

Internal Affairs Complaint Investigations 2015

Chief Goldberg of the Takoma Park Police Department announces that, in keeping with the Police Department's policy directives that require investigations of all complaints against the department or its employees, and that annual statistical summaries of such investigations by the internal affairs function be made available to the public, the following is the Takoma Park Police Department's Summary of Complaints for calendar year (CY) 2015.

Eighteen (18) formal complaints were recorded with three (3) subjected to internal affairs investigations. Fourteen (14) complaints were submitted by citizens and four (4) complaints were generated internally by an employee, the Chief of Police, or the Command Staff. There were no complaints referred anonymously. Subjects of the complaints include a total of sixteen (16) sworn officers, some of whom were involved in more than one complaint. No civilian employees were the subject of any complaints. There were two complaints where no employee was specified. There was one complaint which involved an incident that occurred in 2014 and the complaint stemmed from an accidental injury that the complainant received during custody with a different agency.

Two (2) of the eighteen (18) complaints were completed with a determination that resulted in sustained findings of improper conduct and disciplinary measures were warranted and taken. One (1) complaint is still pending investigation due to case specific circumstances. Fifteen (15) complaints were referred to a supervisor for investigation/counseling sessions in lieu of an internal investigation. The disciplinary measures taken during 2015 on sustained findings were handled administratively.

A statistical comparison with 2014 indicates an increase in complaints of approximately 38.46% for 2015.

Residents are reminded that the process for making a complaint against a police employee is detailed on the City of Takoma Park web page by selecting the Government and then the Police tab. The information is also available on flyers available to the public in the Police Department lobby.