2023 Statistical Summary of Complaints & IA Investigations



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Dalton Police Department 2023 Complaints and Inquiries

It is the policy of this department to investigate all complaints of misconduct against the agency or its employees and to equitably determine whether the allegations are valid or invalid and to take appropriate action. In addition, the department conducts inquiries into incidents where citizens disagree with the outcome or dispute matters of material fact.

The Professional Standards Unit shall have primary supervisory responsibilities for the review and internal investigation of all formal complaints against the agency or its employees whether initiated by a citizen or from within the department. While investigating a complaint, the Professional Standards Unit is delegated the authority by the Chief of Police for the purposes of directing the investigation and shall report directly to him / her. The image perceived by the public of the Dalton Police Department is in many ways determined by the quality of the professional standards function in responding to allegations of misconduct by the agency or agency employees.

Internal Complaint Investigations

During 2022, there were four (4) incidents were allegations of misconduct or policy violations that resulted in a complaint investigation. In 2023, there was one (3) incident that resulted in a policy violation.

Inquiries

During 2022, a total of six (6) incidents were handled by the department as inquiries. All six (6) were external complaints from citizens. During 2023, a total of seven (7) inquiries were handles by the department. Two (2) of the seven were internal complaints and the other five (5) were external.

Internal Complaint Investigations (IA)		Inquiries	
Incidents Sustained	3	Incidents Sustained	3
Incidents Not Sustained	0	Incidents Not Sustained	0
Incidents Exonerated	0	Incidents Exonerated	0
Incidents Unfounded	0	Incidents Unfounded	4
Policy Failure	0	Total	7
Total	3		

Summary

There were ten (10) incidents where members of the Dalton Police Department had an inquiry or an internal complaint investigation in 2022. In 2023, there were also ten (10) incidents where members of the Dalton Police Department had an inquiry or an internal complaint investigation (IA). This number is the same as in 2022. Of the ten (10) incidents documented, three (3) were designated as Internal Complaints and seven (7) were designated as Inquiries. Of the ten (10) incidents documented, five (5) were initiated internally and five (5) were initiated by citizens or through anonymous sources.

The number of internal investigations and inquires conducted has remained the same for the past two years.

Conclusion of Fact

All investigations shall have a finding of fact at the conclusion. This department investigates all complaints of misconduct against the agency or its employees and to equitably determine whether the allegations are valid or invalid and to take appropriate action.

- 1. Sustained: Evidence sufficient to prove allegations
- 2. Not Sustained: Insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove allegations.
- 3. Exonerated: Incident occurred but was lawful and proper
- 4. Unfounded: Allegation is false or not factual
- 5. Policy Failure: Flaw in policy caused the incident.