

CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD June 11, 2014

The CCRB received 455 complaints within its jurisdiction in May 2014. This was 88 fewer complaints than in the same period of 2013, when the CCRB received 543 complaints. The total intake for the month of May 2014 was 1,111 cases. [page 5 of the report]

The Board closed 557 cases in May, that is 2,186 cases year-to-date. In the first five months of 2014, the Board closed 798 full investigations, including 124 substantiated complaints. Year-to-date, the substantiation rate is 15.5%. [page 8 of the report]

In May, civilians and officers mediated 17 cases. Year-to-date, CCRB has mediated 62 cases. From January through May, the Board closed 69 cases as "mediation attempted". [page 8 of the report]

The numbers for April 2014 have been adjusted, as they are each month. We initially reported that we received 486 complaints. We can now report we received 470 complaints. As a result, the total number of complaints received from January through April 2014 is 1, 784, not 1,809 as originally reported.

Several factors explain these routine adjustments made to the complaint activity numbers: for example, a manager made a jurisdictional decision on a case with no case type; complaints are checked for duplicates and consolidated, case information is updated resulting in jurisdictional changes.

From January through May 2014, the CCRB received 2,239 complaints. That is 126 more than in the same period of 2013, when the CCRB received 2,113 complaints. Year-to-date, the CCRB has received 6% more complaints than in the same period last year. [page 5 of the report] The detailed monthly statistical report includes two forms of reporting on the disposition of CCRB cases: the first report indicates the truncation rate [page 8 of the report] and the second report provides the case resolution rate [page 9 of the report].

From January through May, the amended truncation rate, which excludes cases closed as complaint withdrawn, is 50%. In the same period of 2013, the truncation rate was 58%. From January through May 2014, the case resolution rate is 42.5%. In the same period of 2013, this rate was 32%.

The agency's docket at the end of May 31, 2014 was 2,420 cases. This was a 5% decrease of the open docket of April, when it was 2,545. Measured by the date the CCRB received the complaints, 94.5% of our open investigations stem from complaints filed within the last year, and 64% were filed in the last four months. [page 1 of the report]

Of those 2,420 open cases, 331 were awaiting panel review, (14% of the docket); 1,838 were being investigated (76% of the docket) and 251 cases were in the mediation program (10% of the docket.) [page 2 of the report]

By date of incident, 11 cases in the CCRB's open docket were 18 months and older. This was .5% of the open docket. This is 4 fewer cases than in April 2014 when there were 15 such cases. [page 3 of the report]

The breakdown of May 2014, SOL cases is as follows: 2 cases are currently pending Board review. Of these 2 cases, one case was previously returned by the Board for further investigation and the other case was on DA Hold, in which the SOL crime exception applied. [page 3 of the report]

Of the remaining 9 open investigations, the SOL crime exception applies to 5 cases. 3 cases are on DA hold; 4 cases were filed months after the date of incident; 1 case was re-opened seven months after it was originally closed: and 1 case was due to investigative delays. [page 3 of the report]

In April 2014, the Police Department closed 8 substantiated cases involving 9 officers. Of these 9 officers, 1 officer was found guilty after trial and forfeited 62 days; 2 officers received Command Discipline; 4 officers received Instructions; and the Department declined to prosecute 2 cases involving 1 officer each. In April, the disciplinary action rate was 78%, and 65% year-to-date. The Year-to-date rate, in which the Police Department has declined to prosecute is 17.5%. [page 29 of the report]

In May 2014, the Board substantiated 14 cases with a recommendation of Charges and Specifications. These cases were forwarded to the APU. [Page 10 of the report]

At the end of May, the open docket of the APU was comprised of 204 cases. Of these cases, 2 had dispositions modified by the Police Commissioner and were awaiting final disposition; 18 cases had pleas entered and were awaiting approval by the Police Commissioner; in 3 cases the trial verdict was rendered and is awaiting approval by the Police Commissioner; 14 trials were completed and were awaiting verdicts; 9 trials were commenced but not completed; 36 trials were scheduled; 34 cases were calendared for court appearances; 51 cases were awaiting their initial court appearance after charges have been served, in 10 cases charges have been filed; and 27 cases were awaiting service of charges. [page 39 of the report]

There were 2 final dispositions of APU cases in April and May 2014: 1 case in which the APU recommended the forfeiture of 10 vacation days and the Police Commissioner disposed of the case as "not guilty after trial," in agreement with the Trial Commissioner's recommendation; and 1 negotiated guilty plea for the forfeiture of 8 vacation days that the Police Commissioner disposed of as "re-training." [page 40 of the report]