



2014 Six Month Update January 1—June 30

The Office of the Police Monitor is pleased to present the Six Month Update for 2014. This update covers the first six months of the 2014 calendar year and includes data and statistics relating to the number and types of complaints, geographic area of the incidents, as well as a breakdown by the race/ethnicity of complainants.

In the first half of 2014, 553 people contacted the OPM with the intent of filing a complaint. As of this writing, it looks like calendar year 2014 will see fewer complaints than were received in 2013. If so, this will be more in line with the downward trend that occurred in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Functions of the Police Monitor’s Office

- ▣ Assess citizens’ complaints
- ▣ Monitor Internal Affairs’ investigations
- ▣ Monitor APD policies and practices
- ▣ Publish Reports on Activities of the Office
- ▣ Conduct community outreach programs and educational forums

The OPM was created and developed to promote mutual respect between the Austin Police Department (APD) and the community it serves.

Through the OPM’s outreach efforts, we will educate the community and law enforcement to promote the highest degree of mutual respect between police officers and the public. By engaging in honest dialogue over issues and incidents that impact the community and law enforcement, the Office of the Police Monitor will enhance public confidence, trust, and support in the fairness and integrity of the Austin Police Department.

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Special points of interest:

- *External Formal complaints as well as Supervisor Referrals are up over this time last year*
- *Code of Conduct issues are again the most frequently reported allegations*
- *The number of complaints stemming from Hispanics/Latinos is down dramatically over this time last year*

Number/Types of Contacts—External & Internal

During the first half of 2014, the OPM was contacted by 553 people wishing to make some sort of complaint against a member of the APD. In this graph, there are three categories of complaint types. The first is “contacts.” This category includes persons that reached out to the OPM with the intention of filing a complaint but, for whatever reason, did not do so or it was discovered that the com-

plaint involved an agency other than the APD.

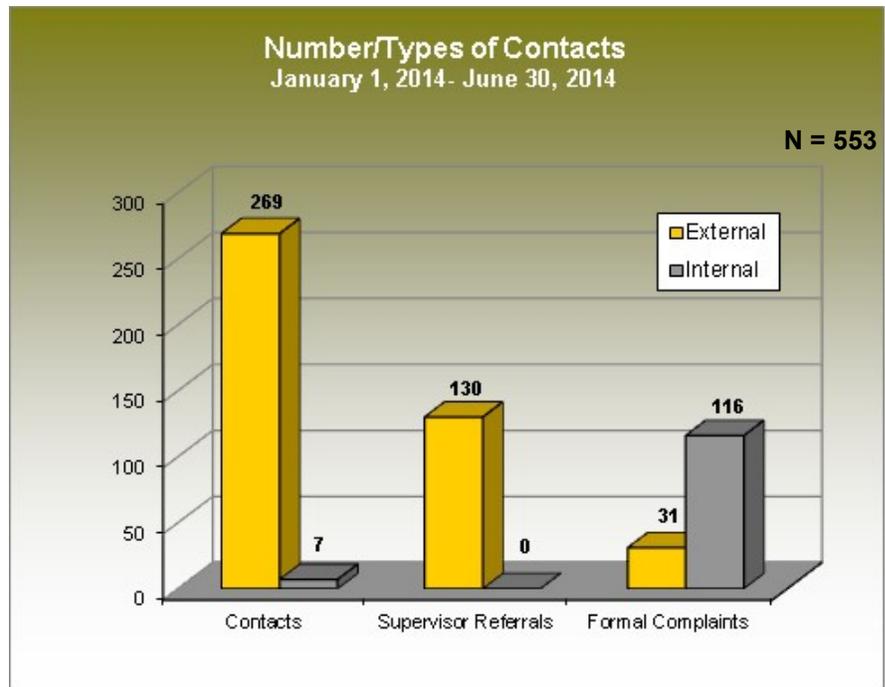
Supervisor Referrals are a complaint type reserved for less severe policy violations or to clarify the APD’s rules and regulations. Formal complaints are typically reserved for cases alleging a more severe policy violation.

If, as in the past five years, the OPM takes in fewer complaints in the second half of the year, the number of External Formal complaints will be down from 2013. In 2013, the year ended with 90 External Formal complaints. At the current pace, 2014 will end with the fewest External complaints in the past five years.

It is anticipated that the number in Internal Formal complaints will be on par or slightly fewer than in 2013.

There will likely also be fewer Supervisor

Referrals for the full 2014 year than there were in 2013. If so, the number of Supervisor Referrals will likely be closer to what was seen in 2012.



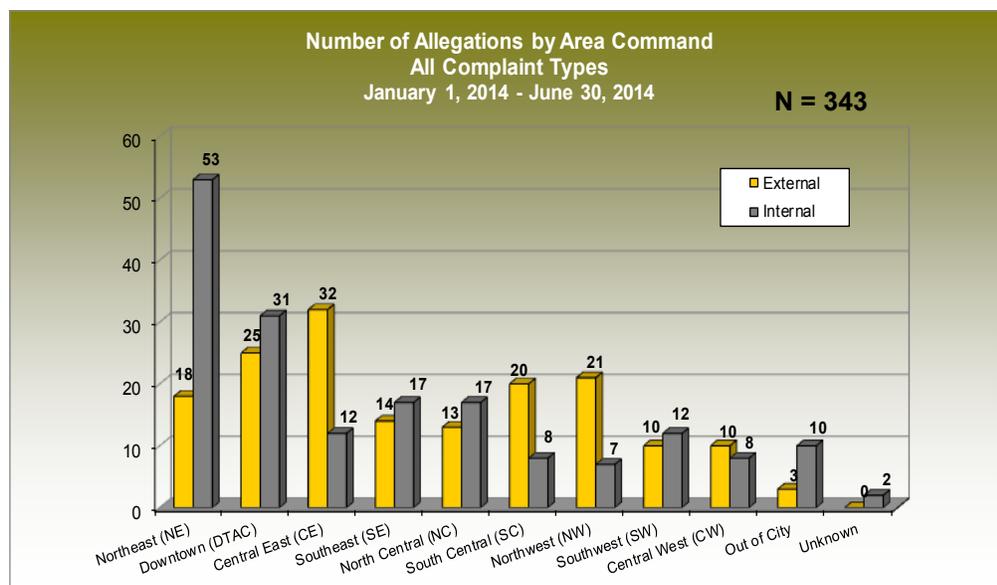
Number of Allegations by Area Command—External & Internal Complaints

In the first six months of 2014, there were 343 allegations listed against the APD. This number includes all Formal complaints as well as all allegations associated with Supervisor Referrals. There are 38 cases where allegations have not yet been assigned. With the unassigned allegations, this is down from last year at this time when there were 430.

The Northeast area command had the greatest number of allegations asserted during the first half of 2014 with 71. The second and third highest number of allegations were the Downtown and Central East area commands with 56 and 44 allegations, respectively.

Sixty-four percent of the external allegations have to do with Chapter 3, Field Operation, Custody & Traffic Enforcement.

Seventy percent of internal allegations are related to Chapter 8, Equipment Policies and Chapter 9, Personnel Policies.



Number/Types of Allegations—External Complaints

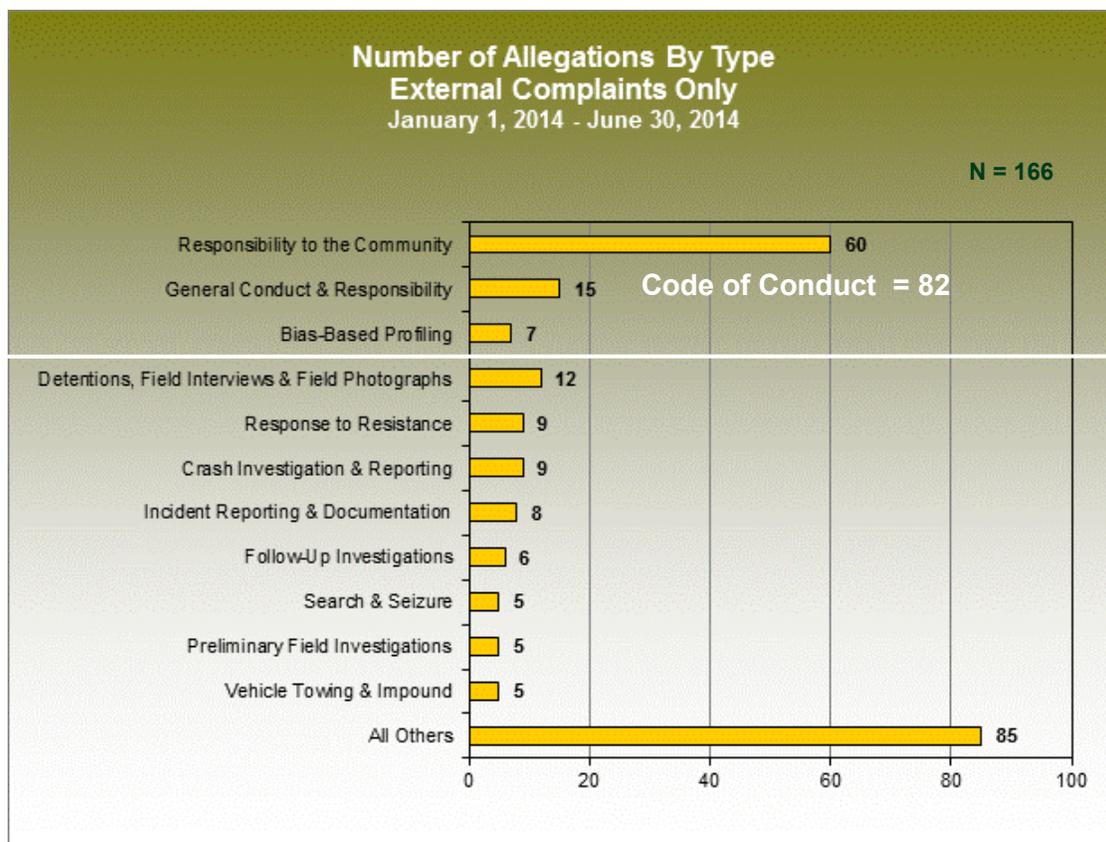
Code of Conduct-related issues again stand alone as the single most-reported allegation in the first half of 2014 at 75.

With the switch in 2011 from the old General Orders to the new policies entitled “Lexipol,” the language used in the table below may appear slightly different than what has been reported in the past. For example, note that there are three allegations, 1) Responsibility to the Community, 2) General Conduct and Responsibility, and, 3) Bias-Based Profiling that, when summed, total the 82 Code of Conduct allegations. Under the General Orders, these would have been listed as one allegation, i.e., Code of Conduct.

The majority of Code of Conduct complaints revolved around “Responsibility to the Community.” This allegation includes, but is not limited to, impartial attitude, courtesy, duty to identify as a police officer, and neutrality in civil actions.

After Code of Conduct issues, the next highest reported allegation for External complaints is Detentions, Field Interviews & Field Photographs (12) followed by Response to Resistance (9; formerly captured as Use of Force). The purpose of the Detentions, Field Interviews & Field Photographs policy is to establish guidelines for conducting and documenting detentions, interviews and taking and retaining photographs of subjects in the field.

This time last year, there were 26 Search & Seizure allegations; in the first half of 2014, there are 5. This is a dramatic decrease from last year at this time. It is unclear why there has been a decrease in this type of allegation. A more thorough analysis of this trend will be addressed in the 2014 Annual Report.



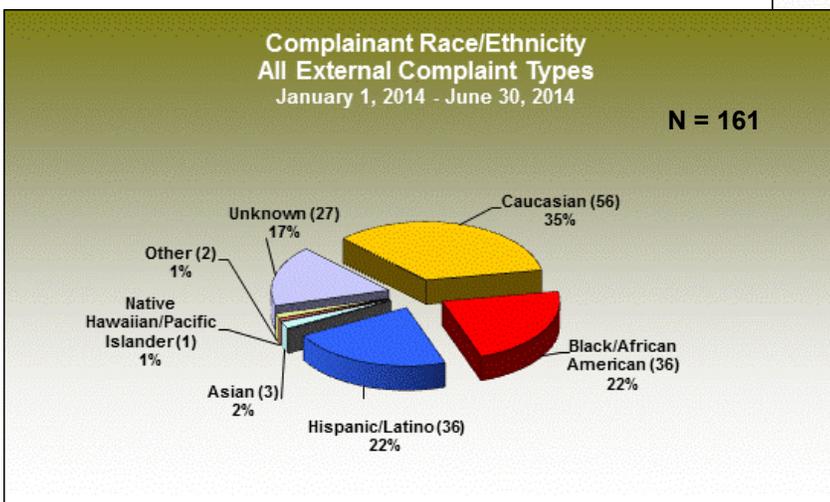
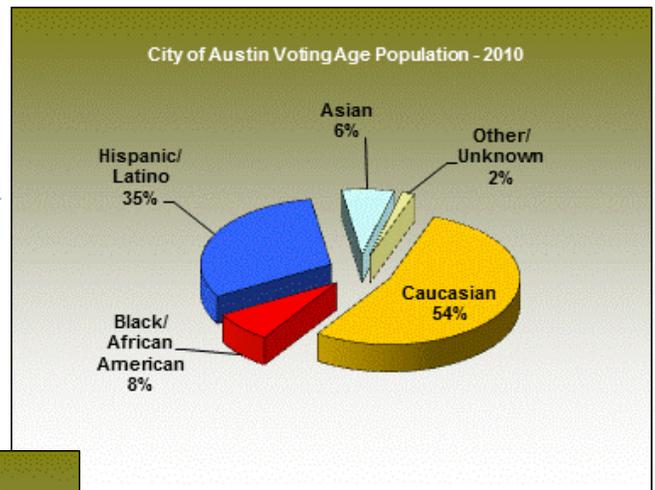
Note:

1. The graph on this page includes external complaint allegations only, specifically, External Formal complaints and Supervisor Referrals.

Complainant Demographic Information

The members of the public that classify themselves as Caucasian filed more complaints overall than any other group in the first half of 2014 (1H2014). The filing rate of every racial/ethnic group was lower than their representation within the voting age population of the City except for the Black/African American community. Overall, Blacks/African Americans filed at a rate that is 14% greater than their representation within the voting age population of the City.

When looking at Supervisor Referrals and External Formal complaints combined, the percentage of complaints from Caucasians in the first half of 2014 is on par with calendar year end 2013 (YE2013) (36%). The percentage of Hispanic/Latino complainants is down very slightly in the first half of 2014

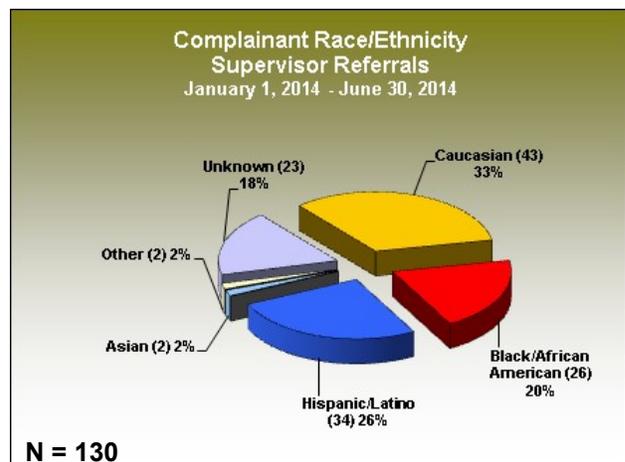
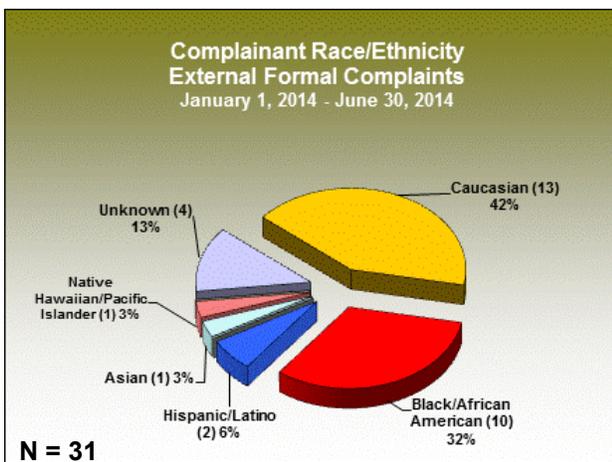


(22%) over year end 2013 (25%). The percentage of complaints from Black/African Americans is also on par in the first half of 2014 (22%) compared to year end 2013 (22%).

When looking at these numbers by type of complaint and focusing on External Formal complaints only, in the first half of 2014, the number of Formal complaints filed by Hispanic/Latinos (2) is down dramatically from this time last year. By mid-year 2013, Hispanics/Latinos had filed 13 formal complaints. Both Caucasians and Blacks/African Americans are on par in the first half of 2014 (13 and 10, respectively) to finish the year at around

the same number of External Formal complaints as last calendar year (27 and 21, respectively).

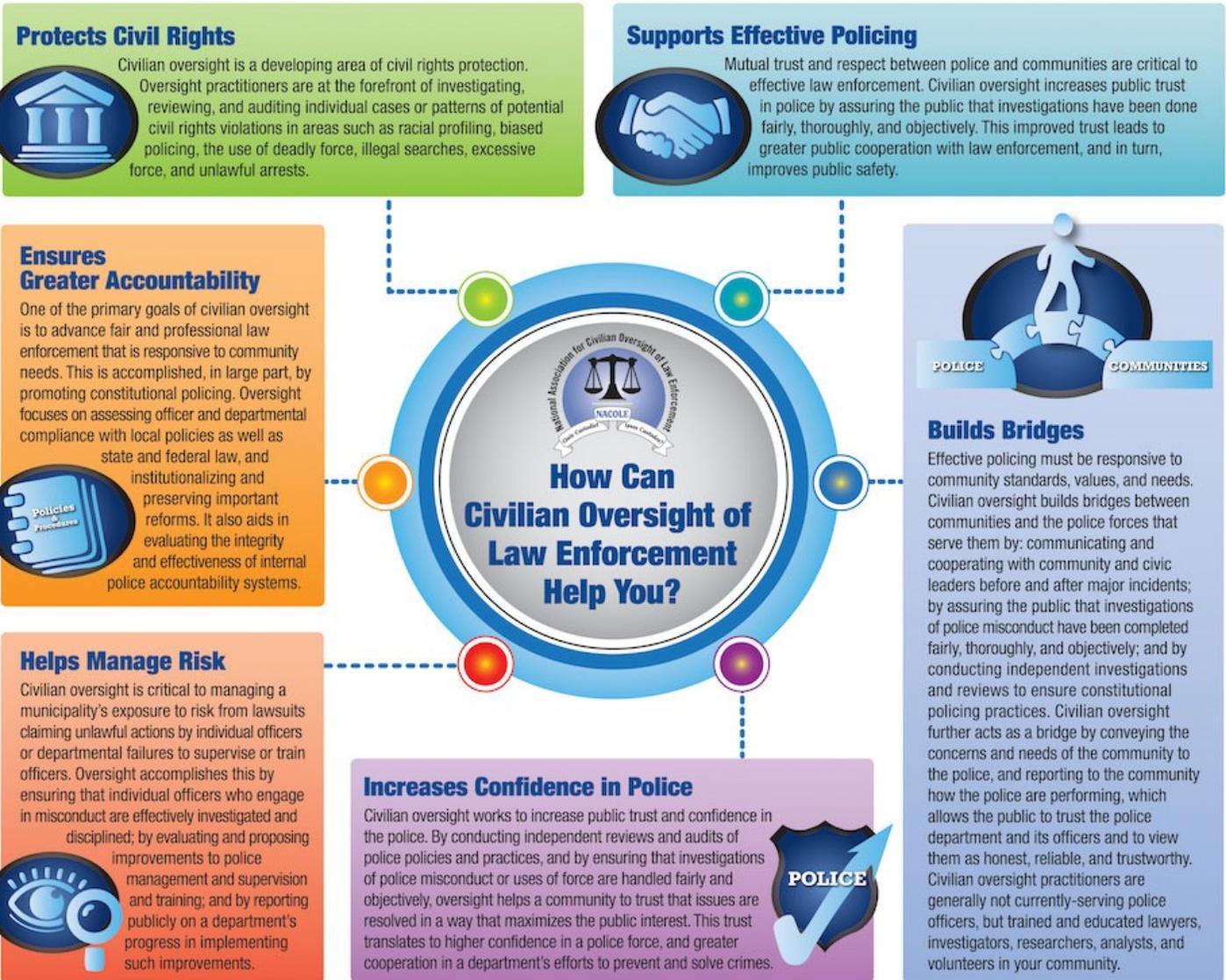
For Supervisor Referrals in the first half of 2014, the percentage of Caucasians filing this type of complaint is down 5% from year end 2013 (33% 1H2014 vs. 38% YE2013). Hispanics/Latinos are filing at a slightly higher rate (26% 1H2014 vs. 22% YE2013). The percentage of Blacks/African Americans filing this type of complaint is very slightly down in the first half of 2014 (20%) from year end 2013 when this group comprised 22% of the Supervisory Referral Complaints.



Civilian Oversight Infographics

This informational graphic first appeared on the NACOLE website. NACOLE is the **National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement**. It is a non-profit organization that brings together individuals or agencies working to establish or improve oversight of police officers in the United States. The Austin Office of the Police Monitor is a member of this organization.

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OFFICE OF THE POLICE MONITOR

1520 Rutherford Lane
Bldg. 1, Suite 2.200 A
Austin, TX 78754

Phone: 512-974-9090
Fax: 512-974-6306
E-mail: police.monitor@austintexas.gov

**[www.austintexas.gov/
department/police-monitor](http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/police-monitor)**

The Police Monitor's Office is the main location for accepting complaints filed by members of the public against police officers. To file a complaint with the Office of the Police Monitor, the public can contact our office by telephone, facsimile, mail, email, or in person. The Police Monitor or a member of the Police's Monitor's office will conduct an initial interview with the complainant and will explain the oversight and investigative processes. The Internal Affairs Division of the Austin Police Department or the subject officer's chain of command will conduct an investigation. The Office of the Police Monitor will participate in the APD investigation. The Office of Police Monitor will make policy recommendations to APD. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the complainant will be notified in writing of the outcome.