KENDALL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS ANALYSIS AND REPORT

CALENDAR YEAR 2024 OPERATIONS DIVISION



REPORT PREPARED BY:

INSPECTOR GENERAL JEFF BURGNER

Kendall County Sheriff's Office 1102 Cornell Ln. Yorkville, IL 60560 630-553-7500 The Kendall County Sheriff's Office takes all complaints regarding the service provided by the Office and the conduct of its members seriously. We accept and address all complaints of misconduct in accordance with federal law, state law, local law, county ordinances, the policies and rules of this Office, and the requirements of any collective bargaining agreements. It is also the policy of this department to ensure that the community and inmates can report alleged misconduct without concern for reprisal or retaliation. The Sheriff's Office will accept complaints anonymously and has been doing so since our Citizen Complaint policy was implemented in June of 2004.

At the conclusion of all the investigated formal complaints received either internally or externally, the employee assigned to conduct the investigation shall conclude their report by classifying the disposition into one of the following categories:

Unfounded - When the investigation discloses that the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve department members. Complaints that are determined to be frivolous will fall within the classification of unfounded.

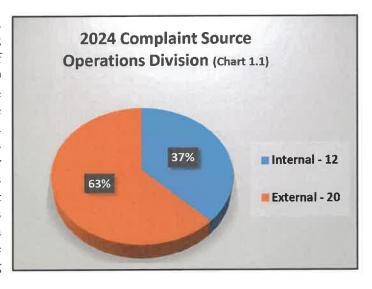
Exonerated - When the investigation discloses that the alleged act occurred but that the act was justified, lawful, and/or proper.

Not sustained - When the investigation discloses that there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.

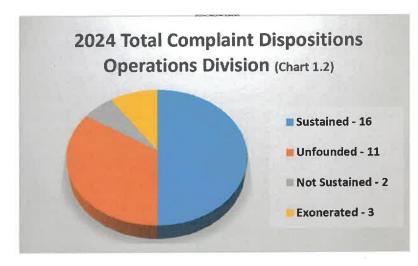
Sustained - When the investigation discloses sufficient evidence to establish that the act occurred and that it constituted misconduct.

If an investigation discloses misconduct or improper job performance that was not alleged in the original complaint, the investigator shall take appropriate action with regard to any additional allegations including initiating a separate investigation when necessary. Reviews of Use of Force incidents are not part of this report and are documented in an independent analysis and report.

In 2024, the Kendall County Sheriff's Office Operations Division conducted 32 administrative internal investigations; of which 12 were initiated internally and 20 were external sources (Chart 1.1). These internal investigations consisted of vehicle pursuits and policy infractions, which includes property damage and other actions that occurred during a member's regular course of duty. The external investigations citizen complaints against involved members of the office. These infractions were investigated and handled with appropriate corrective and preventative actions, ranging from corrective counseling to termination.



In July of 2023 the vacant Inspector General position was filled. The Inspector General for the Office of the Sheriff directs, manages, supervises, and coordinates the programs and activities of internal investigations and complaints within the Sheriff's Office. This position functions as an independent and impartial investigator for use of force incidents and complaints of misconduct regarding any member of the Office.



After a review of these complaints, sixteen (16) of the thirty-two (32) total complaints were sustained (Chart 1.2). Five (5) of the Sustained complaints were external complaints and eleven (11) were internal complaints. Patrol Deputies handled approximately 22,590 incidents in 2024 involving citizen contact, traffic violations, and individuals involved in criminal activity. Of those 22,590 incidents, only 0.14% of contacts resulted in a formal complaint or administrative investigation.

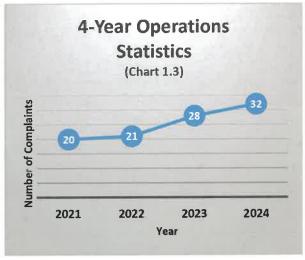






Since 2021, the Operations Division has averaged 25 administrative internal investigations per year (Chart 1.3). Of those investigations, 57% have been sustained and resulted in discipline ranging from corrective counseling to termination (Chart 1.4). An analysis of these investigations did not result in findings of systemic or significant organizational deficiencies. Some findings resulted in recommendations for policy updates or procedural adjustments which were implemented at various levels.

In 2022, we implemented a public facing dashboard with <u>real-time data</u> for the community to review. The Sheriff's Office will continue to strive for



4-Year Average - Complaint Dispositions
Operations Division
(Chart 1.4)

17%
Unfounded - 4
Exonerated - 4.25
Not Sustained - 1.75
Sustained - 13.25

excellence and expect the utmost professionalism from our staff as we continue to serve our community. As we move forward, the Sheriff's Office will continue to review and update our administrative internal investigation process. No additional observations or recommendations regarding our administrative internal investigations process were identified.

Prepared by Inspector General Jeff Burgner

Deputy Commander Caleb Waltmire

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Sheriff Dwight Baird

Commander Jason Langston