



CAPE MAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GARY G. SCHAFFER

SHERIFF

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EXECUTIVE UNDERSHERIFF

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January 15, 2014

To: Gary G. Schaffer, Sheriff

From: John D. Maher, Executive Undersheriff

Re: Internal Affairs Case Summary Report

As a supplement to the Professional Standards Summary Report for 2013 filed with the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office, this report provides an analysis for the Internal Affairs Investigations, relevant to the Cape May County Sheriff's Office.

In 2013, the Internal Affairs Unit initiated 41 case records (investigations) that generated 72 complaints against members and civilian employees of the Sheriff's Office. This compares to 27 case records in 2012 that generated 47 complaints. The 2013 data results in an increase of 51.8% in case records and an increase of 53.2 % in complaints.

Overall, the 72 complaints for 2013 resulted from 7 complaints against sworn officers of the Law Enforcement Division, 59 complaints against sworn officers of the Correctional Division and 6 complaints against civilian employees, 3 from Jail Records, 2 from the Animal Shelter and 1 from Security.

Breaking down the complaints, 32 complaints were generated internally, which means that the complaints were generated by supervisors or other members of the Cape May County Sheriff's Office. The additional 40 complaints were generated as citizen complaints. Citizen complaints include all complaints generated by members of the public, other agencies or entities and from Correctional Center Inmates.

Breaking down the 40 citizen complaints, 5 complaints came from 4 members of the public.. The remaining 35 complaints came from 17 inmate cases by 13 different inmates. (2 inmates generated 22 complaints from 6 cases and 11 different inmate cases generated the other 13 complaints).

I have included for your confidential review a breakdown of the citizen complaints. The report includes the principal officer, the allegation, the disposition, the complainant and complainant characteristics that include age, sex and race. An analysis of the data reveals that there was no systematic misconduct by any member or employee of the Sheriff's Office.

In analyzing agency dispositions, there were 9 dispositions in 2013 for 2012 complaints. Dispositions were completed in 2013 for 70 of 72 complaints (97%). The 2 investigations pending dispositions, as of December 31, 2013, both involve internal agency complaints for Other Rule Violations.

The 9 dispositions from 2012 complaints included 1 Sustained internal agency Other Rule Violation. This matter was an official discipline case that is connected with a 2013 disposition case that is pending Adjudication. The 8 Exonerated Excessive Force complaints were from 2 inmates in 2 separate incidents with the respective incidents involving 3 and 5 officers.

Breaking down the 70 dispositions from 2013, the 11 Excessive Force complaints had dispositions as follows: 11 Exonerated.

The 2 Other Criminal violations were both sustained.

The 3 complaints of Differential Treatment had dispositions as follows: 2 Exonerated, 1 Not Sustained.

The 9 Demeanor complaints had dispositions as follows: 3 Sustained, 6 Not Sustained.

The 45 Other Rule violation complaints had dispositions as follows: 32 were Sustained, 8 were Exonerated, 2 were Not Sustained, 2 were Unfounded and 1 was Administratively Closed.

The Administratively Closed complaint involved an internal agency Other Rule Violation complaint against a civilian employee who subsequently resigned before the completion of the investigation.

The 2 Sustained Other Criminal Violation dispositions resulted in 1 case involving an officer being dismissed in Superior Court and 1 case involving a civilian employee pending Superior Court disposition.

The remaining 35 Sustained dispositions for 2013 resulted from 26 internal agency complaints of which 24 were for Other Rule Violations and 2 were Demeanor violations. The 9 sustained citizen complaints were from 1 Citizen Demeanor complaint and 8 Inmate Other Rule Violation complaints from 2 inmates in 2 separate incidents with each incident involving 4 officers. These 35 sustained dispositions resulted from 22 case records (Investigations).

Of these 37 Sustained dispositions for 2013, 9 (24%) resulted in supervisory action and 28 (76%) resulted in official discipline.

For the 28 dispositions involving official discipline, 3 dispositions (10.7%) resulted in Official Reprimands, 15 dispositions (53.6%) resulted in minor discipline and 10 dispositions (35.7%) involved imposition of major discipline. Of the 10 sustained dispositions of major discipline, 2 resulted in resignation before adjudication and 5 were still pending adjudication as of December 31, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,

John D Maher

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Executive Undersheriff



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January 22, 2013

To: Gary G. Schaffer, Sheriff

From: John D. Maher, Executive Undersheriff

Re: Internal Affairs Case Summary Report

As a supplement to the Professional Standards Summary Report for 2012 filed with the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office, this report provides an analysis for the Internal Affairs Investigations, relevant to the Cape May County Sheriff's Office.

In 2012, the Internal Affairs Unit initiated 27 case records (investigations) that generated 47 complaints against members and civilian employees of the Sheriff's Office. This compares to 32 case records in 2011 that generated 49 complaints. The 2012 data results in a decrease of 15.6% in case records and a decrease of 4.1 % decrease in complaints.

Overall, the 47 complaints for 2012 resulted from 1 complaint against a sworn officer of the Law Enforcement Division, 43 complaints against sworn officers of the Correctional Division and 3 complaints against 2 civilian employees.

Breaking down the complaints, 25 complaints were generated internally, which means that the complaints were generated by supervisors or other members of the Cape May County Sheriff's Office. The additional 22 complaints were generated as citizen complaints. Citizen complaints include all complaints generated by members of the public, other agencies or entities and from Correctional Center Inmates. Breaking down the 22 citizen complaints, 2 complaints came from members of the public and 20 complaints were generated by 6 different inmates.

I have included for your confidential review a breakdown of the citizen complaints. The report includes the principal officer, the allegation, the disposition, the complainant and complainant characteristics that include age, sex and race. An analysis of the data reveals that there was no systematic misconduct by any member or employee of the Sheriff's Office.

In analyzing agency dispositions, there was 1 disposition in 2012 for a 2011 complaint. Dispositions were completed in 2012 for 38 of 47 complaints (81%). The 9 investigations pending dispositions, as of December 31, 2012, involve 1 Agency complaint Other Rule Violation and 8 Inmate complaints of Excessive Force from 2 inmates.

The 1 Sustained complaint from 2011 was an internal agency complaint involving an Other Rule Violation. Breaking down the 38 dispositions from 2012, the 9 Excessive Force complaints had dispositions as follows: 7 were Exonerated, 1 was Unfounded and 1 was Administratively Closed. The 1 complaint of Differential Treatment had a disposition of Exonerated. The 3 Demeanor complaints had dispositions as follows: 1 Exonerated, 1 Not Sustained and 1 Unfounded. The 25 Other Rule violation complaints had dispositions as follows: 22 were Sustained, 1 was Unfounded and 2 were Administratively Closed.

The Administratively Closed complaints involved 2 complaints against a civilian employee that subsequently resigned and 1 inmate complaint of excessive force made via letter after the inmate was released. The complaint did not provide enough information to conduct a meaningful investigation and the complainant did not respond to our attempts at contact to secure more information.

The 1 Sustained Other Rule Violation from 2011 resulted in major discipline of more than 10 days suspension. The 22 Sustained complaints for 2012 were all internal agency complaints and all involving Other Rule Violations which were generated from 12 case records (investigations). Of these 22 Sustained complaints, 11 (50%) resulted in supervisory action and 11 (50%) resulted in official discipline.

For the 11 complaints involving official discipline, 5 (45.5%) complaints resulted in official reprimands, 3 (27.5%) complaints resulted in minor discipline and 3 (27.5%) complaints involved imposition of major discipline with potential removal. Of the 3 sustained complaints of major discipline, all 3 had hearings still pending as of December 31, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,

John D. Maher
Executive Undersheriff