

Internal Affairs
Annual
Statistical
Summary 52.1.5

2020

Administration Division - Office of Professional
Standards

2020 Internal Affairs Annual Report

This Department recognizes the importance of establishing and implementing complaint and discipline procedures to monitor staff's conduct and eliminate any problems that the Department might find. The Department's integrity is paramount; all allegations of misconduct will be investigated, regardless of source.

The Office of Professional Standards Internal Affairs (IA) Investigator reports directly to the Chief of Police. The IA investigator(s) has full authority to investigate without interference from any Department member. Complaints handled by the Office of Professional Standards are categorized as a 303IA or a Departmental Complaint.

- **303IA Investigations** – Generated complaints related to a specific, identifiable incident of alleged misconduct involving a member of the public and a uniformed or on-duty peace officer as described in CRS 24-72-303.
- **Departmental Internal Investigations (DIA)** – Internal complaints or concerns of a significant nature that involve allegations that may result in suspension or termination and do not relate to a specific, identifiable incident of alleged misconduct involving a member of the public by an in-uniform or on-duty peace officer
- **Departmental Inquiry (IQD)** – Internal complaints or concerns that the Department takes a proactive stance to investigate. The member's supervisor generally investigates complaints of this type.
- **Citizen Inquiry (IQC)** – External complaints or concerns from citizens that the Department takes a proactive stance to investigate. The member's supervisor generally investigates complaints of type.
- **Problem Response Form (PRF)** – A method to track citizen-generated concerns that are not officer-related issues or are referred to another agency for jurisdiction issues.

This report is prepared each year by the Office of Professional Standards and is submitted to the Chief of Police and command staff. The report summarizes allegations of misconduct made against Department members and provides a comparison to the previous year. The information is then used to identify patterns of misconduct or the need for additional training. The Office of Professional Standards retrieved the following data from the IAPro software utilized by this office for statistical reporting purposes.

2020 303IA Investigations

IA Number	Allegation Category	Allegation Origin	Disposition	Result
303IA2020-001	Warrantless Search	Citizen	Unfounded	-
303IA2020-002	Pursuit Review	Department	Sustained	Member Resignation
303IA2020-003	Probable Cause for Arrest	Department	Partially Sustained	Letter of Reprimand
303IA2020-004	Pursuit Review	Department	Sustained	Member Resignation

Synopsis

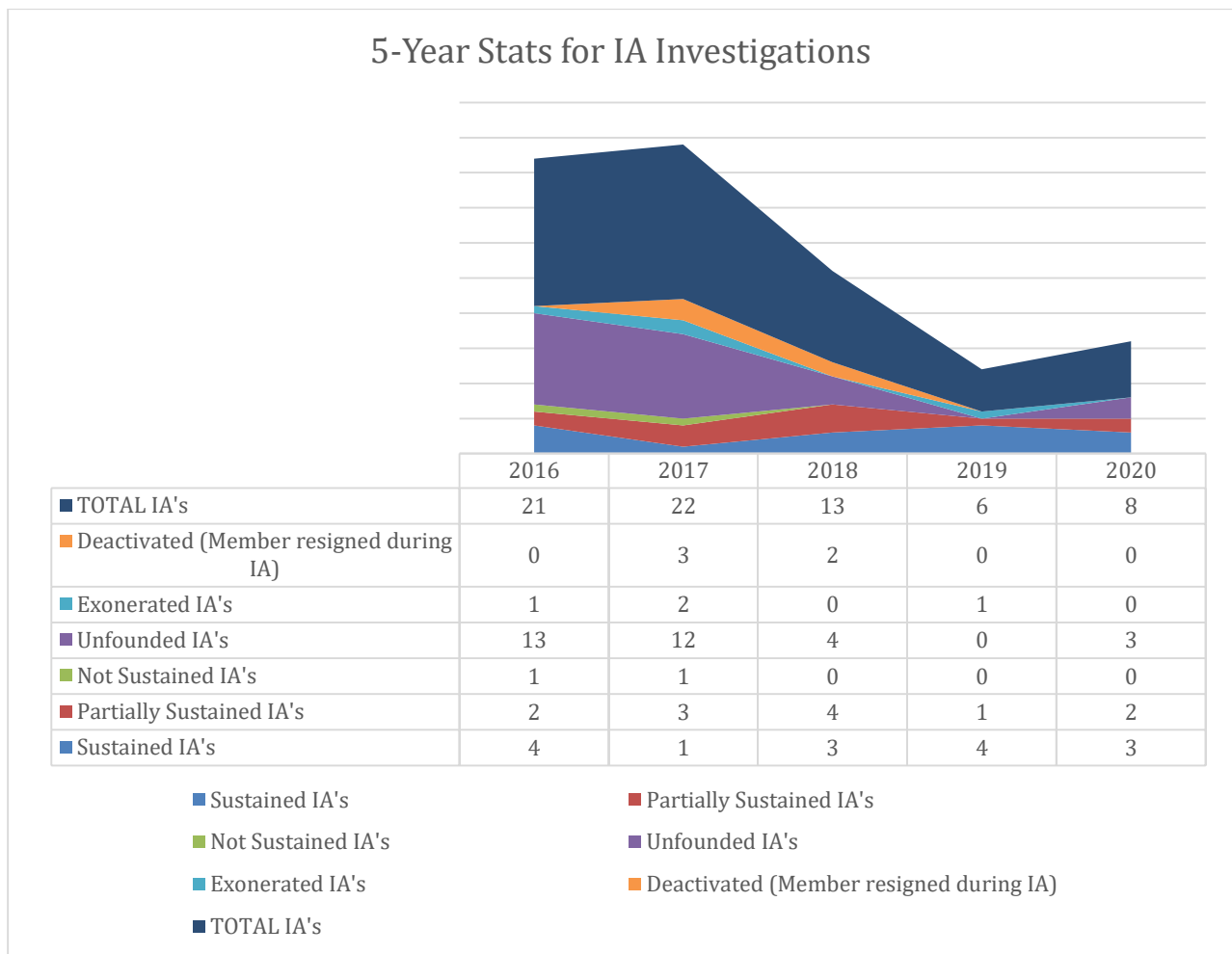
There were four (4) 303IA investigations in 2020. One (1) of those reports resulted in a disposition of unfounded, one (1) was sustained and resulted in a letter of reprimand. The two (2) other investigations involved the same member who resigned before the disposition determinations. During the 2019 calendar year, the Department conducted four (4) 303IA investigations. The year over year comparison is consistent. Due to the 303IA legislation occurring mid-year of 2019, further trend analysis is not available for this portion of the report.

2020 Departmental Complaints

IA Number	Allegation Category	Allegation Origin	Disposition	Result
DIA2020-001	Off-duty Conduct	Department	Unfounded	-
DIA2020-002	Harassment	Department	Partially Sustained	Letter of Reprimand
DIA2020-003	Harassment	Department	Unfounded	-
DIA2020-004	Conduct Unbecoming	Department	Sustained	Member Resignation

There were four (4) departmental complaint investigations in 2020. One (1) of those reports resulted in a reprimand letter, two (2) returned a disposition of unfounded. The one (1) other investigation resulted in a sustained finding; however, the member resigned before determining disposition. During the 2019 calendar year, the Department conducted two (2) departmental complaint investigations. The year over year comparison shows a 50% increase; however, the accuracy is suspect based on the re-categorization of complaint categorizations that occurred mid-year of 2019.

5-Year Statistics for Internal Affairs Investigations



2020 Departmental Inquiries

IA Number	Allegation Category	Allegation Origin	Disposition	Result
IQD2020-001	UOF Review	Department	Sustained	Verbal Counseling
IQD2020-002	Court Attendance	Department	Sustained	Negative Guardian Tracking Entry
IQD2020-003	Officer Professionalism	Department	Sustained	Negative Guardian Tracking Entry
IQD2020-004	Cell Phone Usage	Department	Sustained	Negative Guardian Tracking Entry
IQD2020-005	Court Attendance	Department	Sustained	Letter of Reprimand
IQD2020-006	Warrant Verification Procedures	Department	Sustained	Negative Guardian Tracking Entry
IQD2020-007	Pursuit Guidelines	Department	Unfounded	-
IQD2020-008	Property Handling	Department	Sustained	Negative Guardian Tracking Entry

Departmental Inquiries 2020		
	2020	2019
Open	0	0
Exceptionally Cleared	0	0
Documentation Only	0	0
Withdrawn	0	0
Inactivated	0	0
Clarification	0	0
Unfounded	1	1
Exonerated	0	1
Not Sustained	0	0
Partially Sustained	0	0
Sustained	7	9
Total Complaints	8	11

Synopsis

There were eight (8) Departmental Inquiries in 2020, which was down from the previous year. One (1) inquiry was determined to be unfounded, while the remaining seven (7) were sustained. Of those sustained, one (1) of the complaints resulted in a letter of reprimand being issued, five (5) resulted in negative Guardian Tracking entries, one (1) resulted in verbal counseling being given.

2020 Citizen Complaints

Policy and procedure, along with the prevalence of vehicle and body-worn camera footage, allow for a review of citizen complaints to determine if an apparent policy violation occurred before being designated as a citizen complaint and are handled as a citizen inquiry at the supervisor level when appropriate. Of the citizen-generated complaints received in 2020, the Office of Professional Standards investigated one under a 303IA designation; all others resulted in a supervisory review and recommendations.

Citizen Complaints 2020		
	2020	2019
Open	0	0
Exceptionally Cleared	0	0
Documentation Only	0	0
Withdrawn	1	0
Inactivated	0	0
Clarification	1	1
Unfounded	13	24
Exonerated	3	0
Not Sustained	1	2
Partially Sustained	3	1
Sustained	4	1
Total Complaints	26	29

Synopsis

Under 303IA investigative designations, the source of the complaint may be internal or generated by a citizen. In 2020, 26 cases were initiated by a complaint from a citizen. Of those 26, thirteen (13) were closed as unfounded, three (3) as exonerated, and one (1) as not sustained. One (1) case each was closed as either withdrawn or clarification. There were three (3) inquiries that closed as partially sustained, which resulted in two (2) negative file entries and one (1) verbal counseling. Four (4) inquiries received a disposition of sustained, which resulted in two (2) negative file entries, one (1) verbal counseling, and one (1) corrective action plan. The slight decrease from 29 citizen complaints recorded in 2019 does not indicate a concerning trend.

Problem Response Log

In some instances, during the initial review process, the Office of Professional Standards determined that the issue being raised by a citizen or concerned party did not involve our agency or was a request for assistance in another form. The Department still tracks these instances within the IAPro system on a problem response form log. In 2020, fifteen (15) citizen-generated contacts to the Chief's Office or the Office of Professional Standards resulted in the determination that the area of concern was regarding general issues or intended for another agency.

Analysis

Of the 42 complaints or various types recorded, the Office of Professional Standards was assigned to investigate the eight (8) cases noted under 3031A and Departmental Internal Investigations. These Internal Affairs investigations account for 19% of the agency complaint investigations in 2020. This average for 2019 was approximately 13.6%. (Mid-year in 2019, all complaint categories and applications were re-aligned, making a direct analysis difficult.)