

# OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2025, TO MARCH 31, 2025

John A. Gliatta Independent Reviewer

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### ABOUT THE OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT REVIEW

The Office of Independent Review (OIR) works to strengthen community trust in the Fresno Police Department (FPD) by providing a neutral, third-party review of police policies, strategies, and Internal Affairs (IA) investigations. The OIR operates independently of the FPD and provides City leaders and the public with an objective analysis of policing data, actions, and outcomes. The OIR analyzes complaints filed by the community, and those initiated by the department to ensure they have been investigated fairly and thoroughly. Periodically, the OIR provides an objective analysis of individual units within the FPD to ensure compliance with policy and procedure, best practices, and the law. This includes recommendations and findings to increase thoroughness, quality, and accuracy of each police unit reviewed.

The work of the OIR is guided by the following principles:

- Independence
- Fairness
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Transparency
- Participation of Stakeholders, both internally and externally
- Acceptance, Cooperation, and Access
- Obedience to Legal Constraints



Please contact our office if you would like us to speak to your group or participate at your next community event. Contact information can be found on the last page of this report.

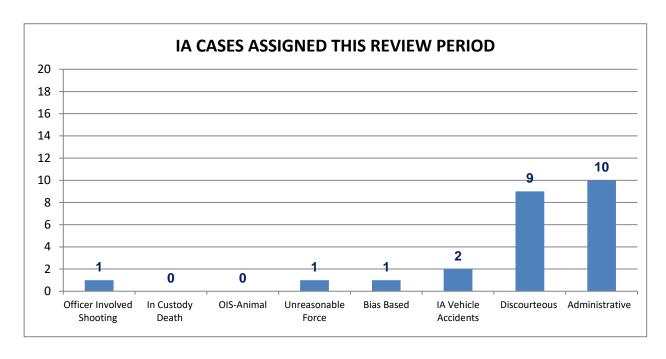
### OIR REPORT FORMAT

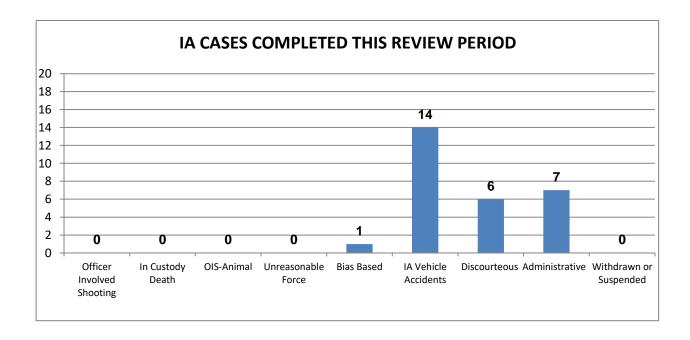
The OIR adheres to the following guidelines, format, and definitions in all quarterly reports:

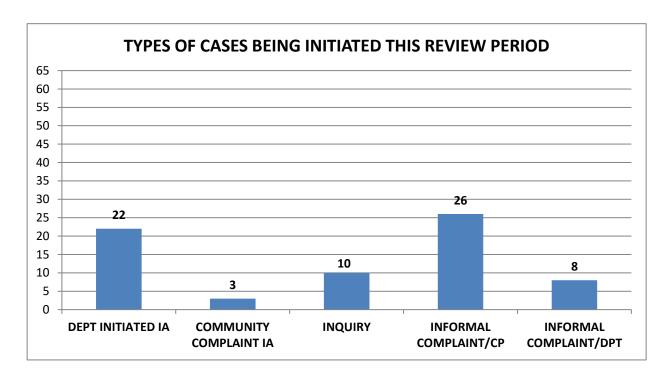
- Definitions for the terms used are consistent with the definition of terms used in California Legislative documents and the FPD.
- Officers are referred to as "O" and where there is more than one officer involved they will be identified as Os, or O1, O2, and so on depending on the total number of officers.
- The charts are grouped by incident type and cases appear in order of case number.
- The incident type charts list all cases which were pending, assigned, or closed during the review period, and where applicable Year to Date (YTD) data will be listed.
- All cases in which the FPD IA determined the employee(s) was Exonerated, Unfounded, or Not Sustained are reviewed by the OIR. The findings reached by the OIR for these cases will also be listed. If IA and the OIR have not reached the same decision the OIR explanation will appear following the chart. Cases in which IA deemed the allegation was Sustained will not be reviewed by the OIR.
- Cases are not reviewed by the OIR until IA has completed their investigation and the case is classified as closed by IA, thus allowing for all information/evidence to be reviewed.
- In the event the OIR proposes a recommendation or corrective action, it will appear directly following the chart summarizing the cases within the specific incident type.
- Recommendations or corrective actions which are not directly related to a charted incident type will appear at the end of the report prior to the summary.
- The report is previewed by Mayor Jerry Dyer, City Manager Georgeanne White, Chief Assistant City Attorney Tina Griffin, and Interim Chief Mindy Casto, prior to finalization. This allows the respective parties an opportunity to respond to recommendations and/or findings, and those responses may be included in the final report. However, their reviews and responses will not alter the recommendations or corrective actions suggested by the OIR.
- All FPD responses to OIR recommendations, including if the FPD implemented a policy change(s) in response to recommendation(s) listed in the previous quarterly report, will be addressed before the summary section of this report. The response received from the FPD will be included without changes or edits.
- Previously when the officer or employee's employment status changed the cases were no longer listed as pending or closed, which created doubt on their status. However, as of January 1, 2023, each law enforcement agency shall be responsible for the completion of investigations of allegations of serious misconduct by a peace officer, regardless of their employment status, per Senate Bill 2, Section 13510.8.(9)(c)(1).
- Officer Involved Shootings (OIS) involving an animal are listed in the OIS charts. Per FPD Policy 337.7.9, an officer is within policy to use deadly force to stop a dangerous animal, such as a dog.
- Depending on the policy they were found to have violated, officers/employees may be offered a Last Chance Agreement (LCA) in lieu of proposed termination. The individual must adhere to strict guidelines for the duration of their employment with the City of Fresno or be subjected to termination as outlined in their agreed upon and signed LCA.
- If CA DOJ is reviewing an OIS it will be noted in the OIS case chart with the letters DOJ.

## REVIEW OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS

The following charts list the number and types of IA cases assigned and closed during the first quarter of 2025. For classification purposes, Discourteous Treatment also includes cases in which the officer was accused of conduct unbecoming of a police officer. The classification of Administrative Matters includes officers or employees accused of violating policies which do not involve responding to a call for service or interacting with the public.

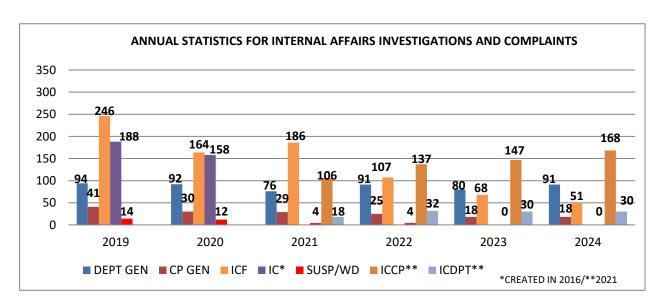






Inquiry: An inquiry involves a question about the policy or procedures of the FPD. Inquiries may be documented via an Inquiry Complaint Form (ICF).

Informal Complaint: A matter which can be handled at the supervisor level within a district/division and is not reasonably likely to result in disciplinary measures. Generally, complaints handled via this process include minor allegations or general violations. A finding of Sustained, Not Sustained, Unfounded, or Exonerated is required. As of January 1, 2021, the informal complaints will be categorized by the manner the complaint was initiated, either by the community (CP) or the department (DPT).



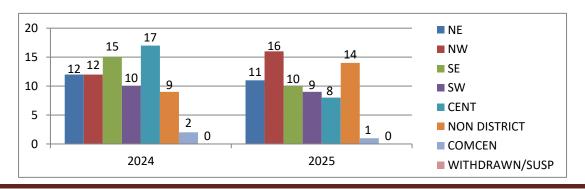
# COMPLAINTS OR INQUIRIES ASSIGNED BY POLICING DISTRICT

The following charts reflect the complaints or inquiries assigned in each of the five policing districts for the first quarter of 2025, and a first quarter comparison between 2024 and 2025. The informal complaints are listed by the manner in which the complaint was initiated, community complaint (CP), or department generated (DPT).

EXPLANATION OF TERMS IN CHART								
NE	NORTHEAST							
NW	NORTHWEST							
SE	SOUTHEAST							
SW	SOUTHWEST							
CENT	CENTRAL							
NON-DISTRICT	NOT ATTRIBUTED TO A SPECIFIC DISTRICT (OFF-DUTY, ETC)							
COMCEN	COMMUNICATION CENTER (DISPATCH)							
WITHDRAWN/SUSPENDED	COMPLAINT WAS WITHDRAWN BY CP OR EMPLOYEE IS NO LONGER WITH FPD							

MATT	MATTERS ASSIGNED BY POLICING DISTRICTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2025									
ASSIGNED	NE	NW	SE	sw	CENT	NON- DISTRICT	COMCEN	WITHDRAWN/ SUSPENDED	TOTAL	
IA CASES	3	8	4	1	2	7	0	0	25	
INFORMAL COMPLAINTS-CP	5	5	3	5	3	4	1	0	26	
INFORMAL COMPLAINTS-DPT	2	2	0	1	0	3	0	0	8	
INQUIRIES	1	1	3	2	3	0	0	0	10	
4th QTR TOTALS	11	16	10	9	8	14	1	0	69	

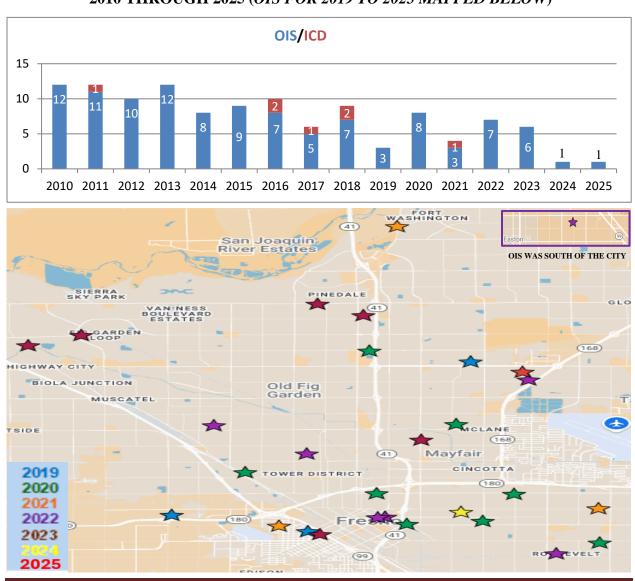
# QUARTERLY COMPARISON OF MATTERS BY DISTRICT



Review Period: 1/1/2025 to 3/31/2025

	EXPLANATION OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS						
UNF	UNFOUNDED: THE INVESTIGATION CLEARLY ESTABLISHED THE ALLEGATION WAS NOT TRUE. COMPLAINTS WHICH ARE						
UNF	DETERMINED TO BE FRIVOLOUS WILL FALL WITHIN THE CLASSIFICATION OF UNFOUNDED [PENAL CODE 832.5(C)]						
EX	<b>EXONERATED</b> : THE INVESTIGATION CLEARLY ESTABLISHED THE ACTIONS OF THE PERSONNEL WHICH FORMED THE						
LA	BASIS OF THE COMPLAINT DID NOT VIOLATE THE LAW OR FPD POLICY						
NS	NOT SUSTAINED: THE INVESTIGATION FAILED TO DISCLOSE SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO CLEARLY PROVE OR						
INS	DISPROVE THE ALLEGATION WITHIN THE COMPLAINT						
sus	SUSTAINED: THE INVESTIGATION DISCLOSED SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO PROVE THE TRUTH OF THE ALLEGATION IN						
303	THE COMPLAINT BY THE PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE.						
P	PENDING: THE INVESTIGATION HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED						
О	<b>OFFICER</b> : IF FOLLOWED BY A 1, 2, 3, ETC., INDICATES MORE THAN ONE OFFICER WAS BEING INVESTIGATED						
RAI	REQUESTED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS MADE BY OIR BEFORE A DECISION COULD BE MADE						
NR	NOT REVIEWED: OIR DID NOT REVIEW THE CASE DUE TO FPD FINDING OF SUSTAINED OR THE CASE WAS SUSPENDED						
СР	COMPLAINING PARTY: THE PERSON WHO FILED THE COMPLAINT						
SUSP	SUSPENDED: THE OFFICER/EMPLOYEE RESIGNED OR RETIRED PRIOR TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE INVESTIGATION						
BWC	BODY WORN CAMERAS: DEVICE AFFIXED TO UNIFORMS WHICH RECORDS AUDIO & VIDEO OF CONTACT WITH PUBLIC						
DATE A	DATE ASSIGNED IS THE DATE THE CASE WAS ASSIGNED TO AN IA INVESTIGATOR, NOT THE ACTUAL DATE OF OCCURRENCE						

# OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS (OIS) & IN-CUSTODY DEATHS (ICD) 2010 THROUGH 2025 (OIS FOR 2019 TO 2025 MAPPED BELOW)



# COMPLETED AND PENDING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING INVESTIGATIONS

FPD Officers were involved in one OIS during the first quarter of 2025, resulting in a new investigation being initiated. No OIS investigations were completed during the quarter. At the conclusion of the first quarter, there were a total of four pending OIS investigations, with one of the cases still being reviewed by the California Attorney General's Office (CA DOJ), per AB 1506. One case previously investigated by the CA DOJ was completed during the previous quarter, IA2022-0033. However, the FPD IA investigation was still pending at the end of the quarter. The OIR review will be conducted and reported in a quarterly report once the IA investigation has been completed.

	OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING (OIS) AND IN CUSTODY DEATHS (ICD)								
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY				
22-0033	5/19/2022	Р			O SHOT SUBJECT WHO HAD POINTED A REPLICA WEAPON AT RESPONDING OS, FATAL (DOJ DONE)				
23-0009	3/4/2023	Р			SUBJECT SHOT AT, AND HIT O AFTER A SHORT PURSUIT. OS RETURNED FIRE, FATAL (DOJ)				
24-0090	10/26/2024	Р			Os RETURNED FIRE AFTER SUBJECT SHOT O, FATAL				
25-0009	1/26/2025	Р			OS RESPONDED TO A HOME INVASION AND ENCOUNTERED ARMED SUBJECTS WHO DROVE AT O, NON-FATAL				

#### STATUS OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS BY CLASSIFICATION

One IA investigation regarding an allegation of Bias Based Policing was completed and one new case was initiated during the first quarter of 2025. The completed IA investigation determined the officers did not violate an FPD policy on bias or discrimination. The property that was seized was the result of the smoke shop violating the State of California Revenue and Taxation Codes and the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration License Requirements for Retailers. After a thorough review of the IA investigation, I reached the same findings as the FPD.

	BIAS BASED								
IA C		DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY			
24-0	044	6/3/2024	Р			CP ALLEGED OS USED UNREASONABLE FORCE AND O1 EXHIBITED BIAS TOWARDS THE CP			
24-0	085	10/8/2024	2/20/2025	UNF x 6 EX x 6	UNF x 6 EX x 6	CP ALLEGED OS TARGETED CP DUE TO RACE/RELIGION CP ASLO ALLEGED PROPERTY WAS SEIZED ILLEGALLY			

Review Period: 1/1/2025 to 3/31/2025

	BIAS BASED								
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY				
25-0002	1/10/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O BIASED BASED PROFILING DEPT ALLEGED O LACKED DISCRETION DEPT ALLEGED O FAILED TO CALL FOR SGT WHEN ASKED				

One new case involving an Unreasonable Force allegation was initiated during the quarter resulting in three pending investigations.

	UNREASONABLE FORCE									
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY					
24-0084	10/8/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O PLACED KNEE ON HEAD OR NECK AREA OF SUSPECT					
24-0095	11/15/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O TASED A HANDCUFFED SUBJECT DEPT ALLEGED Os WERE DISCOURTEOUS					
25-0019	3/7/2025	Р			CP ALLEGED OS USED UNREASONABLE FORCE AND WERE DISCOURTEOUS					

Nine new investigations were initiated regarding allegations of Discourteous Treatment or Conduct Unbecoming of a Police Officer during the quarter. Six of the previously pending investigations were completed, which included one of the investigations initiated during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Three of the six completed investigations determined at least one officer in each of the cases violated an FPD department policy.

One of the completed investigations, IA2024-0055, involved five officers texting one another within a defined group of officers. The IA investigation determined that all five officers violated the Discretion Policy based on the content of the text messages. However, an FPD executive amended the findings for two of the accused officers to Not Sustained. After a thorough review of the evidence, I did not agree that the evidence warranted the amended findings and concurred with the IA findings of Sustained for all five officers.

DISCOURTEOUS TREATMENT OR CONDUCT UNBECOMING OF A POLICE OFFICER								
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY			
24-0001	1/4/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O MADE INAPPROPRIATE COMMENT ABOUT ANOTHER O			

D	DISCOURTEOUS TREATMENT OR CONDUCT UNBECOMING OF A POLICE OFFICER									
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY					
24-0004	1/10/2024	3/6/2025	SUS x 5	NR	DEPT ALLEGED OS DID NOT TERMINATE PURSUIT DEPT ALLEGED O DROVE AT HIGH SPEED DURING PURSUIT					
24-0014	2/21/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O WAS ARRESTED FOR A DV MATTER					
24-0028	4/2/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED LT WAS DISCOURTEOUS TO OTHER OS					
24-0036	5/6/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O IS USING NARCOTICS					
24-0037	5/10/204	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O SIGNED OUT CURRENCY FROM EVIDENCE IN VIOLATION OF DEPT POLICY & DISPLAYED CONDUCT UNBECOMING					
24-0038	5/14/2024	1/31/2025	SUS	NR	CP ALLEGED O FAILED TO BOOK WHEELCHAIR AFTER CP HOSPITALIZED & CHAIR IS NOW MISSING					
24-0055	7/12/2024	1/10/2025	SUS x 3 NS x 2	SUS x 5	DEPT ALLEGED FIVE OS LACKED DISCRETION					
24-0058	7/18/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED NON-SWORN MAY HAVE COMMITTED A FELONY VIOLATION					
24-0062	7/30/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O MAY BE INVOLVED IN A DV MATTER					
24-0064	8/19/2024	1/31/2025	NS x 3 UNF x 2	NS x 3 UNF x 2	DEPT ALLEGED O MAY BE VIOLATING A FELONY STATUTE DUE TO USE OF STEROIDS					
24-0072	9/11/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED NON-SWORN USED FPD ID FOR PERSONAL GAIN					
24-0073	9/12/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OFF-DUTY O WAS IN THE AREA OF A SHOT SPOTTER ACTIVATION CONSUMING ALCOHOL					
24-0075	9/16/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O DISPLAYED CONDUCT UNBECOMING DEPT ALLEGED O OPERATED CELL PHONE WHILE DRIVING					
24-0077	9/23/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O WAS ARRESTED BY ANOTHER AGENCY FOR LEWD ACTS WITH A CHILD					
24-0083	10/8/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O WAS OFF-DUTY AND PRESENT WHILE URGING RELATIVE TO ASSAULT SOMEONE					
24-0087	10/17/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O USED LANGUAGE AND CONDUCT DURING PURSUIT AND ARREST IN VIOLATION OF DEPT POLICY					
24-0092	11/4/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O POSTED OIS INFO ON SOCIAL MEDIA PRIOR TO INFO BEING RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC					

D	ISCOURTEOUS	S TREATMENT C	R CONDUCT	T UNBECOM	IING OF A POLICE OFFICER
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY
24-0093	11/5/2024	3/13/2025	UNF	UNF	CP ALLEGED O DISSEMINATED DISPARAGING RUMORS ABOUT THE CP THAT WERE UNSUBSTANTIATED
24-0096	11/18/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OS DEMONSTRATED POOR DISCRETION AND FAILED TO ENSURE SAFETY OF CHILD
24-0102	11/25/2024	Р			CP, A NON-SWORN EMP, ALLEGED O, WHO SHE WAS DATING, COMMITTED CRIMINAL ACT BY FORCE/COERCION
24-0103	11/25/2024	Р			CP ALLEGED OS RESPONDED TO HER DV 9-1-1 CALL BUT LEFT LOCATION WITHOUT CONTACTING CP, WHO WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ASSAULTED BY EX
24-0104	11/25/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED NON-SWORN EMP WAS ARRESTED FOR OFF-DUTY DUI
24-0105	11/25/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O USED DEPT CELL TO ENGAGE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH DV VICTIM  DEPT ALLEGED O VISITED PRIOR DV VICTIM FOR PERSONAL REASONS WHILE ON-DUTY
24-0108	12/19/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O MADE DISPARAGING REMARKS ABOUT ANOTHER O WITH INTENT TO DISCREDIT O
25-0003	1/13/2025	Р			CP ALLEGED O VIOLATED MISD STATUTE CP ALLEGED FAILED TO OBEY COURT ORDER REGARDING SHARED CUSTODY OF THEIR CHILDREN
25-0005	1/22/2025	2/18/2025	UNF	UNF	DEPT ALLEGED O MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN CONDUCT UNBECOMING
25-0006	1/22/2005	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O WAS ARRESTED FOR OFF-DUTY DUI
25-0011	2/12/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O MAY HAVE BEEN COMPLICIT TO RETIRED O'S WORKERS COMP CLAIM
25-0013	2/12/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED O DURING THEIR DATING RELATIONSHIP
25-0018	3/7/2025	Р			CP ALLEGED OS WERE DISCOURTEOUS AND ILLEGALLY TOWED VEHICLE
25-0020	3/7/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OS WERE INVOLVED IN OUT OF POLICY PURSUIT
25-0024	3/12/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O DENIED A FEMALE EQUAL ACCOMMODATIONS DURING THEIR CONTACT

D	DISCOURTEOUS TREATMENT OR CONDUCT UNBECOMING OF A POLICE OFFICER								
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY				
25-0025	3/12/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED SUPERVISING O DATED SUBORDINATE O DEPT ALLEGED O MISSED WORK TO SOCIALIZE				

Ten new Administrative or Performance Matters investigations were initiated during the quarter, and seven investigations were completed. After reviewing the completed investigations, I reached the same findings as the FPD. However, although I agreed with the findings for IA2024-0098, I believe the evidence supported several recommendations which I have outlined in the review summary following the case chart.

	ADMINISTRATIVE OR PERFORMANCE MATTERS									
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY					
24-0009	1/30/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OS VIOLATED SEVERAL DEPT POL					
24-0046	6/18/2024	2/10/2025	SUS	NR	DEPT ALLEGED O IMPROPERLY STORED PERSONALLY OWNED FIREARM IN PATROL CAR					
24-0066	8/22/2024	3/13/2025	SUS	NR	DEPT ALLEGED O FAILED TO REPORT A VEH ACC IN A TIMELY MANNER					
24-0068	8/27/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OS ACCESSED A RESTRICTED REPORT WHICH WAS NOT A PART OF THEIR DUTIES					
24-0069	8/27/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OS FAILED TO SEARCH SUBJ WHO WAS ARMED AND LATER TRANSPORTED TO FPD HQ					
24-0078	9/27/2024	2/3/2025	SUS NS	NR NS	DEPT ALLEGED O WAS LATE FOR CONTRACT ASSIGNMENT AND WAS DISRESPECTFUL WHEN CONTACTED BY A SUPERVISOR					
24-0080	10/3/2024	1/23/2025	SUS	NR	DEPT ALLEGED O LOST DEPT ISSUED PHONE					
24-0088	10/17/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O FAILED TO NOTIFY A SUPERVISOR WHEN O CAUSED DAMAGE TO A VEHICLE					
24-0097	11/18/2024	3/3/2025	EX x 3	EX x 3	DEPT ALLEGED OS ACCESSED A REPORT WITHOUT AN OFFICIAL NEED					
24-0098	11/18/2024	3/18/2025	NS x 2	NS x 2	DEPT ALLEGED OS DID NOT THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE A BURGLARY ALARM CALL					

ADMINISTRATIVE OR PERFORMANCE MATTERS												
IA CASE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE COMPLETED	FPD FINDING	OIR FINDING	SUMMARY							
24-0107	12/10/2024	3/13/2025	NS x 1 EX x 9, NS x 4	NS x 1 EX x 9, NS x 4	DEPT ALLEGED O MADE FALSE STATEMENT TO SUPV DEPT ALLEGED OS ACCESSED SENSITIVE FILES							
24-0109	12/19/2024	Р			DEPT ALLEGED CADET DID NOT REPORT TO WORK ON SCHEDULED WORKDAY							
25-0004	1/13/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O WAS INVOLVED IN OUT OF POLICY PURSUIT							
25-0007	1/22/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OS WERE INVOLVED IN OUT OF POLICY PURSUIT							
25-0010	2/6/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O LOST KEY FOB TO PATROL CAR							
25-0012	2/12/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O USED AXON REPORT WRITER FOR UNAPPROVED REPORTS							
25-0014	2/12/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O WAS DISCOURTEOUS TO FELLOW O AND ALSO FAILED TO ACTIVATE BWC DURING CODE 3 RESPONSE							
25-0015	2/28/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O LEFT CONTRACT ASSIGNMENT BEFORE THE CONTRACT SHIFT ENDED							
25-0017	3/7/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED O IMPOUNDED A VEHICLE WITHOUT DOCUMENTING VEH INVENTORY							
25-0021	3/11/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED OS FAILED TO PROVIDE TIMELY UPDATES DURING PURSUIT							
25-0022	3/11/2025	Р			O ALLEGED OTHER OS WERE NOT TRUTHFUL DURING THEIR INTERVIEWS IN AN IA INVESTIGATION							
25-0023	3/12/2025	Р			DEPT ALLEGED EMP RELEASED CONFIDENTIAL BWC VIDEO TO AN ASSOC EMPLOYED BY COF							

**IA2024-0098**: This investigation involved an alarm activation received by Sonitrol for a business on November 9, 2024, at 5:21 AM. Two prior alarm activations were received for this business, one earlier on November 9, 2024, and the previous date on November 8. On both alarm activations, the responsible party, hereafter referred to as the RP, for responding to the business could not be reached. When officers arrived, the exterior gate surrounding the business was locked, and a visual inspection of the business exterior did not show signs of a forced entry or a burglary. The officers cleared both calls for service, noting the RP did not respond, and access to the business was not possible without a key to the gate or business.

When the activation was received at 5:21 AM, Officer 1 and Officer 2 were dispatched and arrived on scene within two minutes. A RP was contacted and responded to the business with keys. After receiving the keys, the officers were able to gain access to the business. The alarm company advised where the alarm was tripped, and noises could be heard from that specific area within the business. The officers activated their respective BWCs and announced themselves before entering the business.

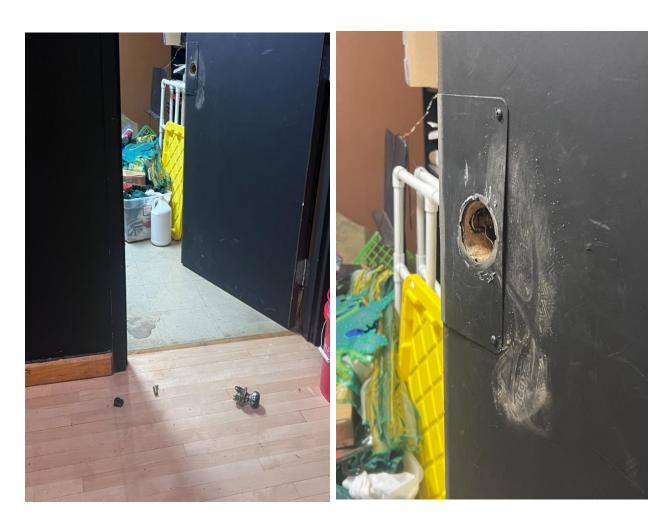
The officers conducted a thorough search of the business interior. After completing the search, Officer 1 suggested they search the area a second time where the alarm was tripped and the alarm company heard noises. As they were searching the area a second time, Officer 2 verbally directed Officer 1's attention to a doorknob that was dislodged from a nearby door and was lying on the floor. After completing the area search a second time, the officers were satisfied no one was inside the business. Officer 1 advised that their observations would be relayed to the RP, who was standing by outside, after they exited the building. As the officers exited the building and before recontacting the RP, they turned off their BWCs.

After speaking with the RP, Officer 1 entered the disposition for the call for service, stating, "no signs of forced entry/no subjects located. NFI (no further information)." Officer 1 and Officer 2 then went back into service to handle additional calls for service, and the RP returned home. Later that morning, after the business had opened for the day, the dislodged doorknob was discovered by employees, along with the door displaying a large hole where the doorknob was previously affixed. Although no property was missing from the area where the door was damaged, it was discovered that approximately \$3000 of electronic equipment was taken from an adjacent area within the business. A ladder was also discovered positioned near a large wall mounted speaker that was connected to the equipment that was taken.

The RP, who responded to the earlier alarm activation, advised she was never informed about the damaged door and dislodged doorknob. The RP stated she was told everything appeared to be fine, and they did not see anything out of the ordinary. The RP advised had she known about the damaged door and doorknob, she would have entered the business and conducted a walkthrough. Additionally, a shoe track was clearly visible next to the opening in the door where the doorknob was previously affixed. The RP also found damage to a double door on the east side of the premises where the lower part of the threshold was bent up and could have been pried open.

When interviewed, Officer 1 stated he informed the RP of what was observed in the business when they conducted their search. Officer 1 stated the RP did not seem interested in going inside and recalled she said something to the effect, "If no one is inside, I'm good." Officer 1 did not mention the shoe track on the door because he did not see it while conducting a search. Officer 2 did not hear what Officer 1 told the RP after the search of the building. However, Officer 2 was asked about the information in the call regarding Sonitrol hearing noises in the area when they found the damaged door and a dislodged doorknob. Officer 2 was not familiar with Sonitrol, although they have been an alarm monitoring service for over 60 years.

When the RP discovered the damaged door and missing property, she contacted FPD to report the burglary. The photographs on the following page were taken by FPD personnel who responded to the follow-up burglary call for service.



An IA investigation was initiated alleging Officer 1 and 2 may have violated two FPD policies. The policies read as follows and the FPD findings appear after the policies:

**Policy 600.1**: It is the policy of the Fresno Police Department to investigate crimes thoroughly and with due diligence, and to evaluate and prepare criminal cases for appropriate clearance or submission to a prosecutor.

Officer 1 stated the information was relayed to the RP, who did not appear concerned and declined to conduct a walkthrough of the premises. The RP did not recall being informed of the damage or vandalism. Officer 2 did not hear or recall what Officer 1 told the RP after the building search and therefore was unable to provide a statement on what the RP was told by Officer 1. Due to the BWCs being turned off after the search was conducted, there was no evidence to prove or disprove the policy was violated. Since the policy violation could not be proven or disproven the allegation was deemed **Not Sustained**.

**Policy 344.1:** A crime Report shall be prepared whenever any reported crime has been committed or is logically suspected of having been committed in the City. All report shall accurately reflect the identity of the persons involved, all pertinent information seen, heard, or assimilated by any other sense, and any actions taken. Members shall not repress, conceal, or

distort the facts of any reported incident, nor shall any member make a false report orally or in writing.

During a search of the business, the officers did not find anyone inside but did find a dislodged doorknob in the area where the alarm was tripped. Office 1 stated the information was relayed to the RP, but she was not concerned and declined to conduct a walkthrough to make an assessment. Based on the evidence reviewed in the investigation, it was not possible to determine whether Officer 1 or 2 reasonably believed a crime had occurred, which would have warranted a crime report. Therefore, the allegation of not documenting a crime report was deemed **Not Sustained** by FPD.

**Recommendation:** Based on the totality of the evidence, I concurred with the findings reached by FPD of Not Sustained for both allegations. However, it is recommended that officers document when presenting an RP with information that may be considered evidence of a crime at a later date. This documentation could have been easily done by leaving their BWCs on for another few minutes. It is also recommended to document what, if any, information was relayed to the RP when closing out a call for service. Finally, the facts that the signs of a possible burglary were overlooked, and an officer being unfamiliar with Sonitrol, are not common among the members of the FPD. It is recommended to address these issues with Officers 1 and 2.

# **VEHICLE ACCIDENTS**

Two new vehicle accident case investigations were initiated during the quarter. During the same period 14 cases were completed within this category. In all 14 cases an officer was found to be in violation of an FPD policy regarding the operation of a vehicle.

## IA INVESTIGATION DISCIPLINE RESULTS

During the first quarter of 2025, nine officers were suspended for a total of 170 hours, 11 received a Letter of Reprimand, 15 were required to attend additional training, and one officer resigned. It should be noted that an officer/employee may be subject to more than one disciplinary action. As an example, an officer/employee may receive a suspension plus be required to attend additional training.

The chart on the next page shows the annual totals from 2017 through the first three months of 2025. The training category was added to the chart beginning with the year 2024.

DISCIPLINE ISSUED	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
TERMINATIONS	3	2	8	5	5	6	8	4	0
RESIGNED IN LIEU OF	1	0	4	8	3	5	2	2	1
RETIRED IN LIEU OF	0	0	4	3	0	2	3	0	0
DEMOTION	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
SUSPENDED	17	32	31	52	22	28	40	47	9
PAYMENT IN LIEU OF	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
FINES	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
MEDICAL SEPARATION	NA	NA	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
LETTERS OF REPRIMAND	10	15	17	15	25	12	23	16	11
LAST CHANCE AGREEMENT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	4	2	1	0
TRAINING	N/A	36	15						
TOTAL	31	49	72	84	59	58	79	106	36

## **SUMMARY**

We continue to promote the functions of this office by participating in community events and giving presentations to groups or organizations. If you would like for us to attend your event, or speak to your group, please call us at 559-621-8617 or email us at OIR@Fresno.gov. We also welcome phone calls or emails if you have general questions regarding the OIR.

Please take a moment to explore our social media pages to view the highlights from our outreach efforts.

Facebook: <u>Fresno Review</u> X (Twitter): <u>Fresno Review</u> Instagram: <u>Fresno Review</u>

John A. Gliatta Independent Reviewer Office of Independent Review