

City of Milwaukee
FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION
INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

DATE: January 21, 2024
TO: Leon W. Todd, Executive Director
FROM: Maritza Ugarte, Investigator
Mark Banks, Investigator
SUBJECT: 2024 FPC Yearly Case Summary Totals

FPC Total Complaints	208
Milwaukee Police Dept.	146
Milwaukee Fire Dept.	9
Dept. Emergency Comm.	4
No FPC Jurisdiction	49

Case Status Closed vs. Open (180 are Closed / 28 are yet Open)

Average Time to Close All 180 Cases was 20 days (Total 3640 days)

Complaint Categories Combined ALL Departments (MPD, MFD and DEC)

Department Services	122
Department Procedure	29
Discourtesy	5
Disparate Treatment	8
Review of Completed Inv.	1
Unauthorized Use of Force	2
<u>No FPC Jurisdiction/Allegation</u>	41 (Untimely, Another LE Dept, Private Citizen or Business)

Total 208

Main Type of Disposition for Complaints

Exonerated: The Incident occurred, but was lawful and proper.
Not Sustained: There is insufficient evidence either to prove or disprove the allegation.
Sustained: There is sufficient evidence to prove the allegation made in the complaint.
Unfounded: The allegation is false or not factual.
Untimely: Did not fall within the 60-day (minor) or 6-month (major) complaint time frame.

(Please note: In some cases, there are multiple violations and/or officers.)

Milwaukee Police Department

Dispositions of Complaints for MPD

FPC Dismissed	51	(Untimely, No Juris, Can't ID Employee, Complaint Process, 3rdParty)
Unfounded	18	
Sustained	12	(Amend Report, Pol. Review, Verbal Counselling, Refer to Dist. Capt.)
No COC Violation	43	
Referred MPD/IAD	5	
Exonerated	15	
<u>Rapid Resolution</u>	<u>2</u>	
	146	complaints

Milwaukee Fire Department

Dispositions of Complaints for MFD

Disparate Treatment	0	
Department Services	5	(1 Unfounded, 1 FT Com. Process, 3 No COC)
Department Procedures	1	(1 No COC)
Discourteous	3	(1 Coaching Session, 1 No COC, 1 Pending Dispo.)
<u>Department Code Conduct</u>	<u>0</u>	
	9	complaints

Department of Emergency Communication

Dispositions of Complaints for DEC

Disparate Treatment	0	
Department Services	4	(2 Sustained-Coaching, 2 No COC)
Department Procedures	0	
Department Discourteous	0	
<u>Department Code of Conduct</u>	<u>0</u>	
	4	complaints

Commendations Received from Community Members

In 2024, the FPC received 16 commendations, 15 of which were for MPD members and one for MFD members.

MPD

1. MPD D7 - P.O. Scott Davis and P.O. Justin Declene

The FPC received a commendation from a resident who wanted to share her gratitude to MPD

officers, P.O. Scott Davis and P.O. Justin Decleene. In January, P.O. Davis and P.O. Decleene had to deliver a notification to a resident that her brother had passed away. The resident mentioned that the officers did a great job of showing empathy and checking on her as she became distraught after learning the tragic news.

2. MPD D6 - P.O. Michael Ward and P.O. Fabian Garcia

The FPC received a commendation from a resident who wanted to share her gratitude to MPD officers, P.O. Michael Ward and P.O. Fabian Garcia. In January, P.O. Ward and P.O. Garcia responded to a traffic incident that this resident was a part of she noted that the officers were very patient with her, answered all her questions, and overall mannerly.

3. MPD D7 – P.O. Derick McKennon and P.O. Ryan Monette

FPC received a commendation regarding “the amazing work that Officer McKennon and Officer did at Milwaukee Marshall High School”. A staff member called in what she referred to as a “challenging situation with a student expressing suicidal ideation”. The resident notes that “The officers were personable, compassionate, and extremely patient with the student. The officers were also very collaborative with our school’s administration and support staff. I strongly believe both officers positively impacted the student by offering support and encouragement to be safe. I am deeply grateful for their approach to a challenging situation.”

4. MPD D6 - P.O. Sida and P.O. Laux

FPC received a commendation to commend P.O. Sida and Laux on the way they handled a hit-and-run incident that this resident was a victim of. The resident was struck and called 911 for assistance, officers arrived within less than five minutes. The officers checked with the resident to see if he needed medical assistance and began to investigate the hit-and-run. The resident wrote “I want to commend Officers Sida and Laux for their outstanding professionalism and service. They represented the Milwaukee Police Department in first-class fashion and went well beyond any reasonable expectation.”

5. MPD D7 - P.O. Dominique Thompson and P.O. Alicia Walker

The FPC received a commendation from a community member who wanted to express his appreciation to the officers. Officer Thompson agreed to meet with this community member for a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Assessment at one of his properties in District 7. Officer Thompson and his partner Officer Alicia Walker, went above and beyond and helped him get these assessments scheduled at their other locations, to ensure that he met a tight grant deadline. The community member noted “We really appreciate their assistance in getting this done and their expertise on these assessments. They provide excellent community policing services.”

6. MPD D1- P.O. Jordan Emmons

The resident wanted to express her gratitude to P.O. Emmons for how he handled a situation

involving one of her clients. P.O. Emmons responded to a wellness check that involved one of her clients. The community member noted that “He was so nice, incredibly professional and very helpful with a very difficult client. He kept his cool when the client was verbally insulting and brought calmness to a potentially escalating situation. I know that I will need to call him again regarding this client and feel comfortable knowing that he will be there to help. Please thank him again for me.”

7. MPD D1 - P.O. Jeffrey Waldorf**

A community member wanted to express her gratitude to P.O. Waldorf for how he conducted himself while investigating her stolen vehicle. The community member included the following:

“My white Infiniti Q50 was stolen from my designated spot at my building's surface lot. Officer Waldorf was the responding officer. People rarely hear about the good things they do or the lasting impression they make. Hearing the good is probably even more rare as an officer. While my stolen car is just a car and can be replaced in the scheme of things, it was still a very scary situation. PO Waldorf made it a little less scary with his patience, compassion, and knowledge of the process. I will not soon forget his kindness and example of, what I consider, exemplary police work when interacting and connecting on a human level with a victim (myself). I'm glad he's one of the good guys and he deserves to be recognized as such.”

8. MPD D3 - P.O. Shahriar Solati

The FPC received a commendation from a community member who wanted to show her gratitude to P.O. Solati, The resident noted the following “commend this officer for taking the time and making the effort to do what he could to help me locate my mentally ill sister. He was kind and not dismissive. This is the second time I have sought assistance at this station and received humane help. The first officer was commended 7 years ago when he helped me find my brother-in-law (now deceased), which resulted in a better life for him. Clearly, this station should serve as an example of police work at its best. I have not always been so lucky at other precincts.”

9. MPD D1 - P.O. Jeffrey Waldorf

P.O. Waldorf received a second commendation this year from a woman who wanted to share her appreciation for the way he handled her call for service. The woman was in town visiting her daughter who lives in Milwaukee and found that her car had been vandalized. She shared that although there are more serious issues in the city, this officer never made her feel like her problem was unimportant. She noted that the officer was apologetic and conducted a thorough investigation. He took the time to explain the process and answered her questions. She shared the following:

“Although this incident put a damper on what should have been a fun weekend with my daughter, this officer made us realize there are still good people in the city. He represented the city of Milwaukee in such a positive way and should be commended. Much appreciation to this officer!!”

10. MPD D6 - P.O. Bradley Baker and P.O. John Tietjen

A woman wanted to share her appreciation on behalf of her brother and family for how these officers handled a call for service. The woman was visiting from Colorado and she had called her brother various times to inform him that she would be in town and planned to come by but was unable to reach him. She then went to her brother's house two days in a row and he didn't open the door prompting her to call the police for a welfare check. The officers had to do a forced entry and found her brother who appeared to have fallen in the bathroom. The woman shared that the officers kept her and her sister from going into the home as it was in what she described as "deplorable conditions, unfit for human habitation" and ensured her brother got the medical assistance he needed. She shared that she is working with family members to ensure her brother, who is elderly and a veteran, received much needed services but will like to commend these officers for their service and the dignity they showed to her brother. The woman also shared the following:

"These officers were such gentlemen and never gave any indication of how difficult it must have been to attend to the business of removing my brother from his surroundings. Please let them know that I'm grateful for how they conducted themselves."

11. MPD D1 - P.O. Willie Williams and P.O. Dexter Lee

A resident wanted to commend these officers for handling a situation her husband was involved in. She shared that her husband had gotten injured after falling and although initially did not want medical the officers were empathetic but ensured he got the medical assistance he needed. The officers then informed her about the fall and the hospital her husband had gone to. The resident also shared the following:

"It was clear that they had listened to his wishes and proceeded to advise him in a gentle respectful way that he needed to go to the emergency room for his injuries. Their demeanor in this accident was respectful, kind, and professional. Thank you."

12. MPD Motorcycle Unit – P.O. Bronson Moore

A community member wanted to commend this officer for how he handled an incident she was involved in. Ms. Arndt was involved in an incident where her car had been hit while at a gas station and the person that hit her fled the scene. The resident wanted to commend P.O. Moore for the professionalism and courtesy with which he handled her situation. The resident shared:

"I spoke with police officer Bronson Moore who was polite and courteous and thorough I really appreciate his hard work and dedication to getting my case solved I am forever grateful"

13. MPD D1 - P.O. Daniel Sturma and P.O. David Grycowski

The FPC received a commendation from a community member who wanted to show her appreciation to how these officers handled a wellness check at her home. The resident stated that the officers were kind, understanding, and were even able to assist her in connecting her

phone therefore regaining service and she was able to assure loved ones that she was alright. The resident noted “if these are the kind of officers that MPD has, then I feel very safe”. The resident shared that she felt bad for inconveniencing the officers on a potentially busy holiday week and wanted to ensure that the officers received a commendation for how they handled her situation.

14. MPD D7 - P.O. Tom Lofland

The FPC received a letter from a community member who wanted to show her gratitude to P.O. Lofland for how he handled a call for service. The community member included the following:

“I would like to highly commend one of our finest MPD’s officer’s. In my opinion, during my interaction, and observation of this officer, he truly exemplified the qualities that characterize that of a professional, as a police officer. During his investigation of a call that I requested for service, I felt that I received the utmost degree of service, dignity, respect, and genuine concern for my ease, at feeling protected, in my home. His high degree of performance, in the capacity of a police officer, is the type of service that is deserving of our citizens, depending on the nature and severity of the situation, of course. In closing, I would just like to express my Sincerest of “Gratitude, and Appreciation,” to this officer (7th District P.O. TOM LOFLAND), for making me feel more confident, in knowing that “My Safety, and Protection, Matters!”

15. MPD Sergeant (Pending Identification)

The FPC received a commendation for an MPD sergeant who we have yet to identify. The resident shared that she and her husband had gotten stuck in the snow on a street near the intersection of N. 76th St. and W. Capitol Dr. The MPD Sergeant assisted by helping push their vehicle to safety. The resident noted the following: “Based on previous reputation and news reporting I’ve always been somewhat intimidated by police but this officer has truly changed my opinion. He wished my husband and me a Merry Christmas after helping. I truly believe he deserves recognition for his good deeds. Before his arrival, we were stuck and trying to drive out of the middle of the intersection and if it wasn’t for his outstanding service we may still be stuck in the middle of the intersection and I truly appreciate him for his kindness and service.”

MFD

1. Firefighter Christensen and Firefighter Taczala

MFD members, Firefighter Christensen and Firefighter Taczala, responded to a car accident a resident was involved in and the car was immobilized. The two firefighters were very helpful, assisting with calling for additional assistance since she didn’t have a phone and waiting until police arrived to further assist. The resident states she was “pretty shook up” due to the accident and was grateful that these two firefighters were very helpful.

DEC

To date, the FPC has not received commendation for DEC.