



**PAB**

**POLICE  
ACCOUNTABILITY  
BOARD**

# **MONTHLY REPORT**

**MAY  
2026**

**Date issued: 06/17/26**

**Reporting Period: 5/1/26 – 5/31/26**

**Complaints received during the reporting period: 10**

## 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](http://www.rocpab.org)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the reporting period of May 1, 2026 – May 31, 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

- 10 complaints were received and documented by the PAB during the month of May.
- Complaints were submitted through multiple intake channels, including the online portal, hotline, email, and walk-ins while no referrals from the Rochester Police Department Professional Standards Section (PSS) was received.
- The Community Engagement Team participated in 14 outreach and engagement activities, reaching 704 community members throughout Rochester.
- The Policy and Oversight Division transmitted seven policy recommendations from “Policing and Community Surveillance: Your Right to Privacy” to the Chief of RPD, City Council, and the Mayor; the Chief has 30 days to respond regarding implementation.
- 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

### APRIL 2026 - MAY 2026

The following trends provide a high-level comparison of complaint activity, intake patterns, and community engagement efforts between April 2026 and May 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	APRIL 2026	MAY 2026	TREND
Total Complaints Received	14	10	Decreased
Failure to Act or Respond	6	5	Decreased
Abuse of Authority	5	3	Decreased
Discrimination	0	1	Increased
Use of Force	2	2	No Change
Discourtesy	2	0	Decreased
Falsification & Improper Documentation	2	1	Decreased
PSS referrals	2	0	Decreased
Community Engagement Activities	11	14	Increased
Community Members Reached	397	704	Significantly Increased

### Key Trend Observations

- The PAB continued to maintain accessible complaint intake channels in May, receiving complaints through the online portal, hotline, and walk-ins, while documenting all 10 complaints received during the reporting period.
- No civilian complaint was transmitted to the PAB from the PSS.
- Community engagement increased significantly in May. The Community Engagement Team participated in 14 outreach activities and reached 704 community members, compared with 10 outreach activities and 397 community members in April.
- May reflected continued progress in policy oversight. After concluding the public input period in April for “Policing and Community Surveillance: Your Right to Privacy,” the PAB transmitted seven policy recommendations to the Chief of Police, City Council, and the Mayor in May.

## **PAB COMPLAINT INTAKE OVERVIEW: MAY 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.

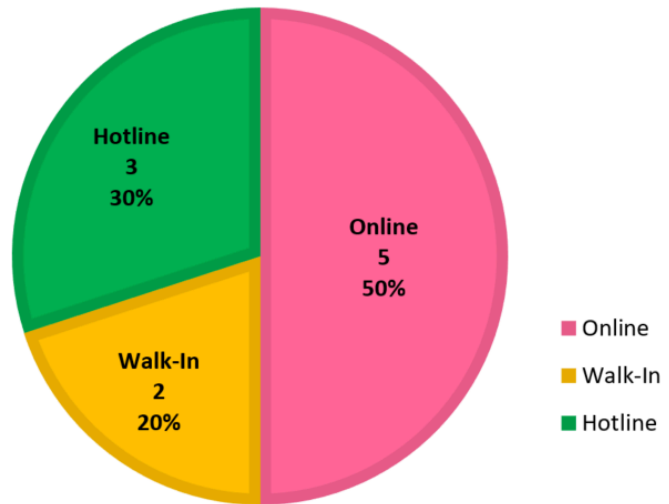
The charts in this report summarize complaint language, incident zip code, race/ethnicity, age, gender, pronouns, and case status information associated with complaints received during May 2026.

During the month of May 2026, the PAB received and documented 10 complaints related to Rochester Police Department officer conduct, policies, or practices. Complaints were submitted through multiple intake channels, including the online portal, hotline, and walk-ins. Please note that of the 10 complaints submitted to the PAB, 0 (zero) were received from Rochester Police Department Professional Standards Section (PSS).

# SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

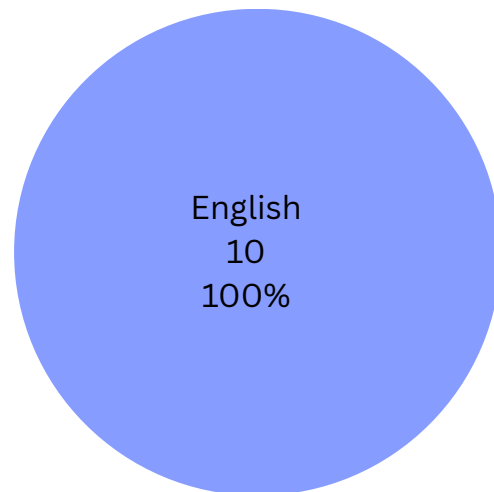
## Method of Complaint Received

During the month of May 2026, the PAB received and documented 10 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).



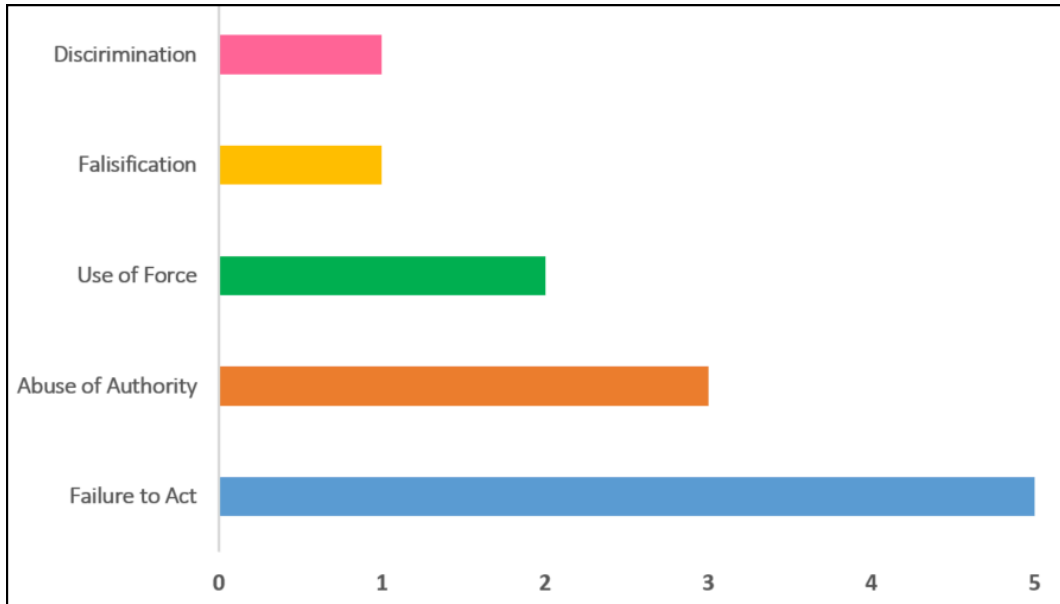
## Complaint Language

The Police Accountability Board is committed to providing accessible services to all members of the Rochester community. In May 2026, we received 10 complaints in English, none in American Sign Language, and none in Spanish.



## Complaint Category

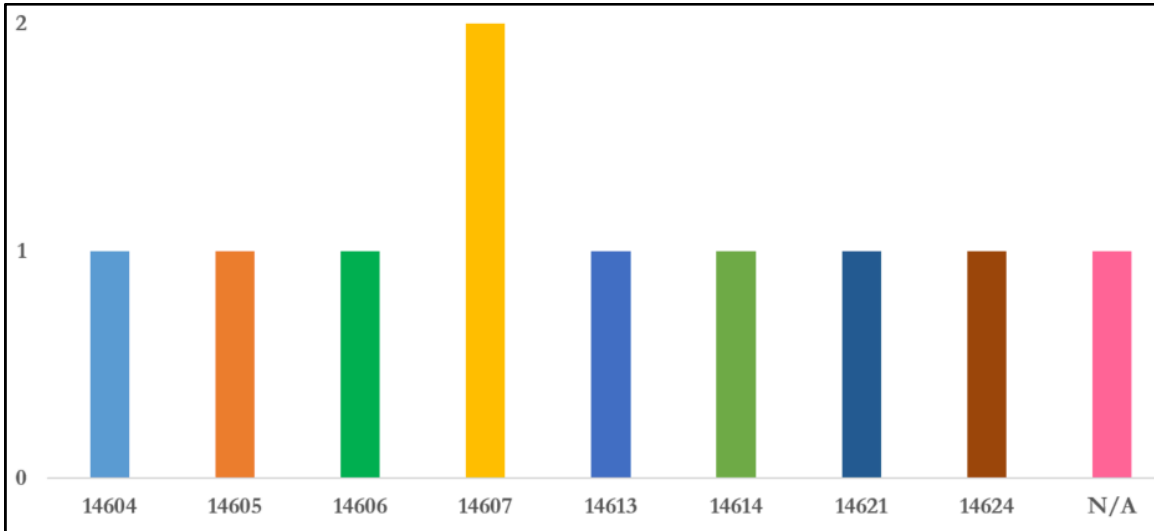
Each complaint received by the PAB is categorized according to the form of misconduct alleged in the complaint. In May 2026, the categories with the greatest number of complaints received were Failure to Act (5), followed by Abuse of Authority (3), Use of Force (2), Falsification (1), and Discrimination (1).



**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 (12). For more information regarding complaint categories, please see the definitions at the conclusion of this report.

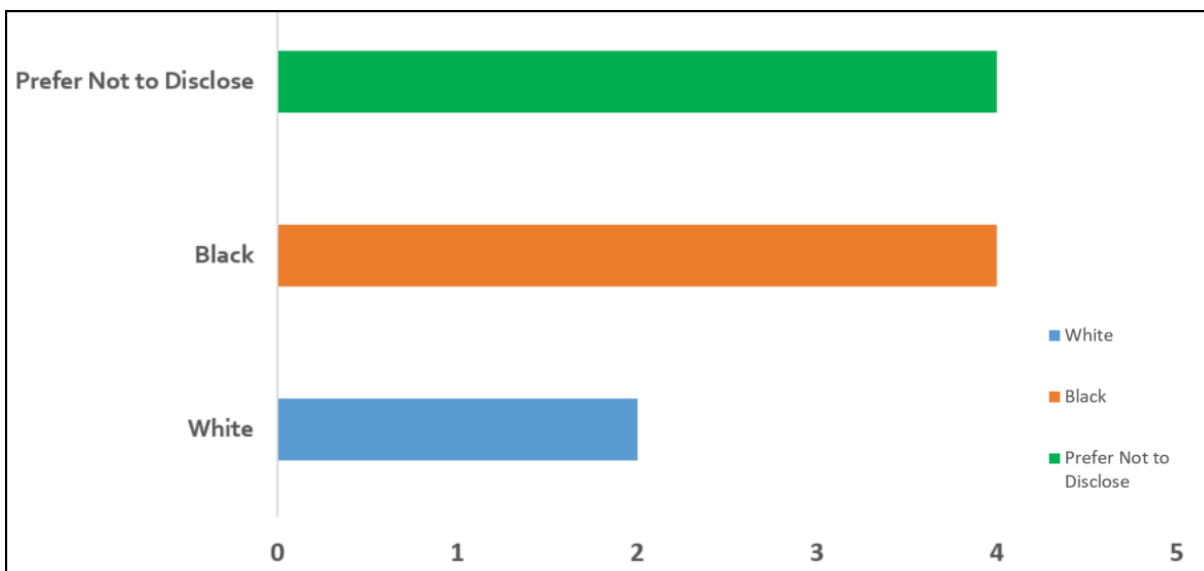
## Incident Zip Code

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.



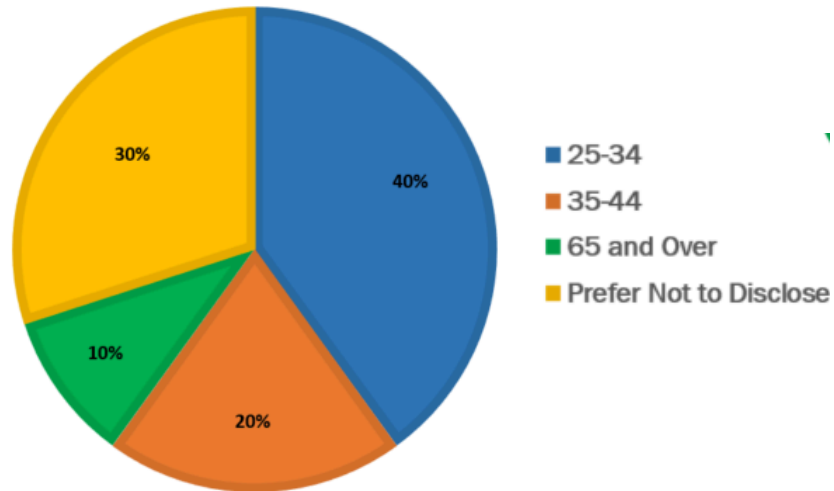
## Count of Race/Ethnicity

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



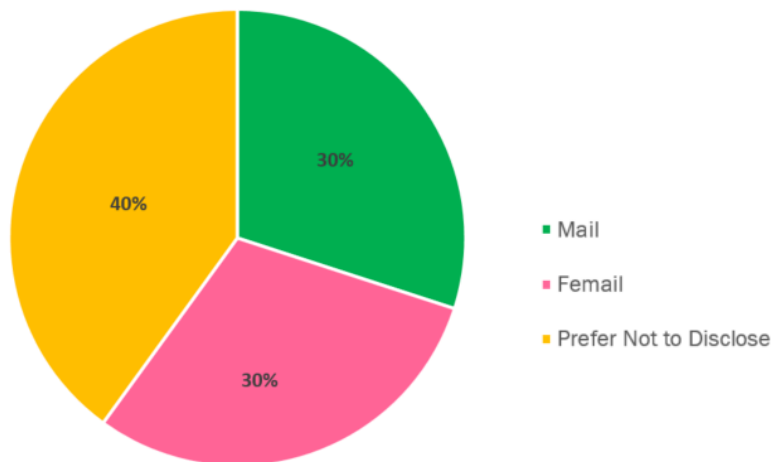
## Age

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



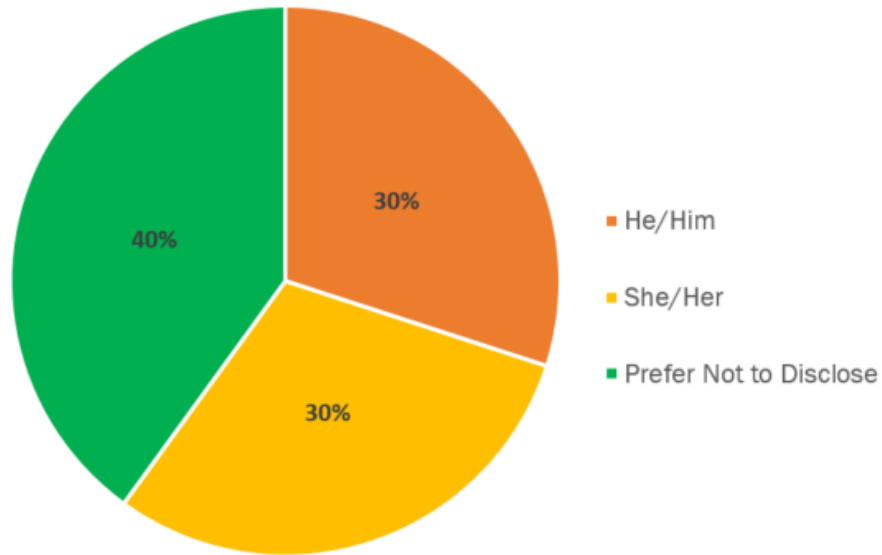
## Gender

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



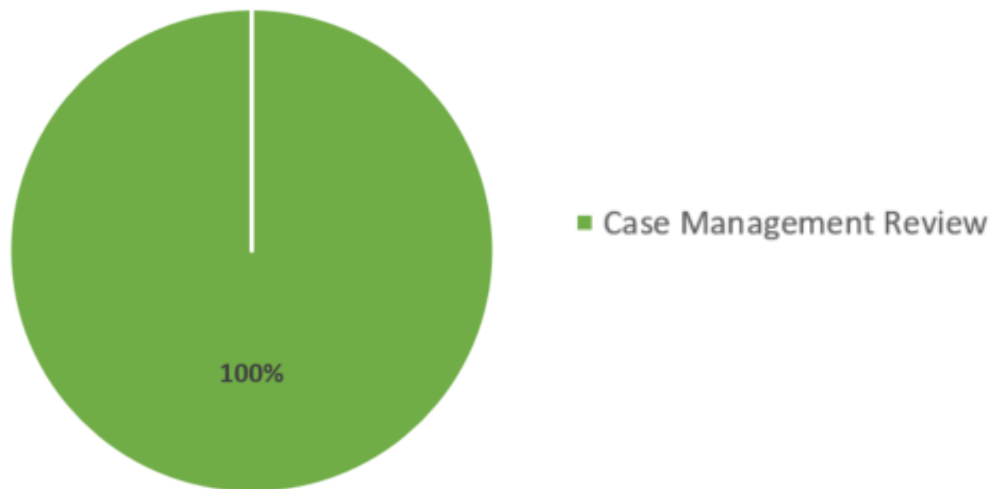
## Pronouns

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

Each of the 10 complaints received by the Board in the month of May was assigned a Public Tracking Number (PTN), listed in the table below.

2026-0045	2026-0046	2026-0048	2026-0049	2026-0050
2026-0051	2026-0052	2026-0053	2026-0055	2026-0056

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement remains a core function of the Police Accountability Board's mission to promote transparency, accountability, and public trust. Through outreach, public education, relationship-building, and participation in community events, the PAB seeks to ensure that residents understand the Board's role, are aware of available reporting options, and have meaningful opportunities to share concerns, experiences, and recommendations related to policing and public safety. Community feedback gathered through these efforts helps inform the PAB's policy oversight work, public education initiatives, and recommendations for systemic reform.

In May 2026, the Community Engagement Team participated in 14 outreach and engagement activities throughout the City of Rochester, reaching 704 community members. Activities included community presentations, networking and tabling events, relationship-building meetings with community organizations, and participation in cultural and civic events. These engagements provided opportunities to educate residents about the PAB's current role and authority, answer questions regarding police accountability and oversight, strengthen partnerships with community stakeholders, and identify emerging community concerns and priorities.

Name	Address	Event Type	Date	Contacts
International Plaza - Opening Ceremonies	828 N Clinton Ave, Rochester, NY 14605	Networking/Tabling	5/3/2026	29
Juneteenth Press Conference	353 Court St, Rochester, NY 14607	Networking/Tabling	5/4/2026	22
First Universalist	150 S Clinton Ave, Rochester, NY 14604	Intro/Relationship	5/5/2026	1
Teen Empowerment Luncheon	123 E Main St, Rochester, NY 14604	Networking/Tabling	5/6/2026	122
Action in Concert Summit for Collective Impact	1000 Genesee St, Rochester, NY 14611	Networking/Tabling	5/8/2026	41
White Rose Luncheon	123 E Main St, Rochester, NY 14604	Networking/Tabling	5/9/2026	360
East Quadrant Community Meeting	353 Court St, Rochester, NY 14607	General Presentation	5/13/2026	17
Measures for Justice	421 University Ave #1, Rochester, NY 14607	Intro/Relationship	5/14/2026	2
United Way Board Meeting	Digital Meeting	Intro/Relationship	5/19/2026	29
LGBTQ+ Community Council Meeting	170 Science Parkway, Rochester, NY 14620	Intro/Relationship	5/18/2026	21
Rainbow Union	50 Prince St, Rochester, NY 14607	Intro/Relationship	5/20/2026	1
Asian Heritage Dinner	929 S Plymouth Ave, Rochester, NY 14608	Networking/Tabling	5/27/2026	41
North West Quadrant Community Meeting	25 Driving Park Ave, Rochester, NY 14613	General Presentation	5/28/2026	6
Ease on Down	555 Thurston Rd, Rochester, NY 14619	Networking/Tabling	5/30/2026	12
<b>Total Contacts:</b>				<b>704</b>

## POLICY & OVERSIGHT

In May 2026, the Police Accountability Board voted to approve the policy recommendations contained within the *Proposal for Change* titled “Policing and Community Surveillance: Your Right to Privacy.” On May 26, 2026, the PAB sent the recommendations to the Chief of Police, City Council, and the Mayor. The Chief of Police has 30 days to respond to the recommendations, stating whether or not he will implement the recommendations. Seven recommendations were presented.

To enhance public trust and effective operations, the Police Accountability Board recommends that the Rochester Police Department:



- Adopt a privacy impact assessment template for use at the RPD based on guidance from the U.S. Department of Justice;
- Complete the privacy impact assessment for the body-worn camera (BWC) program and digital evidence management system (DEMS), as required by City of Rochester Ordinance No. 2022-285 § 5;
- Complete and submit to City Council a privacy impact assessment for any future legislation or grant application related to the collection and/or storage of Personally Identifiable Information (PII);
- Publish all privacy impact assessments on the Open Data Portal;
- Conduct a public hearing for any future legislation related to the purchase or implementation of surveillance technology;
- Conduct a targeted community engagement campaign before implementing any new surveillance technology programs; and
- Evaluate blue light camera locations every five years and publish the underlying hotspot analysis.

To read the *Proposal for Change* and learn more about the work of the Policy & Oversight Division, please visit: [www.rocpab.org/policy-oversight](http://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 established pursuant to Article XVIII of the Rochester City Charter.

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

**Community Engagement:** Activities conducted by the PAB to inform, educate, and receive feedback from community members regarding police accountability, public safety, and the work of the Board.

**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.

**Investigatory Authority:** The authority to independently investigate individualized allegations of police misconduct, gather evidence, interview witnesses, issue subpoenas, and make findings regarding alleged misconduct. Pursuant to court decisions issued on April 28, 2025 and affirmed on March 20, 2026, the PAB does not currently possess this authority.

**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 Review:** A structured examination of policies, procedures, practices, trends, or community concerns conducted by the Policy and Oversight Division to inform recommendations and promote accountability.

**Pattern Identification:** The process of reviewing complaints, community reports, data, and other information to identify recurring issues, trends, or concerns that may indicate broader organizational or policy-related problems.

**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.

**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 Issue:** A recurring concern, pattern, practice, policy, procedure, or organizational condition that may affect multiple individuals or communities and may require policy review, reform, or organizational change.

**Systemic Review:** A structured examination of policies, procedures, practices, trends, or community concerns conducted by the Policy and Oversight Division to inform recommendations and promote accountability.

**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](mailto:PABFeedback@CityofRochester.gov)*

This document was designed by Faizulis Vides, Community Engagement Specialist-Bilingual