



**Board of Police Commissioners**

*Accountability through Civilian Oversight*

# OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INVESTIGATOR

**REV. JEROME WARFIELD, SR.  
CHIEF INVESTIGATOR**

**PRESENTATION TO THE BOPC - SEPTEMBER 25, 2025**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INVESTIGATOR

900 MERRILL PLAISANCE, DETROIT, MI 48203 (313) 596-2499



# OCI MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INVESTIGATOR (OCI) IS TO **FAIRLY, EFFECTIVELY, AND OBJECTIVELY** RECEIVE, INVESTIGATE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING COMPLAINTS CONCERNING THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ITS PERSONNEL. IT IS THE GOAL OF THE OCI TO ASSIST IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES BY INSTILLING CITIZEN CONFIDENCE IN THE INTEGRITY OF THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT.



# Complaint Investigation Categories

Investigation	Summary Investigation	Administrative Closure	Informal Complaint Resolution	Cases Aged Beyond One Year
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# Complaint Investigation Categories

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A thorough review of all available evidence and the interviews of involved sworn members or civilian employees of the Detroit Police Department

# Complaint Investigation Categories

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In certain circumstances and only with the approval of the Supervising Investigator, the requirement for certain interviews may be waived when the existing evidence lends itself to a definitive conclusion. The justification and the approval must be documented within the body of the report.

# Complaint Investigation Categories

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Certain citizen complaints, may be closed through a preliminary investigation, which include the following:

- Duplicates
- Transfers
- Officer or employee who is no longer employed by DPD
- Alleged conduct does not violate law or policy
- Complaints which lack the sufficient detail as to the officers involved, lack sufficient detail as to the facts surrounding the incident or lack merit, AND if the complainant is unavailable, unwilling or unable to contribute to the furtherance of the investigation, then the Investigator will detail the basis of his/her determination, refer the matter to the Supervising Investigator for administrative closure of the file, who may refer the matter to the Chief Investigator for final review and approval.

# Complaint Investigation Categories

Investigation	Summary Investigation	Administrative Closure	Informal Complaint Resolution	Cases Aged Beyond One Year
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- Administrative Closures require an investigation to determine if the complaint meets the criteria for an administrative closure.
- Although a full investigative report is not required, a detailed summary of the preliminary investigative findings is written.



# Complaint Investigation Categories

Investigation	Summary Investigation	Administrative Closure	<b>Informal Complaint Resolution</b>	Cases Aged Beyond One Year
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- The resolution of citizen complaints, which allege only inadequate service, or the complainant's innocence of a charge.



# Complaint Investigation Categories

Investigation	Summary Investigation	Administrative Closure	Informal Complaint Resolution	Cases Aged Beyond One Year
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Complaints that have aged in the OCI past one calendar year of the incident date, may be administratively closed due to Detroit Police Officers Association (DPOA) and the Lieutenants and Sergeants Association (LSA) contractual agreement with the City of Detroit, that limits disciplinary actions against DPD employees beyond one year of the alleged misconduct.

# Actions Taken by the Investigator (when applicable)

- Contact the complainant to take their statement
- Obtain, review & electronically store all relevant documents related to the allegation(s)
- Watch body worn camera and car video footage or any other relevant electronic evidence
- In some instances a canvass of the incident location is conducted
- Research the relevant law or policy concerning the allegation(s)
- Write a detailed report summarizing their findings

# QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR CONCERNS?



# FILING A CITIZEN COMPLAINT

## HOW TO FILE A CITIZEN COMPLAINT...

- IN-PERSON AT OCI OR AT ANY PRECINCT IN THE CITY
- BY LETTER
- BY TELEPHONE OR FAX
- ONLINE - SCAN QR CODE



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DETROIT, MI 48203  
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(313) 596-2482 FAX  
OFFICE HOURS 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

***NO ONE CAN BE TURNED AWAY FROM FILING A CITIZEN COMPLAINT***



## **DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

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