



CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD of BALTIMORE CITY
2016 Snapshot
January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

In the period from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, the Civilian Review Board received 176 individual complaints filed against members of the Baltimore Police Department. During this same period, the Board received 3 complaints against members of the Baltimore Public School System Police. There were 3 complaints received against the Sheriff's Office. There was 1 complaint received against Morgan State University Police.

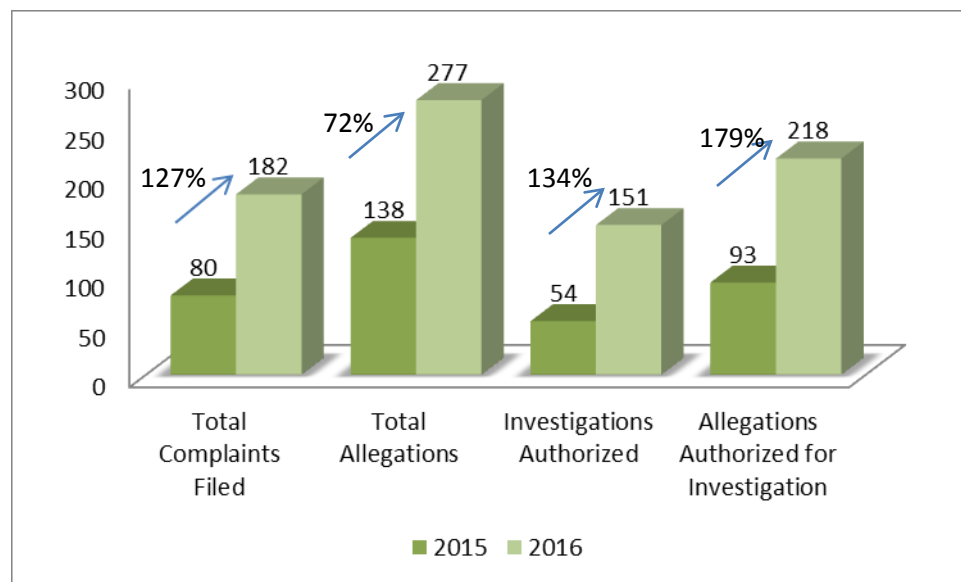
Of the 182 total complaints received, the Board requested a simultaneous investigation to be conducted by its investigators on 151 complaints.

The 182 complaints received contained 277 total allegations: 62 excessive force, 58 abusive language, 76 harassment, 60 false arrest, 29 false imprisonment.

The 182 complaints received by the board during the period compare with 80 total filed in 2015.

Please see the chart below for comparison.

	2015	2016
Total Complaints Filed	80	182
Total Allegations	138	277
Investigations Authorized	54	151
Allegations Authorized for Investigation	93	218



In 2016 the Civilian Review Board reviewed 69 completed investigations against members of the Baltimore Police Department. The Board reviewed 1 completed investigation against a member of the Baltimore School Police. There were 0 reviews against members of the Sheriff's Office during this period.

Of the 69 completed investigations reviewed during this period, 16 were filed during the same year.

The 69 completed investigations reviewed contained approximately 29 allegations of excessive force, 24 allegations of abusive language, 16 allegations of harassment, 25 allegations of false

arrest, and 15 allegations of false imprisonment, for a total of 109 allegations reviewed and findings made by the Board.

Of the 109 findings (allegations reviewed), the Civilian Review Board recommended that a ‘not sustained’ finding by Internal Investigations be reversed to a ‘sustained’ finding on 17 allegations. The Board voted to reverse the findings of IID approximately 15% of the time. This is more than any other year in the Civilian Review Board’s history.

There were no complaints against the Watershed Police and the Housing Authority police have been disbanded.

Officers with multiple complaints

Three officers were noted as having multiple complaints in 2016.

2016		Allegations				
	Complaints	Harassment	False Arrest	False Imprisonment	Excessive Force	Abusive Language
	5	3	1	n/a	1	1
	5	3	1	n/a	2	n/a
	5	3	1	n/a	n/a	2

These three officers produced 8% of the complaints for 2016.

Complaints by District

	Complaints	EF	H	AL	FA	FI
Central	11 (6%)	2 (3%)	6 (8.3%)	4 (7%)	3 (5%)	2 (7.4%)
Eastern	18 (10%)	4 (6%)	8 (10.5%)	4 (7%)	5 (8.3%)	2 (7.4%)
Western	11 (6%)	1 (1.5%)	4 (5.3%)	5 (6.5%)	1 (1.7%)	1 (3.7%)
NEastern	12 (6.6%)	6 (9.6%)	2 (2.6%)	4 (7%)	3 (5%)	1 (3.7%)
Northern	11 (6%)	4 (6%)	5 (6.6%)	4 (7%)	5 (8.3%)	4 (14.8%)
NWestern	21 (12%)	6 (9.6%)	10 (13%)	5 (6.5%)	6 (10%)	5 (18.5%90)
Southern	17 (9%)	3 (4.8%)	6 (8.3%)	5 (6.5%)	5 (8.3%)	2 (7.4%)
SEastern	9 (5%)	0 (0%)	5 (6.6%)	2 (3.5%)	2 (3.3%)	0 (0%)
SWestern	5 (3%)	3 (4.8%)	1 (1.3%)	3 (5.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Other Categories						
Unknown	39 (21%)	16 (26%)	16 (21%)	11 (19.6%)	22 (37%)	9 (33.3%)
School	3 (1.6%)	1 (1.5%)	1 (1.3%)	2 (3.5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Ed&Tr	14 (7.6%)	8 (13%)	5 (6.6%)	4 (7%)	5 (8.3%)	1 (3.7%)
ExecProt	1 (.5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (1.8%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Special Enf	11 (6%)	6 (9.6%)	6 (8.3%)	4 (7%)	2 (3.3%)	1 (3.7%)
Sheriff	3 (1.5%)	2 (3%)	1 (1.3%)	0 (0%)	1 (1.7%)	1 (3.7%)

Update on Civilian Review Board

In March of 2016, the Fraternal Order of Police filed a lawsuit attempting to obstruct the authority and state mandated work of the Civilian Review Board. The ACLU and the Campaign for Justice, Safety and Jobs wrote a powerful amicus curae brief in support of the CRB and civilian oversight. Shortly thereafter, Baltimore City Circuit Court Judge Geller dismissed the lawsuit, upholding the public local law.

In April of 2016 the CRB launched its police mediation program, however due to unresolved issues with identifying eligible complaints from BPD and directing them properly to mediation, the program has been temporarily suspended.

In July of 2016, the Civilian Review Board has hired a Supervisor to guide the work of the investigators and oversee investigations, and a Special Assistant to handle the day to day tasks of the Board. For the first time, the CRB has electronic case management system, which allows for enhanced tracking and statistical analysis of cases. Now all case documents can be electronically stored in one central location. At least two years' worth of cases have been added to this database.

In September of 2016, the Department of Justice released its investigatory report on the Baltimore City Police Department, in which it was noted that the Civilian Review Board has not been provided with adequate authority or resources to perform its intended function. Later in the month, the Director, investigatory team, and one Board member attended the annual National Association for Civilian Oversight in Law Enforcement in Albuquerque, NM.

In October of 2016, the CRB hosted the first ever conference on strengthening civilian oversight in Baltimore in partnership with the National Association of Civilian Oversight in Law Enforcement (NACOLE) with funding from the Open Society Institute of Baltimore. The conference was attended by over 60 stakeholders, including city and state representatives, community leaders and activists. After hearing from a knowledgeable panel of speakers, attendees came together to discuss bringing real police accountability to Baltimore through civilian oversight, and the results of these discussions are currently being compiled into a report to be shared with the public.

The Civilian Review Board also gained a new Board member, Michael Ross representing the Northeastern District.

Over the course of 2016, the Civilian Review Board participated in 30 outreach activities, including a "Meet the Civilian Review Board" event at Charmington's, the Art of Storytelling Event, an artistic approach to community dialogue about policing and a training session for the School Police. Board members attended various trainings from BPD, including de-escalation and Taser training, as well as on the BPD disciplinary matrix.

Although small, having a dedicated skilled staff, and an engaged Board has improved the quality of work that the CRB has been able to do, resulting in recommendations of reversal of Internal Affairs' findings of 'not sustained' to 'sustained' for 14 out of the 91 allegations reviewed. The Board voted to reverse the findings of IID approximately 15% of the time. This is more than any other year in the Civilian Review Board's history. For the purposes of comparison, in 2014 the Board gave recommendations of reversal of Internal Affairs' findings of 'not sustained' to

‘sustained’ for 11 out of the 77 allegations reviewed. The Board voted to reverse the findings of IID approximately 7.8% of the time.

The Board looks forward to continued improvements and more thorough investigations over the coming years with added resources, electronic case management and a stronger presence in the community through outreach.