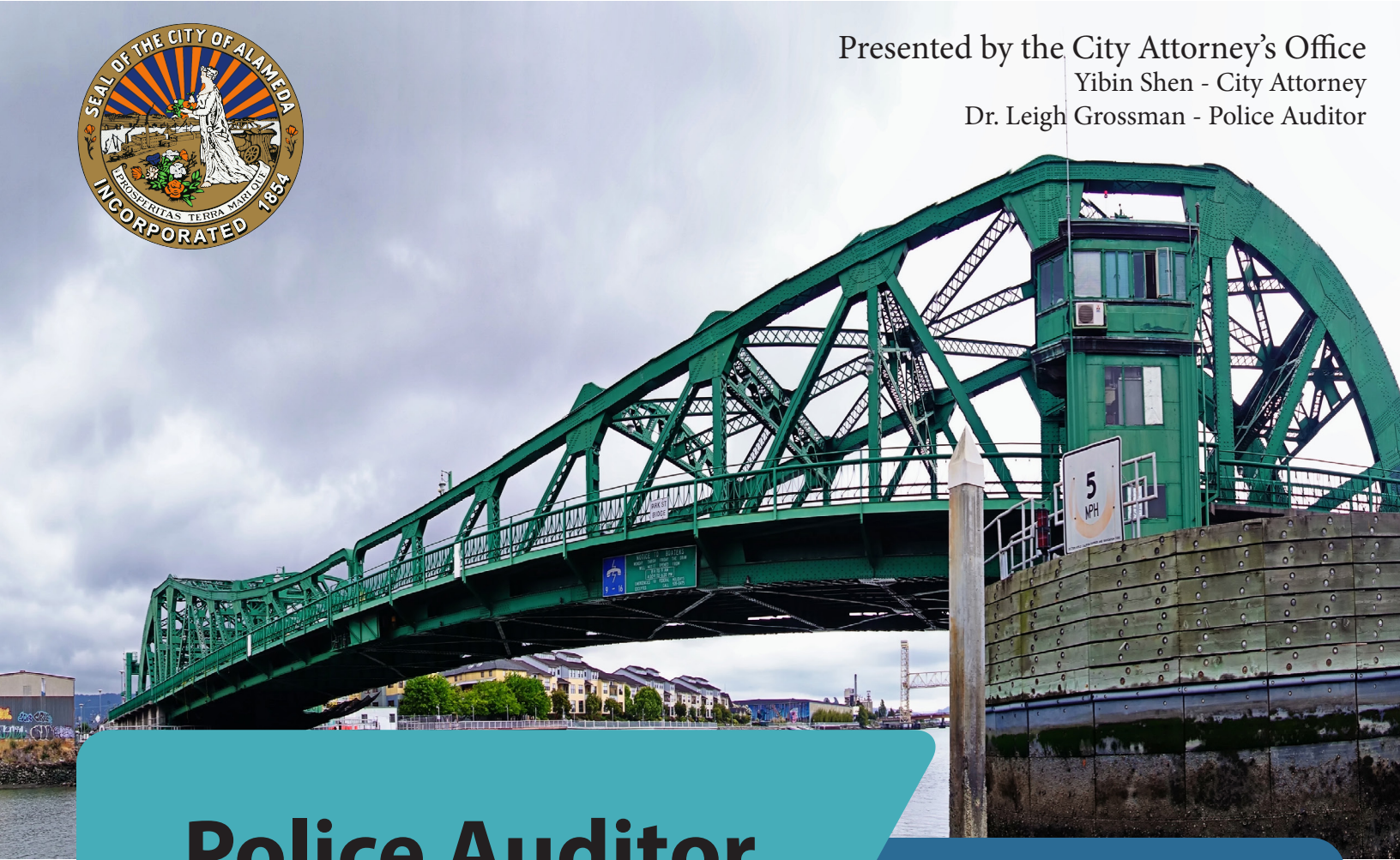




Presented by the City Attorney's Office
Yibin Shen - City Attorney
Dr. Leigh Grossman - Police Auditor



Police Auditor

Monthly
Report

July
2024



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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 July

- Attended CompStat and Professional Standards meetings.
- Completed draft of use of force review presentation.
- Went on ride along with officer.

Complaints

In July 2024, APD received three complaints. Two of the complaints were generated by a member of the public and one was internally generated

So far in 2024, APD has received fifteen complaints compared to twelve received in 2023 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.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Externally Generated Cases	2	3	11
Internally Generated Cases	1	9	4
Total Complaint Cases Received	3	12	15

The Police Auditor reviewed one cases that closed in July 2024 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.

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.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Pointing of a Weapon	4	21	24
Low-Level Force (control holds/WRAP* etc.)	10	33	59
Intermediate Force (strikes by hands, feet, or weapon, TASER deployments, etc.)	1	2	2
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 June, the Department transitioned to a new system for force reporting. During this transition, the Police Auditor was unintentionally not given full access to the system, resulting in some incidents from June not being included in the June report. This issue has since been resolved.

Both weapon displays and low-level force increased in July compared to June.

In July, there was one incident involving an intermediate use of force. Officers were dispatched to a location in Alameda following a report of a disturbance involving a physical altercation. Upon arrival, officers encountered several individuals fighting. Despite multiple commands to stop, the individuals continued their altercation and subsequently struck and punched an officer attempting to intervene. The individuals ignored further commands and warnings that pepper spray would be deployed. Given the continued fighting, the officer deployed pepper spray towards those involved. The fighting ceased once the pepper spray was deployed. One individual was arrested for both felony and misdemeanor battery. One victim was transported to the hospital for a wound inflicted by the arrested individual. The incident also involved multiple control holds and takedowns which are considered low-level uses of force. These uses of force occurred as officers were trying to break-up the fight.

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

Arrests

In July 2024, both felony and misdemeanor arrests decreased compared to June. From January through the end of July, felony arrests have increased 7% and misdemeanor arrests have increased 21% compared to the same period last year.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Felony	32	244	260
Misdemeanor/ Infraction	48	305	370
Total	80	549	630

Calls for Service

The APD received 5,499 calls for service during the month of July which is a 10% increase compared to June. There has been a 2% decrease in calls for service this year compared to the same period last year.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Calls for Service (excluding Fire)	5,499	34,990	34,151

Pursuits

In July 2024, there were one pursuit initiated by a member of APD. So far this year, a there has been one pursuit initiated by APD. Last year, there was one pursuit initiated.

Officers are authorized to initiate a pursuit when:

- A suspect was involved in a violent felony and posed an ongoing and specific threat to public safety or
- A person suspected of committing a crime was believed to be armed with a firearm and posed an ongoing and specific threat to public safety.
- Pursuits outside the above criteria must be approved by a Watch Commander.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Pursuits	1	1	1

Collisions Involving APD Employees

There was one collision involving an APD employee in June 2024. It was entered into the new reporting system which the Police Auditor just gained access to. There were no collisions in July. So far this year, there have been four collisions which is the same number as last year during the same period.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Collisions	0	4	4

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.

Stops

In July 2024, the APD completed 401 stops, a 6% decrease compared to June 2024. 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.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Consensual encounter resulting in search	2	20	25
Investigation to determine if person is truant*	0	5	0
Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/wanted person	4	53	53
Known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision	0	14	12
Probable cause to arrest or search ¹	20	-	87
Probable cause to take into custody section 5150 ¹	3	-	12
Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	62	417	513
Traffic Violation	310	2,985	2,171
Total	401	3,494	2,873

* APD is not in the practice of conducting truancy checks. The numbers listed either represent data entry errors where the officer inadvertently selected the incorrect reason for stop or a stop where no other category appropriately fit the circumstance. APD is working with CA DOJ to receive guidance on how to best categorize stops that do not fit within the above categories.

¹ New stop reason for 2024

Traffic stops made up 76% of stops so far in 2024. 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

63% of traffic stops involved moving violations so far in 2024

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Equipment violation	51	27	375
Moving violation	156	2,681	1,366
Non-moving violation, including registration	103	77	430
Total	310	2,985	2,171

The chart below identifies the top beats for traffic stops so far in 2024. A map with Beat boundaries can be found at the end of this document.

Top 5 Beats for Traffic Stops	Jan-Jul 2024	
	#	% of Total
Beat 31	528	24%
Beat 32	35	15%
Beat 9	274	13%
Beat 13	227	10%
Beat 21	212	10%

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.

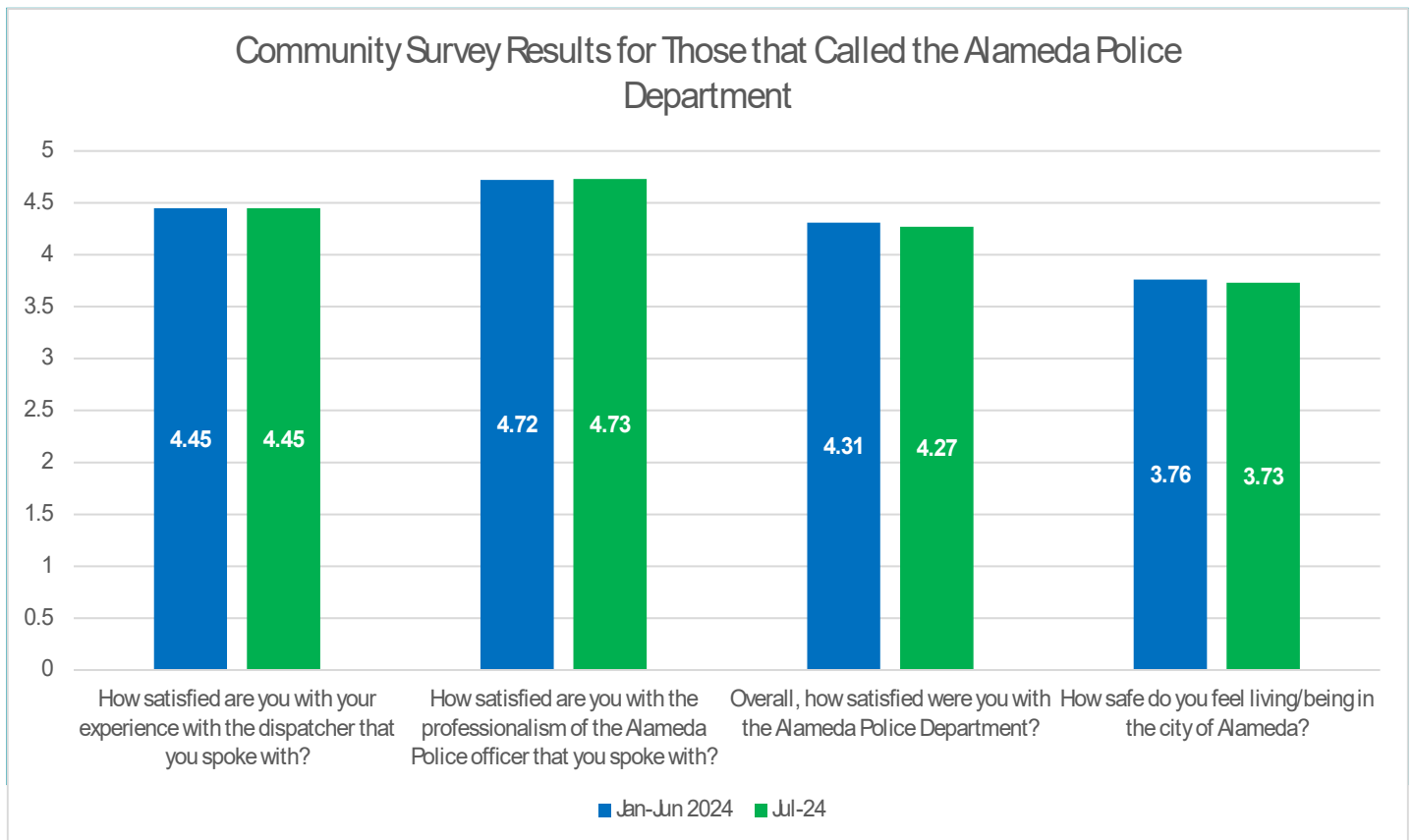
Community Surveys

The APD uses software to send individuals who make a call for service, are victims of a crime, or individuals who have involvement with an investigation a survey to gather feedback on their interaction with the police. In July 2024, 2,044 survey invites were sent. Five-hundred (500) respondents completed the survey for a completion rate of 24%. This is an increase compared to June 2024’s completion rate of 21%.

The survey results for those that called the APD can be found in the chart below. Respondents can select from the following responses:

Score	How Satisfied are you...	How Safe do you...
1	Very Dissatisfied	Not safe at all
2	Dissatisfied	Not safe
3	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Neither safe or unsafe
4	Satisfied	Safe
5	Very Satisfied	Extremely Safe

In July 2024 compared to the first six months of the year, respondents are slightly more satisfied with officers and slightly less satisfied with dispatchers and the Department overall. Respondents also felt just as safe in June compared to the average in the five prior months. Overall, respondents are still satisfied with their experience with dispatchers, officers, and with the Department. For safety in Alameda, respondents on average feel between neither safe or unsafe and safe.



Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.

Litigation and Administrative Claims

In July 2024, there were three administrative claims and no lawsuits filed. So far in 2024, there have been seven claims and two lawsuits filed. During the same period in 2023, there were nine claims filed and one lawsuit.

	Jul 2024	Jan-Jul 2023	Jan-Jul 2024
Claims Filed	3	9	7
Litigation Filed	0	1	2

Training Hours

The APD provides internal and external training opportunities to its employees. In the month of July, sworn staff completed 290 training hours and professional staff completed 32 training hours. Training for sworn members consisted of the following topics: critical incident stress management, supervisory leadership, Taser instructor, and the shooting range for SWAT training. The professional staff training included critical incident stress management. 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 July 2024, the Department had 68 sworn employees and 33 professional staff, a decrease in one sworn and an increase in one professional staff member compared to June. Nineteen sworn employees are on probation because they are new hires or because of a promotion. Two sworn members are on administrative leave and one is on military leave.

	Sworn Staff	Professional Staff
# of Authorized Positions	88	36
# of Filled Positions	68	33
# of Employees on Probation (new hires or promotions)	19	4
# of Employees on Light Duty	0	0
# of Employees on Administrative Leave	2	0
# of Employees on Military Leave	1	0
# of Employees on Medical Leave	0	0

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.

Community Beat Map

