



Town of Culpeper Police Department
An Internationally Accredited Agency
740 Old Brandy Road, Culpeper, Virginia 22701
(540) 727-3430 Fax: (540) 727-7528



To: Chief Chris R. Jenkins
From: Major Chris B. Settle
Cc: All Police Department Personnel
Date: February 24, 2020
Ref: 2019 Annual Internal Affairs Summary

INCIDENTS:

During calendar year 2019 the Culpeper Police Department did receive one complaint that were classified as a major complaint. Per *General Order 25.01.01* major complaints are complaints that allege “serious misconduct” or “complaints of misconduct whereas if sustained, then the probable outcome would be punitive in nature.” Any major complaint would be investigated by the Internal Affairs Unit. This annual summary has not revealed any trends or patterns regarding employees, or types of violations requiring investigation.

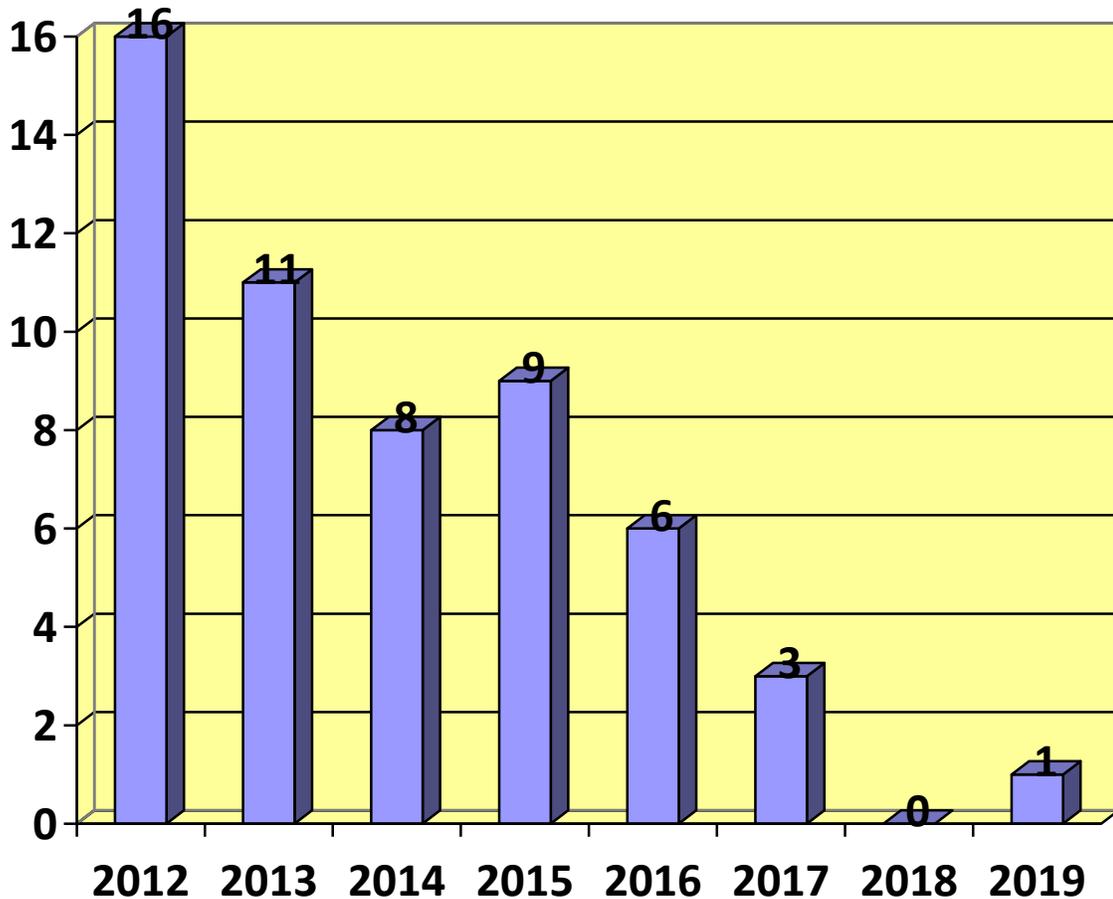
The one major complaint alleged an employee utilized excessive force during a lawful arrest of a citizen. The results of the investigation concluded a final disposition of Unfounded. Based upon interviews with responding officers and the citizen, and more importantly the review of each officers Body-Worn Camera was the basis of this disposition.

The Culpeper Police Department continues to experience a reduction in complaints investigated for from recent years. In 2012, the department saw a spike of sixteen complaints, however due to reporting policies of 2012, the Culpeper Police Department reported all complaints, minor and major, in the IA Summary document.

A minor complaint are those complaints defined in *General Order 25.01.01* that concern minor infractions or regulations, complaints that are relative to difference of opinion between employee and a citizen arising from the performance of duty, complaints concerning manner or method an employee investigated a crime, traffic accident or other service call, and/or complaints concerning employee’s authority to arrest or the propriety of a particular charge. Minor complaints may be investigated by direct supervisory staff.



Culpeper Police Department 8 Year Internal Affairs Statistics



SUMMARY:

In reviewing the data of internal affairs investigations, it is clear since 2015 the number of major complaints are trending down, whereas in 2018 the Culpeper Police Department did not receive any major complaints, internal or external. There may be many contributing factors for this trend. In 2016, every officer attended “Fair and Impartial Policing” training. This training explains implicit bias that every person has and that police officers must be aware of when dealing with the public.

Also, in the fall of 2016 the Culpeper Police Department fully implemented a Body-Worn Camera program for all uniformed officers. This program has not only provided transparency but it has also altered behaviors between police officers and citizens.



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Other factors that may attribute to this reduction is bi-annually every police officer is mandated to complete cultural diversity and ethics training. Also, the Culpeper Police Department continues to administratively review all use of force applications and vehicle pursuits, along with audits of all cash funds and property and evidence quarterly.

In summary the Culpeper Police Department has a qualified, professional workforce and when that exist you will find data consistent with this IA Summary. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this document.