



PAB

**POLICE
ACCOUNTABILITY
BOARD**

MONTHLY REPORT

**APRIL
2026**

Date issued: 5/21/26

Reporting Period: 4/1/26 – 4/30/26

Complaints received during the reporting period: 14

STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY

This report provides a summary of complaints received by the Police Accountability Board (PAB), community engagement activity, and policy oversight work conducted during the reporting period.

Pursuant to Rochester City Charter Article XVIII § 18-1, the Police Accountability Board (PAB) serves as an independent office of municipal government responsible for promoting accountability, transparency, and public trust in policing. The PAB reviews and assesses Rochester Police Department (RPD) patterns, practices, policies, and procedures and provides community-informed oversight and policy recommendations.

Due to the court decision dated April 28, 2025, affirmed on March 20, 2026, the PAB's authority to independently investigate individualized allegations of police misconduct, issue subpoenas, and recommend discipline has been invalidated. Despite these legal limitations, the PAB remains committed to receiving and documenting complaints from the public, identifying systemic concerns and trends, advancing policy oversight and reform, and promoting transparency and community engagement.

The PAB accepts reports related to officer conduct, alleged misconduct, and concerns regarding RPD policies, procedures, and practices. Complaints received by the Board are documented and reviewed for potential systemic issues, trends, policy implications, and broader concerns related to public accountability and institutional practices.

In accordance with Article XVIII § 18-11(A), the PAB continues to publish monthly data regarding complaints received by the Board, as well as information related to community engagement, policy oversight activities, and institutional transparency efforts.

For more information and access to this report, visit: www.rocpab.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period of April 1, 2026 – April 30, 2026, the Police Accountability Board (PAB) continued its work focused on public transparency, complaint intake, policy oversight, and community engagement. While recent court decisions have limited the PAB’s authority to independently investigate individualized allegations of police misconduct, the Board remains committed to advancing accountability through systemic review, public education, data transparency, and community-informed policy recommendations.

Key Highlights

- 14 complaints were received and documented by the PAB during the month of April.
- Complaints were submitted through multiple intake channels, including the online portal, hotline, email, walk-ins, and referrals from the Rochester Police Department Professional Standards Section (PSS).
- The Community Engagement Team participated in 10 outreach and engagement activities, reaching 397 community members throughout Rochester.
- The Policy & Oversight Division concluded the public input period for the Proposal for Change titled “Policing and Community Surveillance: Your Right to Privacy,” which examines the use of surveillance technologies and related transparency and accountability considerations.
- The PAB continued to identify and review complaint trends, policy concerns, and systemic issues to help inform oversight, public education, and future policy recommendations.
- The PAB maintained its commitment to transparency by publishing complaint data, public tracking information, and updates regarding policy oversight and community engagement activities.

The PAB remains committed to fostering public trust, supporting transparency, and advancing community-informed accountability efforts in the City of Rochester.

MONTH-TO-MONTH TREND COMPARISON OVERVIEW

MARCH 2026 – APRIL 2026

The following trends provide a high-level comparison of complaint activity, intake patterns, and community engagement efforts between March 2026 and April 2026. These trends are intended to support public transparency and provide additional context regarding complaints and community concerns received by the Police Accountability Board (PAB).

Trend Comparison Summary

Category	March 2026	April 2026	Trend
Total Complaints Received	12	14	Increased
Failure to Act or Respond	4	6	Increased
Abuse of Authority	3	5	Increased
Other Misconduct	3	4	Increased
Use of Force	2	2	No Significant Change
Discourtesy	1	2	Increased
Falsification & Improper Documentation	1	2	Increased
Community Engagement Activities	10	11	Slight Increase
Community Members Reached	312	397	Increased

Key Trend Observations

- Complaint intake increased slightly from March to April 2026.
- Failure to Act or Respond remained the most frequently reported complaint allegation category during the reporting period.
- Complaints involving Abuse of Authority and Other Misconduct also increased during April 2026.
- The PAB continued to receive complaints through multiple accessible intake channels, including the online complaint portal, email, hotline, walk-ins, and referrals from the Rochester Police Department Professional Standards Section (PSS).

- Community engagement activity remained active throughout the reporting period, with increased community participation and outreach.
- The Policy & Oversight Division concluded the public input period for the Proposal for Change titled “Policing and Community Surveillance: Your Right to Privacy,” continuing the PAB’s focus on systemic review, transparency, and community-informed policy recommendations.

The PAB will continue monitoring complaint trends, intake patterns, and systemic concerns to help inform oversight activities, public education efforts, transparency initiatives, and future policy recommendations.

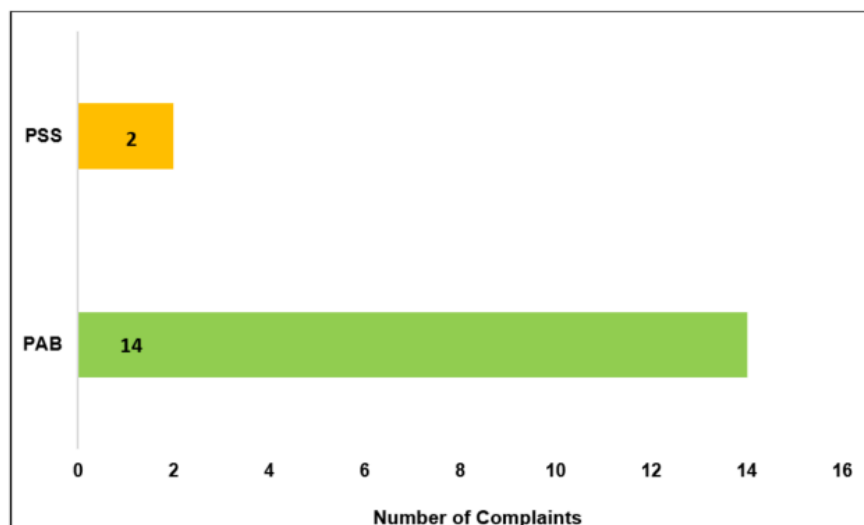
PAB COMPLAINT INTAKE OVERVIEW: APRIL 2026

The following data provides demographic and incident-related information associated with complaints received by the Police Accountability Board (PAB) during the reporting period. This information is intended to support transparency, identify trends, and help the PAB better understand the communities impacted by reported incidents and public concerns related to policing.

The demographic information reflected in this report is based on information voluntarily provided by complainants at the time of intake and may not be available for every complaint received. Incident zip code data reflects the location where the reported incident occurred, when known.

The charts in this report summarize complaint language, incident zip code, race/ethnicity, age, gender, pronouns, and case status information associated with complaints received during April 2026.

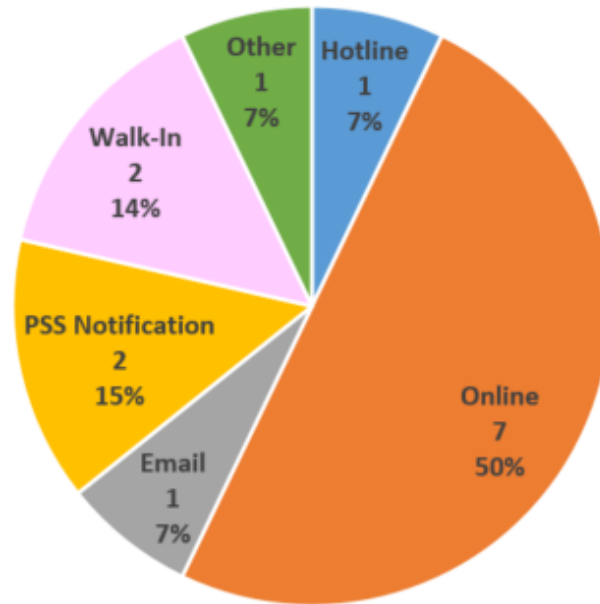
During the month of April 2026, the PAB received and documented 14 complaints related to Rochester Police Department officer conduct, policies, or practices. Complaints were submitted through multiple intake channels, including the online portal, hotline, email, walk-ins, and referrals from the Rochester Police Department Professional Standards Section (PSS). Please note that of the 14 complaints submitted to the PAB, 2 were received from PSS.



SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

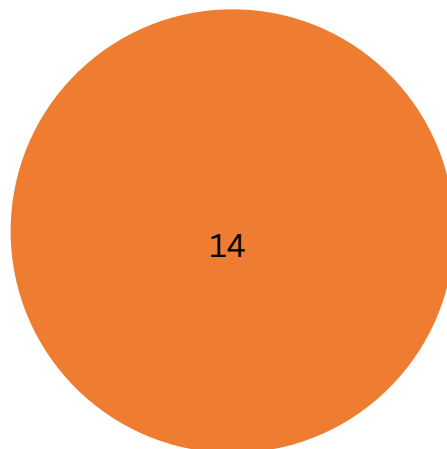
Method of Complaint Received

In April 2026, the Police Accountability Board received 14 complaints submitted through various channels, including the online portal, email, walk-in, PSS Notification, and the PAB hotline.



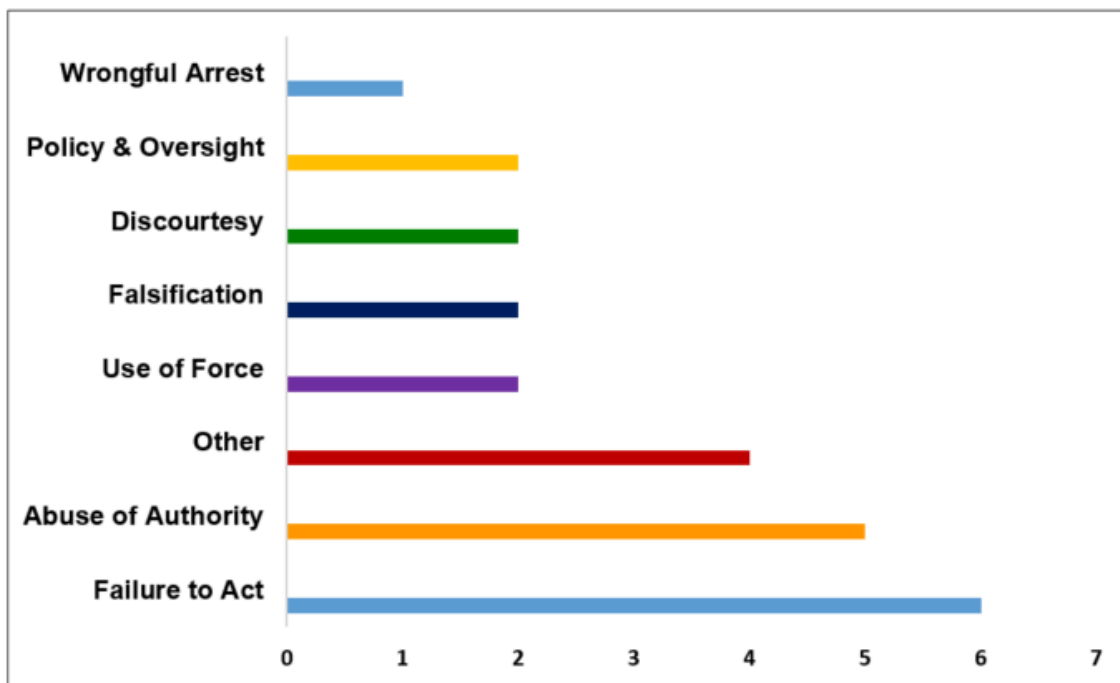
Complaint Language

The Police Accountability Board is committed to providing accessible services to all members of the Rochester community. In April 2026, we received 14 complaints in English, none in American Sign Language, and none in Spanish.



Complaint Category

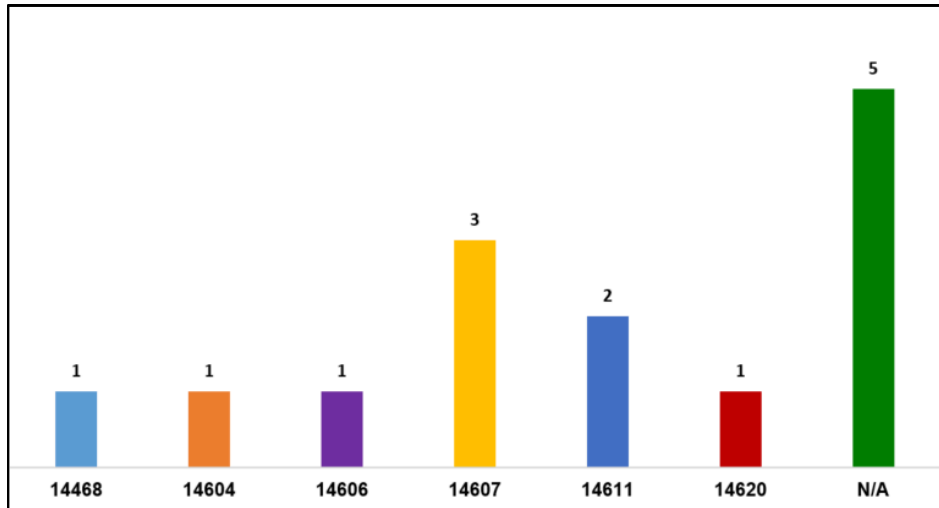
This chart reflects the categories of concerns or allegations reported in complaints received by the Police Accountability Board (PAB) during the reporting period. A single complaint may be associated with multiple categories depending on the nature of the reported incident. This data helps the PAB identify recurring trends, systemic concerns, and areas that may warrant further policy review or public education efforts.



Note: a single complaint can be assigned multiple categories, depending on the substance of the associated incident. For example, a complainant may allege both Discourtesy and Use of Force during an interaction with the RPD, as well as recommend a change to RPD policy. In this case, the complaint would be associated with all three categories. As a result, the total number of complaints by category in the table below (24) is greater than the number of complaints received this month (14). For more information regarding complaint categories, please see the definitions at the conclusion of this report.

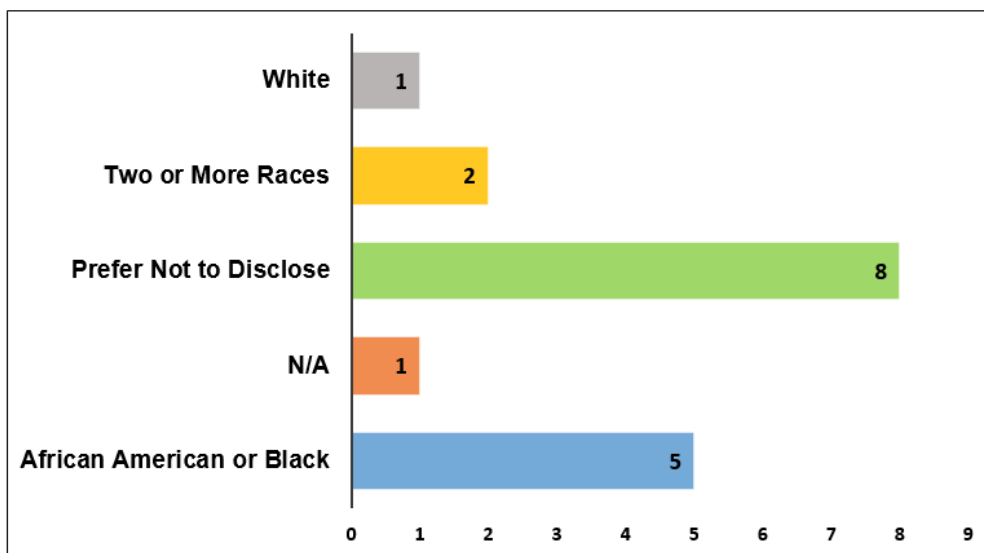
Incident Zip Code

This chart reflects the reported zip codes where incidents occurred, when known. Geographic data may help identify trends, patterns, or areas of recurring community concern.



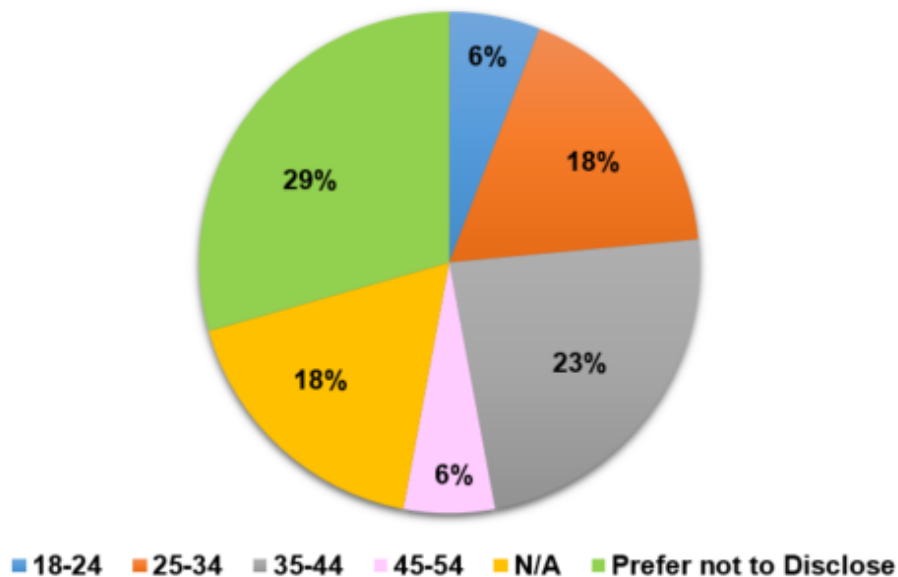
Count of Race/Ethnicity

This chart reflects the race and ethnicity information voluntarily provided by complainants during intake. This information is collected to support transparency and better understand the communities engaging with the PAB.



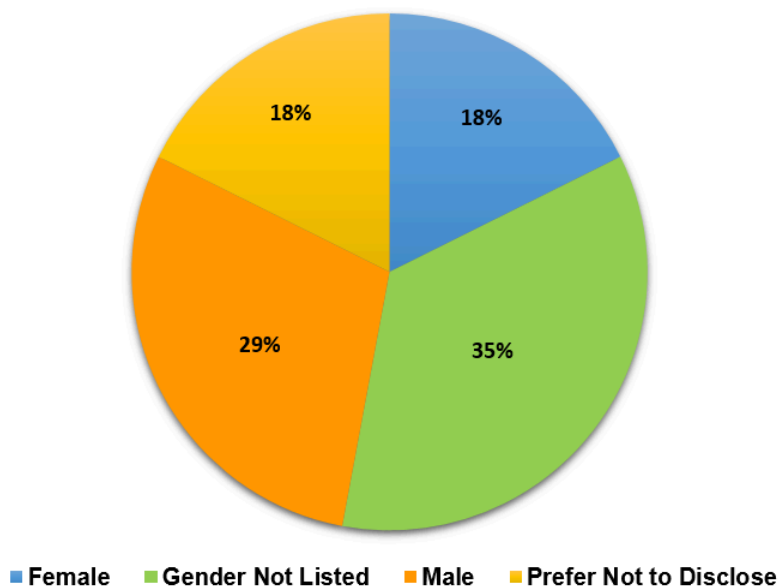
Age

This chart reflects the age ranges of complainants who submitted reports to the PAB during the reporting period, when provided.



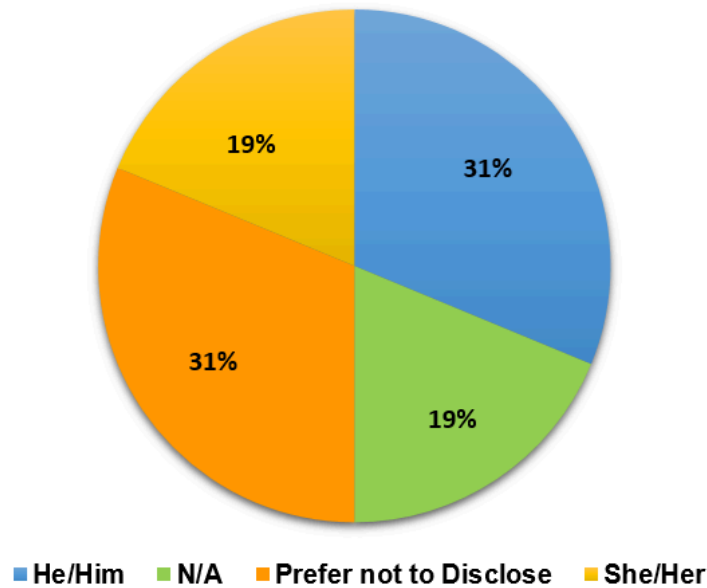
Gender

This chart reflects the gender identities voluntarily reported by complainants during the intake process.



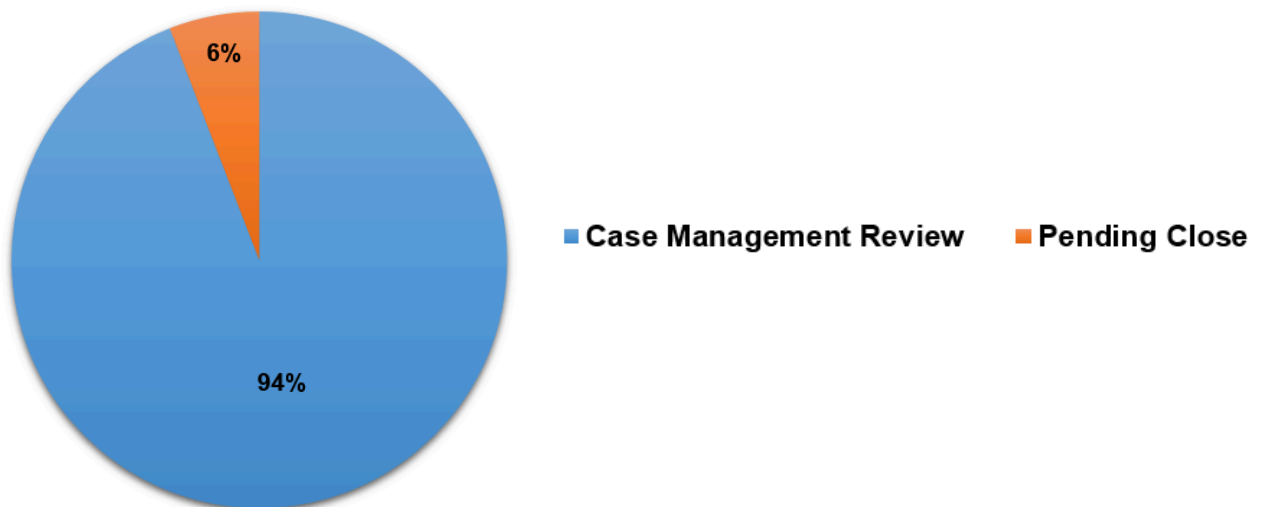
Pronouns

This chart reflects the pronouns voluntarily shared by complainants. The PAB remains committed to respectful, inclusive, and accessible engagement practices.



Case Status

This chart reflects the current administrative status of complaints received during the reporting period. Case statuses may include intake review, policy and oversight review, pending administrative review, or non-investigable determinations based on jurisdiction or available information.



PUBLIC TRACKING NUMBERS

In accordance with the PAB's commitment to transparency, each complaint is assigned a Public Tracking Number (PTN) that allows complainants and community members to reference complaints without disclosing personally identifiable information.

Each of the 14 complaints received by the Board in the month of April was assigned a Public Tracking Number (PTN), listed in the table below.

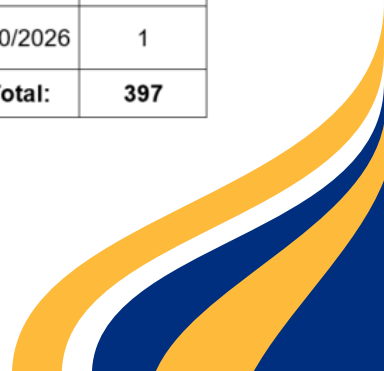
2026-0031	2026-0036	2026-0041
2026-0032	2026-0037	2026-0042
2026-0033	2026-0038	2026-0043
2026-0034	2026-0039	2026-0044
2026-0035	2026-0040	

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In April 2026, the Community Engagement Team continued outreach efforts focused on public education, relationship building, accessibility, and increasing community awareness regarding the role and services of the Police Accountability Board (PAB). Through participation in community meetings, public events, presentations, and outreach activities, the PAB remained committed to strengthening visibility and fostering trust and transparency throughout the Rochester community.

The Community Engagement Team participated in 10 outreach activities during the reporting period, engaging with 397 community members across the City of Rochester. These efforts supported the PAB’s ongoing commitment to ensuring that residents have accessible opportunities to learn about the complaint process, share concerns, and participate in conversations related to accountability, oversight, and public safety.

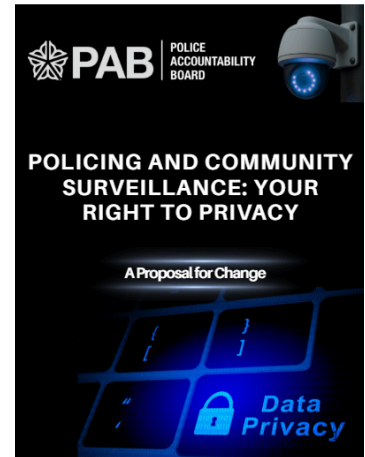
Name	Address	Event Type	Date	Contacts
MWBE Conference	123 East Main St, Rochester, NY, 14604	Network/Tabling	4/1/2026	57
Teen Empowerment Unity Jam	530 Webster Ave, Rochester, NY 14609	Network/Tabling	4/3/2026	91
Trillium Pantry	259 Monroe Ave, Rochester, NY 14607	Intro/Relationship	4/7/2026	4
Walking in God’s Ministries Health Fair	10 Cady St, Rochester, NY 14608	Network/Tabling	4/10/2026	78
Transit Center Project Intake	Digital Meeting	A&T Project	4/14/2026	1
First Universalist	150 S Clinton Ave, Rochester, NY 14604	Intro/Relationship	4/16/2026	1
Connection Hour (Connected Communities)	616 N Goodman, Rochester, NY 14609	Network/Tabling	4/21/2026	31
Guest Lecture at U of R	500 Wilson Blvd, Rochester, NY 14611	General Presentation	4/22/2026	37
RAWNY Conference	150 Sawgrass Dr, Rochester, NY 14620	Network/Tabling	4/23/2026	83
MCC Community Conversation	321 State St, Rochester, NY 14608	General Presentation	4/25/2026	13
First Universalist (Second Meeting)	150 S Clinton Ave, Rochester, NY 14604	Intro/Relationship	4/30/2026	1
Total:				397



POLICY & OVERSIGHT

In April 2026, the Policy & Oversight (P&O) Division continued its work focused on systemic review, policy analysis, public transparency, and community-informed accountability efforts. Consistent with the PAB's current authority and strategic direction, the Division remained focused on identifying broader trends, practices, and policy concerns impacting public trust and policing in the City of Rochester.

During the reporting period, the P&O Division concluded the public input period for the Proposal for Change titled "Policing and Community Surveillance: Your Right to Privacy." The Proposal for Change examines the use of surveillance technologies within the Rochester Police Department, including blue light cameras, drone technologies, and cellular surveillance tools, while also evaluating transparency, privacy, and accountability considerations related to these technologies.



The public engagement process included opportunities for community members to provide feedback through presentations, outreach efforts, and public comment submissions. Community feedback received during the process reflected ongoing concerns related to privacy protections, data retention, public notification, oversight mechanisms, and the broader impact of surveillance technology on community trust.

The Proposal for Change is intended to support informed public discussion and provide policy recommendations designed to strengthen transparency, accountability, and public access to information regarding surveillance technologies and related policing practices. Following Board review and approval, formal recommendations will be transmitted to the Rochester Police Department, the Mayor, and Rochester City Council for consideration.

To read the Proposal for Change and learn more about the work of the Policy & Oversight Division, please visit: www.rocpab.org/policy-oversight

DEFINITIONS

Abuse of Authority: This wide-ranging category pertains to an officer's conduct that is harmful and that serves no lawful or appropriate law enforcement purpose. It may include using a position of power for personal and unprofessional purposes.

Board: The Police Accountability Board; such Board is a public agency within the meaning of New York Civil Rights Law §50-a.

Case Management Review: The report is under review by the case management division or is awaiting assignment to a division for review.

Complaint: A written or oral report regarding police misconduct made by any individual or group of individuals.

Discourtesy: This category pertains to verbal and non-verbal communication by officers, which is characterized by harsh, profane, insolent, or intentionally insulting language.

Disposition: The status of a case, and if concluded, the outcome.

Discrimination: The unlawful targeting or treatment of a person or persons due to their membership in a protected class, such as discrimination based on race.

Failure to Act or Respond: This category pertains to complaints regarding an officer's failure to respond to a call for help, an officer's failure to identify themselves upon request, or failure to intervene when there is a duty to do so, such as when a person in custody requires medical attention.

Falsification and Improper Documentation: This category includes allegations that officers made inaccurate statements orally or in writing. These complaints may allege that an officer made material misstatements of fact or law, failed to document an incident that should have been documented, or documented the incident improperly, whether in writing or orally, in a police report, official statement, or other document.

Intake: PAB's case management team initially handles reports from the public. Case management takes reports that come via live phone calls, voicemails, an online complaint form, or email.

Misconduct: Any acts or omissions by an officer of the Rochester Police Department that are unlawful, contrary to Rochester Police Department policy, or otherwise inappropriate.

Non-Investigable: When the PAB is unable to obtain sufficient information from a reporter, determines the report is outside of PAB jurisdiction, or if the report does not contain an allegation of officer misconduct or RPD policy recommendations, the case is closed as non-investigable.

Officers: The sworn officers of the RPD, including but not limited to the Chief, deputies, captains, lieutenants, commanders, and all other sworn law enforcement professionals.

Other Misconduct: This catchall classification concerns any type of alleged misconduct that does not fit into any of the other categories.

Oversight Investigation: The Policy and Oversight Division is conducting a policy-level investigation that addresses a specific subject or aims to answer a particular question.

Policy: This category of complaint concerns systemic patterns, practices, policies and procedures of RPD.

Policy and Oversight Review: The complaint is under review by the Policy and Oversight Division for a Proposal for Change or Oversight Investigation.

Proposal for Change: The Policy and Oversight division is preparing a Proposal for Change, which is a community and data-driven process where the PAB makes formal recommendations to change policies and practices that impact the Rochester Police Department.

Professional Standards Section (PSS): The internal affairs section of the Rochester Police Department.

PSS Notification: A civilian complaint initially received by the Rochester Police Department Professional Standards Section and subsequently transmitted to the PAB.

Public Tracking Number (PTN): A unique identifying number assigned to each complaint received by the PAB for public reference and tracking purposes.

Response to Protests: This category of complaint pertains to incidents of police activity during protests or other public assemblies such as parades and festivals, which may affect large groups of people, rather than a single individual.

Request for Information: The Investigations Division has submitted a request for evidence from RPD and other relevant agencies.

Search and Seizure: This category is concerning the search of a person or property including but not limited to their home, vehicle, business, or items in their constructive, actual or presumed possession.

Sexual Misconduct: This category includes allegations of assault, coercion, or harassment of a sexual nature.

Systemic Review: The examination of patterns, practices, policies, procedures, or recurring concerns that may impact policing outcomes or public trust.

Use of Force: This category includes any physical force or threat of physical force used by RPD officers.

Wrongful Arrest: This category includes incidents in which someone may have been arrested or charged with a crime without legal or factual basis.

The PAB is committed to producing monthly reports that are valuable to the public and welcomes feedback on how to make its data more accessible. Feedback can be submitted via email to PABFeedback@CityofRochester.gov