



Bismarck Police Department



April 4, 2016

To the Citizens of Bismarck:

The Bismarck Police Department has the responsibility to provide quality law enforcement services to the citizens of the City of Bismarck and its visitors. We are tasked with meeting the public safety needs of a growing community and responding to a relatively high volume of calls for service. Our department routinely makes arrests, enforces traffic laws, mediates conflict, and in doing so, participates in confrontational and emotionally charged situations.

During the course of the year we receive complaints from citizens regarding our employees and their actions. We take these complaints seriously and make a point to investigate them thoroughly. When we are wrong, we admit it, and we take measures to improve our ability to provide quality service to our community. Additionally, our supervisory staff is required to report any perceived wrongdoing on the part of employees of the Department. In this fashion, no allegation will be overlooked with or without a citizen complaint. Such measures include policy or procedure changes, employee training or re-training, and when appropriate, employee discipline.

The following is a summary of Internal Affairs investigations in 2015 in comparison to 2014, as well as any disciplinary actions taken as a result of the investigations conducted during 2015.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM The Office of Administrative Services

2015 Summary:

According to Internal Affairs Investigation Statistics, during 2015 there were six cases investigated. Of the six cases, three were externally generated by citizen complaints and two were internally generated. The sixth complaint was filed with a state agency which required a response by the Department. A total of nine department employees (seven officers and two civilian employees) were identified in the six investigations. All Internal Affairs investigations for incidents reported in 2015 were concluded at the writing of this report.

In 2015, the total number of Internal Investigations increased by two from four in 2014 to six in 2015. The previous five years indicate a relatively low and stable number of Internal Affairs investigations conducted.

The chart below provides a comparison between 2015 and the previous four calendar years.

| 2015 Case Dispositions | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Sustained: | 2 |
| Exonerated: | 4 |
| Not Sustained: | 0 |

The below percentage was factored by the total of all case dispositions per number of complaints – six:

| Case Dispositions by Percentage | |
|--|---------|
| Sustained: | 33.35 % |
| Exonerated: | 66.65 % |
| Not Sustained: | 0 % |

Sustained complaints increased by one, as we had two in 2015 compared to one in 2014. Exonerated complaints increased by two with four in 2015 compared to two in 2014.

A case disposition of Not Sustained decreased by one from 2014 and no case ended with that disposition in 2015.

Disciplinary actions as a result of the 2015 complaints resulted in:

- One letter of reprimand from the Chief of Police
- One letter of reprimand from the Deputy Chief of Field Services

This information will be posted on the BPD website for public and employee view as per policy and CALEA Standard 52.1.5. Please see Lt. Dwight Offerman for more specific information pertaining to individual cases.

Respectfully Submitted,

DWIGHT OFFERMAN
Lieutenant
Administrative Services