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Police Auditor

Monthly
Report

February
2025

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Mission Statement

The Police Auditor’s goal is to independently and collaboratively work to promote community confidence in policing and accountability. The Auditor seeks to achieve this goal by working with all interested parties to ensure the Alameda Police Department is held to the highest standards and is in compliance with law and departmental policies. The Auditor’s work includes, but is not limited to, reviewing internal affairs cases and use of force incidents and confirming the Department conducts quality investigations, holding its employees accountable if a violation of law or policy occurs. This work aims to increase transparency and the public’s confidence in the police department by publicly releasing monthly and annual reports, by making recommendations to the Department on best practices, and by working with the public to ensure the police department is treating all members of the community with the respect and consideration they deserve while also, meeting its public safety obligations.

Police Auditor Activities for the Month of February

- Attended CompStat and Professional Standards meetings.
- Presented annual data at City Council Meeting.

Complaints

In February 2025, APD received four complaints. Two complaints were generated by a member of APD following statements made by a member of the public and two claims were externally generated by a member of the public

In 2025, APD received eight complaints compared to four received in 2024 during the same period.

Externally generated complaints come from anyone who is not an employee of APD. Internally generated complaints can be due to suspected misconduct discovered during a review of body camera footage or a report, by viewing suspected misconduct in person, during an audit or inspection of APD policies and procedures, or if a member comes forward and admits to a violation. The Police Auditor is briefed on each complaint.

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Externally Generated Cases (includes claims filed)	2	4	5
Internally Generated Cases (Based on Comment by a member of the public)	2	0	3
Internally Generated Cases	0	0	0
Total Complaint Cases Received	4	4	8

The Police Auditor reviewed 6 cases that closed in February 2025 and did not object to the findings. The review included watching body camera footage, reading reports, and listening to interviews as necessary to make a determination.

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.

Use of Force

Police officers in Alameda are expected to resort to using force only when alternatives such as communication, crisis intervention, and de-escalation tactics do not work or are not practical. Officers are required to only use the minimum amount of force necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement objective that is objectively reasonable and proportional to effectively and safely overcome resistance. Information about use of force can be found beginning on page 78 of the Alameda Police Department Policy Manual.

For the purposes of this report, force is broken into four categories:

- Incidents where officers displayed a weapon such as a firearm or taser but no other force was used,
- Low-level uses of force such as control holds or takedowns,
- Intermediate uses of force such as punches, knee strikes, or taser deployments, and
- Force resulting in serious bodily injury or death and all firearm discharges directed at a person.

In this report, force is counted by incident and the highest level of force used.

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Pointing of a Weapon	0	9	2
Low-Level Force (control holds/WRAP* etc.)	9	20	20
Intermediate Force (strikes by hands, feet, or weapon, TASER deployments, etc.)	1	0	1
Force Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury or Death	0	0	0

*A WRAP is a device used to restrain individuals who present a safety risk to themselves or officers even after being handcuffed.

In February, there was one use of force incident that involved an intermediate use of force.

The incident is currently under review by the chain of command to determine compliance with policy and to identify any potential training recommendations. Once the review is complete, a description will be provided in this report.

Each use of force is reviewed by a supervisor to ensure compliance with Departmental policy.

Arrests

In February 2025, the number of felony arrests increased by one arrest and misdemeanor arrests increased 57% compared to January.

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Felony	37	71	73
Misdemeanor/Infraction	69	84	113
Total	106	155	186

Calls for Service

The APD received 5,737 calls for service during the month of February which is a decrease compared to January. Due to a change in reporting, the calls for service numbers will now include calls that were directed to the Fire Department. 2024 numbers have been updated to reflect the change.

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Calls for Service	5,737	10,535	11,871

Pursuits

In February 2025, there were no pursuits initiated by a member of APD. Last year, there were no pursuits initiated during the same period.

On August 7, 2024, the APD pursuit policy was modified to explicitly allow officers to pursue suspects or vehicles wanted for felony crimes. This policy change is likely to result in an increase in vehicle pursuits. Officers are now authorized to initiate a pursuit when:

- A suspect was involved in a felony or
- A person suspected of committing a crime was believed to be armed with a firearm.
- Pursuits outside the above criteria must be approved by a Watch Commander.

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Pursuits	0	0	2

Collisions Involving APD Employees

There was one collision involving an APD employee in February 2025. So far this year, there has been two collisions while last year, there was one during the same period. The employee from the February collision this year was not found to be at fault.

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Collisions	1	1	2

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.

Stops

In February 2025, the APD completed 1,715 stops, more than double the number compared to January 2025. Stop forms are required by the State of California when an individual is detained or searched. Data is required to be submitted to the State on an annual basis. Every time a stop is made and a form is required, officers select one of the eight stop reasons below.

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Consensual encounter resulting in search	7	9	13
Investigation to determine if person is truant	0	0	0
Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/wanted person	15	11	23
Known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision	2	5	5
Probable cause to arrest or search	16	21	24
Probable cause to take into custody section 5150	2	3	6
Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	98	130	178
Traffic Violation	1,065	482	1,715
Total	1,205	661	1,964

Traffic stops made up 87% of stops so far in 2025. These violations are broken into three categories:

- Moving violations: Ex. speeding, running a red light
- Equipment violations: Ex. brake lights off or not working, license plate missing
- Non-moving violation, including registration: Ex. expired registration tags

71% of traffic stops involved moving violations so far in 2025

	Feb 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Equipment violation	226	75	389
Moving violation	770	332	1,220
Non-moving violation, including registration	69	75	106
Total	1,065	482	1,715

In 2025, APD has conducted three and a half times more traffic stops than they did during the same period in 2024. There has also been a shift in stop outcomes with more traffic stops resulting in a citation in 2025 than in 2024.

	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Arrest	2% (9)	0.9% (15)
Citation	47% (225)	60% (1,026)
Community Caretaking	0.4% (2)	0% (0)
No Action	0.2% (1)	1% (19)
Warning	51% (245)	38% (655)
Total	100% (482)	100% (1,715)

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.

Community Surveys

In February 2025, the Department discontinued the use of SPIDR software to conduct community surveys. The Department has contracted with a new company and expects the new program to be up and running by the end of March.

Litigation and Administrative Claims

In February 2025, there were six administrative claims and no lawsuits filed. So far in 2025, there have been nine claims and no lawsuits filed. During the same period in 2024, there was one claim filed and no lawsuits. Four of the nine claims in 2025 are for vehicle tows and two are for vehicle tows following a stolen vehicle recovery.

	Jan 2025	Jan-Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2025
Claims Filed	6	1	9
Litigation Filed	0	0	0

Training Hours

The APD provides internal and external training opportunities to its employees. In the month of February, sworn staff completed 514 training hours and professional staff completed 0 training hours. Training for sworn members consisted of the following topics: DUI detection, investigations training, search warrants, traffic collision investigation, and photo analysis. The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requires 24 hours of continued professional training and 18 hours of perishable skills training every two years.

Other Employee Information

The APD is authorized to have 88 sworn members and 36 professional staff members. As of the end of February 2025, the Department had 67 sworn employees and 36 professional staff. Twenty-one sworn employees are on probation because they are new hires or because of a promotion.

	Sworn Staff	Professional Staff
# of Authorized Positions	88	36
# of Filled Positions	67	36
# of Employees on Probation (new hires or promotions)	21	7
# of Employees on Light Duty	1	1
# of Employees on Administrative Leave	0	0
# of Employees on Military Leave	1	0
# of Employees on Medical Leave/Workers Comp	4	2

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.