we began offering Post-Investigation Mediation. This offers officers and community members a chance for mediation after the complaint investigation has concluded, if it was marked by PIB as Not-Sustained, Exonerated, or Unfounded. While the goals of mediation and the process are the same as our regular program, this expands the option of mediation and allows people to engage without giving up their opportunity for investigation. For example, if a community member is dissatisfied with the investigation outcome, this is a chance to be heard, gain clarity, and share their perspective.

Referrals can come in different methods like from the community, the OIPM, or PIB.

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



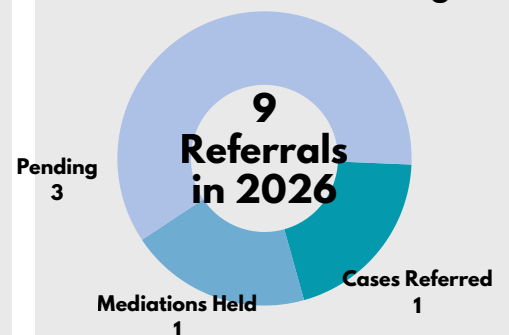
District-Based Community Mediation

Referred by District Captains and District Staff, Self Referred by Members of the Community

In 2025, we piloted a new initiative: District-Based Community Mediation. This program addresses conflicts in the community where calling the police is not providing a sufficient solution. For disagreeing parties, our mediators can now help facilitate a dialogue and support community members to find a solution. Some examples include disputes around noise, parking, property lines/fences, lighting, garbage, or pets. The service is geared towards families, business owners, or neighbors and the goal is to use mediation to save police resources, prevent issues from escalating, and help create sustainable solutions.

Referrals can be received directly from community members or from officers who have responded to a call for service and think mediation could be helpful. We have provided outreach materials and a simple online referral form so that any officer or community member can reach out with a referral. Officers now carry a business-card sized info card that they can hand out to members of the public they encounter that could benefit from mediation.

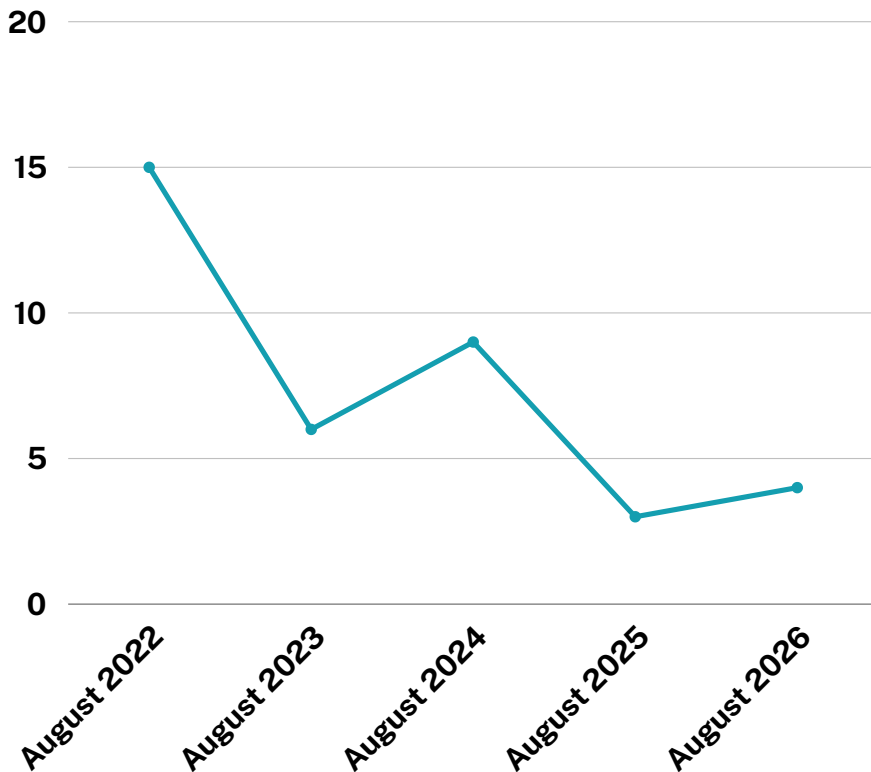
Community District Based Mediation Numbers - August



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 - August 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026



4

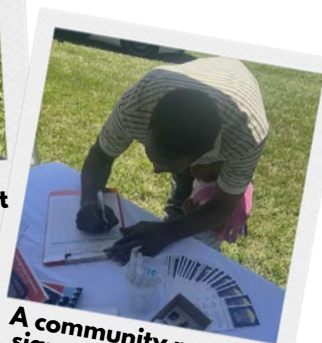
**Total Outreach
Events this Month**

Outreach Events

- Community-Police Mediation Network Meeting (Virtual)
- Tabled at Gap Fest in New Orleans East
- Coffee with the IPM at Starbucks Uptown
- NOPD Special Staff Awards Ceremony



A family stops by the OIPM tent at Gap Fest in New Orleans East.



A community member signs up for emails at Gap Fest.

OIPM's Monitor's Mic Radio Shows

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/>

