



ATHERTON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Inter-Department Correspondence

To: Mr. George Rodericks, City Manager

From: Steven D McCulley, Chief of Police

Date: February 8, 2023

Subject: 2022 Police Department Administrative Investigations Review

The Atherton Department of Police (APD) Administrative Investigation process promotes professional excellence, integrity, and accountability. It directly supports our agency's goal to build a culture of trust, collaboration, and continuous performance improvement.

Like all public service agencies, the APD is accountable for the acts and omissions of all its employees. To ensure and exercise this accountability, the department utilizes an internal review system to examine official acts and omissions. This review may be initiated by any department employee, citizen, or third party. The goal of this system is the assurance that any policies, procedures, or individual employee actions meet the test of fairness; and, if not, that corrective measures are taken.

A relationship of trust and confidence between employees and the community they serve is essential to effective law enforcement. Police officers must be free to exercise their best judgment and to initiate law enforcement action in a reasonable, lawful, and impartial manner, without fear of reprisal. In addition, enforcers of the law are obligated to respect the rights of all people.

Public confidence in the ability of the department to investigate and properly adjudicate all complaints against its employees must be maintained. The department has the responsibility to seek out discipline those whose conduct discredits the department or impairs its effective operation. The rights of the public, as well as those of the employee, must be protected. In this application, discipline is viewed as a positive process in which the main purpose is to train or develop by instruction.

The following is a review of all administrative investigations and reviews conducted in 2022. This includes citizen complaints, internal complaints, use of force review, fleet incident reviews, and lost/damaged equipment reviews:

Citizen Complaints with Outcomes

2020 - 0 complaints

2021 - 2 complaints, 1 Sustained, 1 Unfounded

2022 - 1 complaint, Exonerated (allegation occurred but was within policy/procedure)

Internal Complaints with Outcomes

2020 - 0 complaints

2021 - 3 complaints, 1 Not Sustained, 2 Sustained

2022 – 1 complaint, Sustained

Use of Force with Outcomes

2020 – 3 incidents, all consistent/complies with policy – Lawful

1 wrist lock, 1 less lethal round deployment, 1 leg sweep take down.

2021 – 2 incidents, all consistent/complies with policy – Lawful

1 leg sweep take down, 1 leg sweep take down and arm pull.

2022 - 3 incidents, all consistent/complies with policy – Lawful

2 leg sweeps, 1 arm bar take down.

Fleet Incidents with Outcomes

2020 – 4 incidents, 3 Non-Preventable, 1 Preventable

2021 – 1 incident, Preventable

2022 – 2, both Preventable

Lost or Damage Equipment with Outcomes

2020 – 3 incidents

Lost PD ID Card, Sustained

Lost rifle (recovered), Sustained

Lost PD Badge, PD ID Card, PD Gas Card, Sustained

2021 - 1 incident, lost arrestee property, Sustained

2022 – 1 incident, lost PD badge, PD ID card, PD gas card, Sustained.



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