

City of Rochester Police Accountability Board Established 2019

MONTHLY REPORT

Date issued: 3/7/2024 Reporting period: 2/1/2024 – 2/29/2024 Reports received during the reporting period: 21 Reports received during fiscal year 2023-24: 128 Total reports received since 6/20/2022: 489 Prepared by: Sara Jenks

STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY

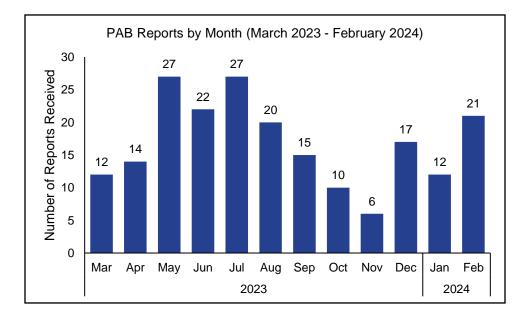
Pursuant to Rochester City Charter Article XVIII § 18-1, "The Police Accountability Board (PAB) is an independent office of municipal government and mechanism to investigate such complaints of police misconduct and to review and assess Rochester Police Department (RPD) patterns, practices, policies, and procedures. The Police Accountability Board shall ensure public accountability and transparency over the powers exercised by sworn officers of the Rochester Police Department."

The PAB accepts reports about officer conduct, misconduct, or practices, patterns, and policies of Rochester Police Department. The PAB investigates civilian complaints of alleged misconduct or policy violations and reports of improper RPD practices, procedures, and patterns.

Pursuant to Rochester City Charter Article XVIII § 18-11(A), "The Board shall publish on its website monthly data on the receipt and dispositions of complaints."

During the reporting period, the Police Accountability Board received 20 complaints.

The chart below shows the number of reports received over the past 12 months.



PAB Reports by Disposition As of February 29, 2024						
Case Status	New Reports	FY 2023-24	Total Reports Since 6/20/2022			
Case Management Review	4	5	6			
Investigations Review	3	11	16			
Investigative Plan		7	24			
Request for Information		15	42			
Evidence Review	1	20	96			
Interviews	1	4	8			
Investigative Report						
Policy & Oversight – Review		7	17			
Oversight Investigation – Open		1	4			
Oversight Investigation – Closed		1	6			
Proposal for Change – Open	1	1	1			
Proposal for Change – Closed		1	1			
Pending Close – Board Review		3	13			
Closed – Findings and Decisions Submitted		2	8			
Closed – Lack of Jurisdiction	2	12	123			
Closed – Non-investigable	9	29	83			
Closed – Insufficient Information (Reporter)		9	38			
Closed – Insufficient Information (RPD)			1			
Closed – Statute of Limitations Expired			2			
Closed – Appeal – Pending Decision						
Closed – Appeal – Reversed Decision						
Closed – Appeal – Modified Decision						
Closed – Appeal – Affirmed Decision						
Total	21	128	489			

The Division of Policy & Oversight conducted 4 public input sessions on the draft of its Protest Policy Proposal for Change. In this proposal, the PAB examined RPD's response to protests and mass gatherings, specifically the publication of general order 680. Through a comparative analysis and research, the PAB offered recommendations to improve RPD's response to these gatherings. The public input period ended on March 3, 2024. The PAB will now analyze the public input, incorporate the feedback into the proposal, and then present it to the nine-member volunteer Board for consideration.

PAB Policy & Oversight Activity As of February 29, 2024						
	Reporting Period		FY 2023-24			
	Sessions	Attendees	Sessions	Attendees		
Community Organization Sessions	0	0	8	83		
Public Input Sessions	4	35	6	92		
Total	4	35	14	175		

The ongoing work of the Division of Policy & Oversight is available on the PAB website: <u>https://www.rocpab.org/policy-oversight/</u>.

CASE STATUS DEFINITIONS

CASE MANAGEMENT REVIEW – The report is under review by the case management division or is awaiting assignment to a division for review.

INVESTIGATIONS REVIEW – The Director of Investigations is reviewing the complaint to determine if it meets the criteria for opening an investigation.

INVESTIGATIVE PLAN – The case has been assigned to an investigator and an investigative plan is being prepared.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – The Investigations Division has submitted a request for evidence from RPD and other relevant agencies.

EVIDENCE REVIEW – The Investigations Division is reviewing evidence obtained in the case.

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT – The Investigations Division is preparing a report of case findings and/or recommendations.

INTERVIEWS – The Investigations Division is preparing or conducting party interviews.

POLICY AND OVERSIGHT REVIEW – The complaint is under review by the Policy and Oversight Division for a Proposal for Change or Oversight Investigation.

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.

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.

PENDING CLOSE – BOARD REVIEW – The complaint is awaiting final determination from the Board to be closed or is awaiting a panel hearing.

CLOSED - FINDINGS AND DECISION SUBMITTED - The Board voted on a complaint.

CLOSED – LACK OF JURISDICTION – The Board closed the case due to the complaint falling outside PAB jurisdiction.

CLOSED – NON-INVESTIGABLE – The Board closed the case because there is no allegation of misconduct to investigate.

CLOSED – INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION (REPORTER) – The Board closed the case because the reporter did not provide enough information to investigate the allegation of misconduct.

CLOSED – INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION (RPD) – The Board closed the case because the Rochester Police Department did not provide enough information to investigate the allegation of misconduct.

CLOSED – STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS EXPIRED – In accordance with New York State Civil Service Law, the Board closed the case because eighteen months has passed since the allegation of misconduct.

CLOSED - APPEAL - PENDING DECISION - Awaiting determination from the Board.

CLOSED – APPEAL – REVERSED DECISION – The Board decided that the decision of the panel was wrong and vacates (cancels) the decision of the panel.

CLOSED – APPEAL – MODIFIED DECISION – The Board changed part of the panel's decisions.

CLOSED – APPEAL – AFFIRMED DECISION – The Board decided that the panel made the right decision; the panel decision remains in effect.

DEFINITIONS

REPORT – Any communications submitted to the PAB using its intake methods.

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

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.

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.

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

DISPOSITION – The status of a case, and if concluded, the outcome.

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.

INVESTIGATION – PAB investigators gather and review evidence and information to prepare reports on misconduct allegations. An investigation ends when a findings report or investigative summary is prepared detailing the evidence and legal analysis, and the report is provided to the board for review.

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.

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.