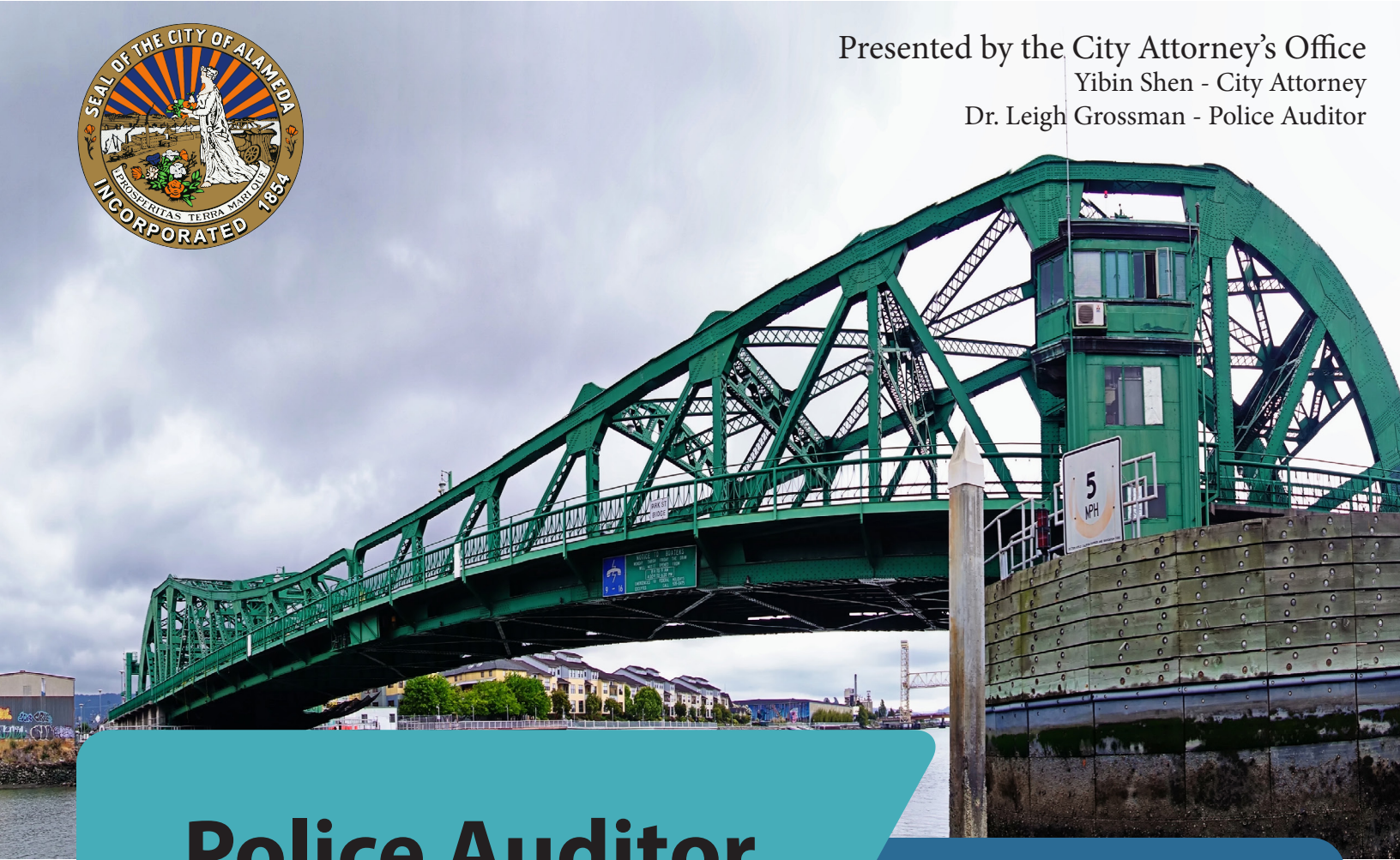




Presented by the City Attorney's Office  
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# Police Auditor

Monthly  
Report

October  
2024



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[www.alamedaca.gov/departments/city-attorney/police-auditor](http://www.alamedaca.gov/departments/city-attorney/police-auditor)

## 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 October

- Attended CompStat and Professional Standards meetings.
- Police sergeant ride-a-long.
- Began process of CALEA accreditation.

## Complaints

In October 2024, APD received six complaints. Four of the complaints were internally generated by a member of APD. The other two complaints were generated by a member of APD following statements made by members of the public.

So far in 2024, APD has received 29 complaints compared to 16 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.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Externally Generated Cases	2	4	14
Internally Generated Cases	4	12	15
Total Complaint Cases Received	6	16	29

The Police Auditor reviewed two cases that closed in October 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.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Pointing of a Weapon	2	32	33
Low-Level Force (control holds/WRAP* etc.)	7	52	84
Intermediate Force (strikes by hands, feet, or weapon, TASER deployments, etc.)	1	2	3
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 October, there was one incident where a subject was tased. The subject involved was a person of interest in multiple crimes that occurred earlier in the day. These crimes included sexual battery on a minor and theft. The person of interest was known to police due to multiple prior arrests. When stopped by officers, the subject made statements indicating they wanted to hurt the officers. After an initial attempt to detain the subject using control holds was unsuccessful, the subject picked up a skateboard and walked towards one of the officers. The subject ignored multiple commands to drop the skateboard and multiple warnings that they were going to be tased. Ultimately, an officer tased the subject as they continued to move towards the other officer with the skateboard. No additional force was used to detain the subject. The subject was taken to Alameda Hospital and cleared for incarceration.

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

**Arrests**

In October 2024, the number of felony arrests increased by over 33% and misdemeanor arrests decreased 6% compared to September. From January through the end of October, felony arrests decreased 2% and misdemeanor arrests increased 30% compared to the same period last year.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Felony	20	32	326
Misdemeanor/ Infraction	67	428	557
Total	87	760	883

**Calls for Service**

The APD received 5,072 calls for service during the month of October which is a decrease compared to September. There has been a 2% decrease in calls for service this year compared to the same period last year.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Calls for Service (excluding Fire)	5,072	50,503	49,703

**Pursuits**

In October 2024, there were two pursuits initiated by a member of APD. One pursuit was terminated by the officer and one by the supervisor. So far this year, there have been eight pursuits initiated by APD. Last year, there was one pursuit initiated.

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.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Pursuits	2	1	8

**Collisions Involving APD Employees**

There was one collision involving an APD employee in October 2024. So far this year, there have been eight collisions which is an increase compared last year during the same period when there were six. Employees were found to be at fault in 50% of collisions so far this year compared to 83% last year during the same period.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Collisions	1	6	8

\*Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.\*

**Stops**

In October 2024, the APD completed 425 stops, a 21% decrease compared to September 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.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Consensual encounter resulting in search	2	24	41
Investigation to determine if person is truant*	0	5	0
Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/wanted person	7	78	77
Known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision	3	19	20
Probable cause to arrest or search <sup>1</sup>	19	-	143
Probable cause to take into custody section 5150 <sup>1</sup>	7	-	22
Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	53	607	683
Traffic Violation	334	4,352	3,350
Total	425	5,085	4,336

\* 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.

<sup>1</sup> New stop reason for 2024

Traffic stops made up 77% 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

59% of traffic stops involved moving violations so far in 2024

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Equipment violation	105	356	748
Moving violation	189	3,886	1,974
Non-moving violation, including registration	40	110	628
Total	334	4,352	3,350

The chart below displays outcomes for traffic stops from January to the end of October. Half of the traffic stops in 2024 have resulted in a citation, an increase compared to 2023.

	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Arrest	1% (53)	3% (88)
Citation	44% (1,907)	51% (1,700)
Community Caretaking	0% (2)	0% (5)
Warning	55% (2,375)	45% (1,514)
No Action	0% (15)	1% (43)

\*Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.\*

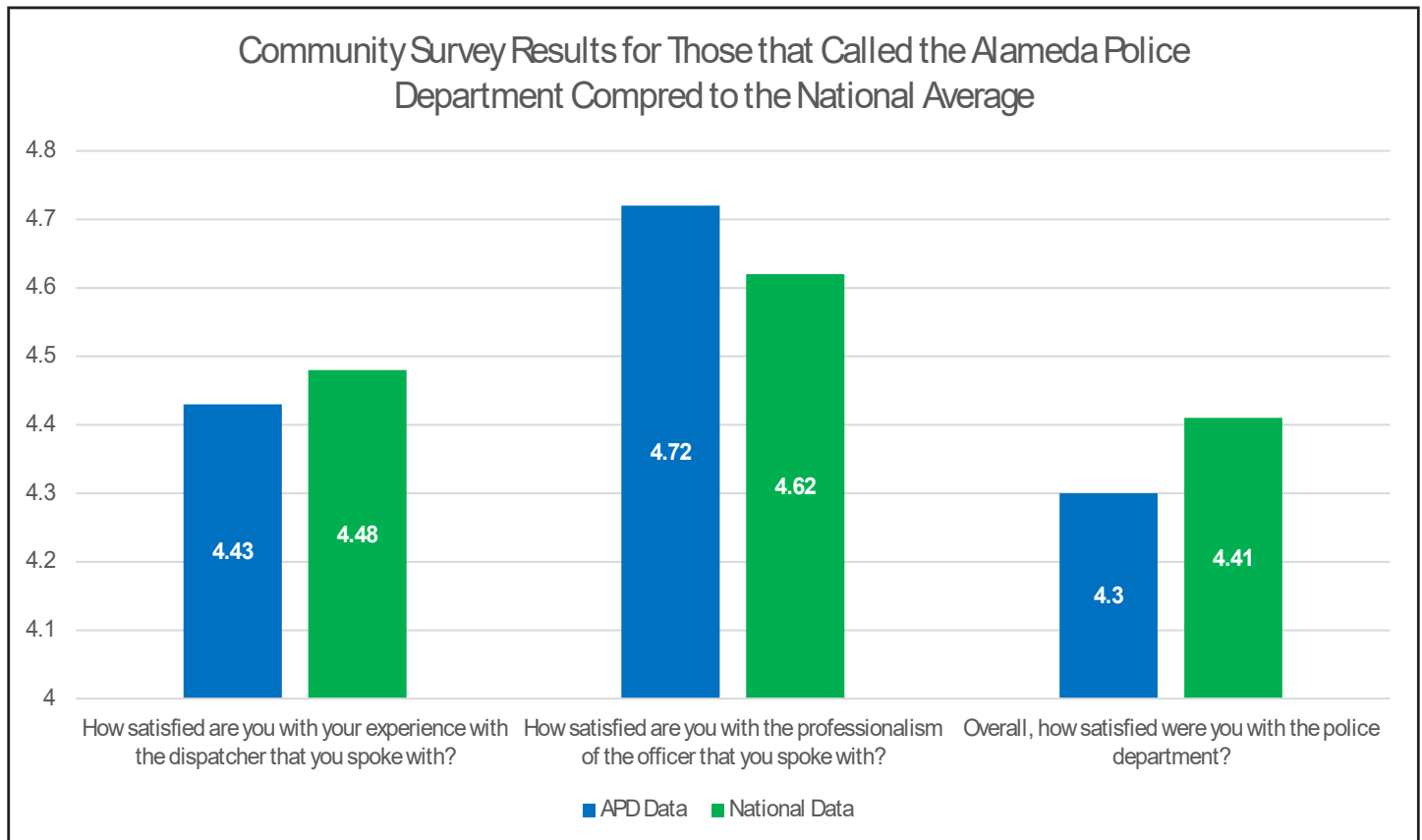
### Community Surveys

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 October 2024, 1,810 survey invites were sent. Three-hundred and ninety-nine (399) respondents completed the survey for a completion rate of 22%. This is the same completion rate compared to September.

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

Compared to law enforcement agencies around the country for the July to September 2024 period, respondents are slightly less satisfied with the dispatcher and overall with the police department and more satisfied with the officer. The national data was provided by the software company and contains results from over 70 agencies.



\*Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.\*

**Litigation and Administrative Claims**

In October 2024, there was one administrative claim and no lawsuits filed. So far in 2024, there have been ten claims and two lawsuits filed. During the same period in 2023, there were 13 claims filed and one lawsuit.

	Oct 2024	Jan-Oct 2023	Jan-Oct 2024
Claims Filed	1	13	10
Litigation Filed	0	1	2

**Training Hours**

The APD provides internal and external training opportunities to its employees. In the month of October, sworn staff completed 1167 training hours and professional staff completed 34 training hours. Training for sworn members consisted of the following topics: traffic stops and evidence handling, crisis negotiations, building searches and firearms, and public relations. The professional staff training included science of wellness and a NeoGov conference. 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 October 2024, the Department had 69 sworn employees and 34 professional staff. Eighteen sworn employees are on probation because they are new hires or because of a promotion. One sworn member and one professional staff member are on administrative leave.

	Sworn Staff	Professional Staff
# of Authorized Positions	88	36
# of Filled Positions	69	34
# of Employees on Probation (new hires or promotions)	18	5
# of Employees on Light Duty	1	0
# of Employees on Administrative Leave	1	1
# of Employees on Military Leave	1	0
# of Employees on Medical Leave	3	1

\*Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.\*