

2019 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BERGEN COUNTY

The following report contains a statistical summary of reports of police misconduct in Bergen County for **2019**. In addition, the report provides statistics for the disposition of these complaints. A review of the report and a comparison of this report with the reports prepared in prior years reveals the following:

(A) Summary- Complaints filed

	2015	2016	Inc (Dec)	% change	2017	Inc (Dec)	% change	2018	Inc (Dec)	% change	2019	Inc (Dec)	% change
Excessive Force	21	49	28	133.33%	39	-10	-20.41%	31	-8	-20.51%	37	6	19.35%
Improper Arrest	11	13	2	18.18%	15	2	15.38%	8	-7	-46.67%	5	-3	-37.50%
Improper Entry	5	6	1	20.00%	10	4	66.67%	8	-2	-20.00%	3	-5	-62.50%
Improper Search	21	25	4	19.05%	18	-7	-28.00%	12	-6	-33.33%	17	5	41.67%
Other Criminal Violation	67	91	24	35.82%	78	-13	-14.29%	53	-25	-32.05%	45	-8	-15.09%
Differential Treatment	64	62	-2	-3.13%	59	-3	-4.84%	35	-24	-40.68%	34	-1	-2.86%
Demeanor	285	217	-68	-23.86%	264	47	21.66%	216	-48	-18.18%	170	-46	-21.30%
Domestic Violence	17	13	-4	-23.53%	19	6	46.15%	14	-5	-26.32%	13	-1	-7.14%
Other Rule Violation	555	459	-96	-17.30%	466	7	1.53%	479	13	2.79%	382	-97	-20.25%
TOTAL	1046	935	-111	-10.61%	968	33	3.53%	856	-112	-11.57%	706	-150	-17.52%

(B) Number of complaints disposed

Excessive Force	37
Improper Arrest	5
Improper Entry	3
Improper Search	17
Other Criminal Violation	45
Diff. Treatment	34
Demeanor	170
Domestic Violence	13
Other Rule Violation	382
Total	706

(C) Criminal Dispositions

Cases Dismissed	6
Cases Diverted	0
Acquittals	0
Convictions	2
Total	8

(D) Administrative Disposition of Complaints

	<u>S</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>NS</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>AC</u>
Excessive Force	2	11	10	3	2
Improper Arrest	0	6	0	0	0
Improper Entry	0	1	0	0	1
Improper Search	0	8	1	1	0
Other Criminal Violation	6	7	11	2	12
Differential Treatment	1	14	6	4	1
Demeanor	16	61	62	13	9
Domestic Violence	6	1	2	0	2
Other Rule Violation	228	50	46	28	29
Totals	259	159	138	51	56

(E) Trends

A comparison between the 2018 and 2019 year end summary reports revealed there was a decrease of 146 cases for the year end 2019. The decreases were in seven (7) of the nine (9) types of complaints filed. There was a 62% decrease in Improper Entry complaints, 7% decrease in Domestic Violence complaints, 21% decrease in Demeanor complaints, 41% increase in Improper Search complaints, and less than 20% decrease in Other Rule Violations complaints. The highest decrease was in Improper Entry complaints, which saw a decrease of over 62%.

(F) Complaints with suspensions of ten days or more:

Bergen County Sheriff=s Office:

- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulation violation.
- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulation violation.
- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulation violation.
- 1 officer suspended for 12 days for Rules and Regulation violation.
- 1 officer suspended for 15 days for Rules and Regulation violation.
- 1 officer suspended for 180 days for Rules and Regulation violation.
- 1 officer terminated for Rules and Regulation violation.

Bergenfield Police Department:

- 1 officer suspended 10 days for Rules and Regulation violation.

Englewood Police Department:

- 1 officer suspended for 15 days for Conduct Unbecoming.
- 1 officer SUSPENSION PENDING Rules and Regulation violation.

Fair Lawn Police Department:

1 officer suspended for 30 days for Rules and Regulation violations
1 officer suspended for 30 days for Rules and Regulation violation.
1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulation violation.

Fort Lee Police Department:

1 officer suspended 15 days for Rules and Regulation violation.

North Arlington Police Department:

1 sergeant was demoted to patrolman and suspended for 90 days for Rules and Regulations violation.

Norwood Police Department:

1 officer suspended 10 months for and subsequently employment concluded for Rules and Regulations violations.

Ramsey Police Department:

1 officer suspended for 10 days for violating the Anti- Harassment Rules and Regulations.

Teaneck Police Department:

1 officer suspended 90 days for Conduct Unbecoming.

Upper Saddle River Police Department:

1 officer indefinite resignation.

(G) Conclusions:

In summary, after compiling information from summary reports of 72 law enforcement agencies for 2019, there was a decrease of 146 complaints filed compared to 2018. With regard to criminal violations, notifications are made to this agency along with the findings pursuant to Attorney General Guidelines.

(H) Recommendations:

Continue the availability of Internal Affairs training courses for all officers, specifically those responsible for conducting Internal Affairs investigations pursuant to Attorney General Guidelines. Departments should consider undergoing a certification process to ensure all rules and regulations are adequate and that all complaints of police misconduct, whether filed by agency personnel or citizens are reported to Internal Affairs Units, and investigated thoroughly.