

**CITIZEN POLICE REVIEW BOARD
FOR THE TAMPA POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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SECTION ONE

The Citizen Police Review Board for the Tampa Police Department (hereinafter referred to as the CRB) was created by executive order and has been codified in Tampa City Ordinance Sec. 18-8. The purpose of the CRB is to foster transparency, support effective policing and police reform, enhance communication, educate the public regarding operations of the Tampa Police Department, protect civil rights and liberties, manage risk and establish greater confidence in the Department and the community by creating an unbiased panel of citizens to review cases and issues relating to law enforcement that are of importance or of interest to the community and the City, and to increase and demonstrate police accountability and credibility with the public.

To this end, the CRB has specific duties, responsibilities, and authority. The CRB reviews closed internal affairs investigations when a finding of policy violation has been made that results in the suspension, demotion, or termination of an employee has occurred, ensuring that the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission is notified when a disciplined officer fails to maintain good moral character as defined by Florida Statutes. The CRB may also review other closed internal affairs investigations, regardless of the findings or of the discipline imposed, including cases involving the use of force and other issues of importance or interest to the community. The CRB makes recommendations regarding hiring criteria and participates in interviews of prospective officers. The CRB is informed of the filing of complaints, and complaints may be filed directly with the CRB. The CRB also conducts a community survey every two years to obtain feedback on the Department. The CRB reviews other matters of importance or interest and makes recommendations regarding the Department to the Mayor and Chief of Police.

The CRB consists of eleven voting members. Five of the voting members are appointed by the Mayor, five are appointed by City Council, and one member is nominated by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), who is recommended by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council. CRB members are volunteers and receive no compensation.

The CRB consisted of the following members at the end of calendar year 2021:

Rashid Ali Aquil, Chair
Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks
Darryl J. Reyes
Devon J. Ingandela
Bemetra L. Simmons
Carlos M. Valdes

Irene C. Guy, Vice-Chair
Steven D. Blair
Dr. Carolyn L. Hepburn-Collins
Robert W. Irvin
Lincoln J. Tamayo

SECTION TWO

The CRB held nine meetings in 2021. The Board reviewed 11 closed internal affairs investigations. The 11 investigations examined a total of 40 alleged policy violations. The most frequently addressed violation was Standard of Conduct.

Alleged Policy Violation	Sustained	Not Sustained / No Violation	Total # of Violations Reviewed
City of Tampa B1.2 Discriminatory Conduct	1	0	1
Entry and Disposition of Property	1	0	1
Incident Reports	1	0	1
Philosophy of Enforcement	1	0	1
Deadly Force	0	3	3
Response to Resistance	0	1	1
Assigned Vehicle Program	2	0	2
Body Worn Camera Equipment	2	1	3
License Plate Seizures	1	0	1
Searches and Seizures	1	0	1
Alcohol Consumption and Drug Use	0	1	1
Standard of Conduct	5	0	5
Association	1	0	1
Sexual Activity on Duty	1	0	1
Truthfulness in Departmental Matters	1	0	1
Incompetence	1	0	1
Attentiveness to Duty	3	0	3
Insubordination	1	0	1
Courtesy to the Public	1	0	1
Departmental Property Restriction of Use	2	0	2
Firearms	2	0	2
Supervisor Responsibility	1	0	1
Cooperation with Department Investigations	1	0	1
SAC Expense & Informant's Fund	1	0	1
Procedures for Entering Mobile Devices	1	0	1
Documentation of Searches	1	0	1
Search of Cell Phones	0	1	1
			40

In addition to the review of these 11 closed internal affairs cases, the CRB also heard and considered additional matters of Department business and public interest. Proposed changes to the City Ordinance governing the CRB were discussed over a period of several meetings. Some of these discussions centered around the CRB's role in the interview panel for hiring new police officers.

The CRB motioned to have a representative from Mayor Castor's administration appear and provide an update on the Mayor's Task Force on Policing, as well as outlining any outcomes concluded by the task force that would be of interest to the CRB. At the following CRB meeting, Dr. Bryanna Fox, Associate Professor of Criminology at the University of South Florida and task force member, appeared and briefed the CRB on the actions of the task force.

At another CRB meeting, Department staff appeared and provided a presentation on the new crisis intervention response team and the new mental health co-responder pilot program. Additionally, the annual Department quality assurance report was presented to the board.

The CRB also heard a presentation from the Department on the Crime-Free Multi-Housing Program. This report consisted of an overview of how the program began and the proposed changes to the program.

Following the updates to the City Ordinance governing the CRB, the CRB motioned that the required new training be conducted over a three-month period. The first training session involved the Department's interview panel for new police officers and the CRB's role in this process. The second training session involved changes to the City Ordinance governing the CRB. The third training session did not occur in 2021.

SECTION THREE

The Tampa Police Department tracks all citizen complaints pursuant to policy. Beginning in January 2022, the Department provides a list to the CRB of all new complaints received regarding departmental employees in the previous month. The Department also provides a monthly list to the CRB showing the status of all pending investigations in the Professional Standards Bureau’s Internal Affairs Unit.

In addition to making a complaint directly with the Department, citizens may now submit a complaint via email to the CRB by emailing tpd-crb@tampagov.net. This email address was not activated until 2022; so there were no complaints filed directly with the CRB via email in 2021.

The below table outlines all citizen complaints received by the Department in 2021, as well as the method that the complaint was received. The “other” category includes complaints received via mail, electronic means other than the City’s intranet-based message center, and additional mediums otherwise not categorized.

	Telephone	City Intranet	Other	In-Person	Total Number of Citizen Complaints
January	11	0	5	1	17
February	13	3	2	3	21
March	10	3	4	0	17
April	10	0	9	4	23
May	23	3	2	2	30
June	9	7	2	0	18
July	5	2	0	1	8
August	13	2	0	0	15
September	11	0	6	3	20
October	21	1	3	1	26
November	5	20	2	1	28
December	5	7	2	4	18
	136	48	37	20	241

SECTION FOUR

As mentioned in Section Two, 11 closed internal affairs investigations were reviewed by the CRB. In accordance with the duties and responsibilities of the CRB, the actions of the department that were taken regarding these investigations were also reviewed. In the review of these cases, the CRB may render a recommendation regarding the disposition of the investigation and the discipline imposed based upon a preponderance of the evidence. The CRB may make one of three recommendations:

1. The CRB concurs with the proposed determination of the disposition of the complaint and the discipline.
2. The CRB does not concur with the with the disposition of the complaint and the discipline.
3. The CRB is unable to reach a decision; in which case they shall state with specificity the reason thereto.

Following the review of the 11 cases, the CRB concurred with the proposed determination of the disposition and the discipline in 10 of the 11 cases. In one of the cases, the CRB was unable to reach a decision.

The specified reason why the CRB was unable to reach a decision in one case involved the immediate lack of statistical information over a period of time being available regarding the disciplinary actions for violating the City's policy regarding discriminatory conduct. Additional information was not available at the time of the meeting due to the case involving pending litigation.

SECTION FIVE

The CRB has the authority to make recommendations to the Mayor and/or Chief of Police in several different areas. The CRB may make recommendations regarding the hiring criteria of police officers, the Department's handling of certain issues, including revisions or additions to the Department's policies and procedures, and also make other recommendations regarding the Department to the Mayor and Chief of Police. A copy of any such recommendations shall be provided in writing to the City Council and shall be included in this annual report. The CRB may also make recommendations regarding Tampa City Ordinance Sec. 18-8, which governs the CRB.

In 2021, the CRB did not make any specific recommendations to the Department, Mayor, or Chief of Police, nor did they recommend changes concerning Tampa City Ordinance Sec. 18-8.

The CRB specifically reviewed the Department's body-worn camera policy and had no recommendations.

SECTION SIX

All members of Tampa City Council shall attend at least one CRB meeting per calendar year, either in-person or virtually. Their attendance shall be reported in this annual report. Additionally, at least four times per year, the CRB meetings shall be held in a community location in each of the four City Council single-member districts. The respective City Council member for said district shall be encouraged to attend the meeting in their district.

The aforementioned rule did not go into effect until December 17, 2021, so members of City Council were not required to attend a meeting during 2021. City Council Chairman Orlando Gudes and Councilmember Joseph Citro both attended the June 2021 meeting of the CRB.

SECTION SEVEN

In 2021, the CRB revised the agenda format. The CRB now has the ability to monitor cases that were continued in order for Staff to provide additional information to the Board once available.