

## 2020 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### BERGEN COUNTY

The following report contains a statistical summary of reports of police misconduct in Bergen County for **2020**. 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**

	2016	2017	Inc (Dec)	% change	2018	Inc (Dec)	% change	2019	Inc (Dec)	% change	2020	Inc (Dec)	% change
Excessive Force	49	39	-10	-20.41%	31	-8	-20.51%	37	6	19.35%	38	1	2.70%
Improper Arrest	13	15	2	15.38%	8	-7	-46.67%	5	-3	-37.50%	6	1	20.00%
Improper Entry	6	10	4	66.67%	8	-2	-20.00%	3	-5	-62.50%	1	-2	-66.67%
Improper Search	25	18	-7	-28.00%	12	-6	-33.33%	17	5	41.67%	12	-5	-29.41%
Other Criminal Violation	91	78	-13	-14.29%	53	-25	-32.05%	45	-8	-15.09%	34	-11	-24.44%
Differential Treatment	62	59	-3	-4.84%	35	-24	-40.68%	34	-1	-2.86%	27	-7	-20.59%
Demeanor	217	264	47	21.66%	216	-48	-18.18%	170	-46	-21.30%	160	-10	-5.88%
Domestic Violence	13	19	6	46.15%	14	-5	-26.32%	13	-1	-7.14%	8	-5	-38.46%
Other Rule Violation	459	466	7	1.53%	479	13	2.79%	382	-97	-20.25%	258	-124	-32.46%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3.53%</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>-112</b>	<b>-11.57%</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>-150</b>	<b>-17.52%</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>-162</b>	<b>-22.95%</b>

#### **(B) Number of Complaints Disposed**

Excessive Force	33
Improper Arrest	6
Improper Entry	1
Improper Search	12
Other Criminal Violation	23
Diff. Treatment	24
Demeanor	154
Domestic Violence	6
Other Rule Violation	238
<b>Total</b>	<b>497</b>

#### **(C) Criminal Dispositions**

Cases Dismissed	0
Cases Diverted	5
Acquittals	0
Convictions	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

**(D) Administrative Disposition of Complaints**

	<u>S</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>NS</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>AC</u>
Excessive Force	5	11	11	5	1
Improper Arrest	0	3	2	1	0
Improper Entry	0	0	0	1	0
Improper Search	2	8	0	2	0
Other Criminal Violation	1	6	5	4	7
Differential Treatment	1	9	6	7	1
Demeanor	17	51	49	26	11
Domestic Violence	3	1	1	1	0
Other Rule Violation	132	32	41	17	16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>36</b>

**(E) Trends**

A comparison between the 2019 and 2020 year end summary reports revealed there was a decrease of 162 cases for the year end 2020. The decreases were in seven (7) of the nine (9) types of complaints filed. There was a 67% decrease in Improper Entry complaints, 29% decrease in Improper Search complaints, 24% decrease in Other Criminal Violation complaints, 21% decrease in Differential Treatment complaints, 6% decrease in Demeanor complaints, 38% decrease in Domestic Violence complaints, and 32% decrease in Other Rule Violation complaints. Only slight increases were noted in Excessive Force and Improper Arrest complaints, which saw a one (1) case increase in each category.

**(F) Complaints With Suspensions of Ten Days or More:**

**Bergen County Sheriff's Office:**

- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulations violation
- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulations violation
- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulations violation
- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulations violation
- 1 officer suspended for 10 days for Rules and Regulations violation
- 1 officer suspended for 30 days for Rules and Regulations violation
- 1 officer suspended for 75 days for Rules and Regulations violation
- 1 officer suspended for 6 months for Rules and Regulations violation

**Englewood Police Department:**

- 1 officer suspended for 15 days for Rules and Regulations violation

**Leonia Police Department:**

- 1 officer suspended for 64 days for Rules and Regulations violation

**Oakland Police Department:**

1 officer suspended for 3 months for Rules and Regulations violation

**Palisades Park Police Department:**

1 officer suspended for 90 days for Rules and Regulations violation

**Ridgewood Police Department:**

1 officer suspended for 30 days for Rules and Regulations violation

**(G) Conclusions:**

In summary, after compiling information from summary reports of 72 law enforcement agencies for 2020, there was a decrease of 162 complaints filed compared to 2019. 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.