

Bremerton Police Department

2016 Professional Standards Report



- Complaints
- Internal Investigations
- Claims
- Pursuits
- Officer Collisions
- Use of Force
- Bias-based Policing

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COMPLAINTS

The Department recorded 41 complaints in 2016 as compared with 40 complaints in 2015 and 51 complaints in 2014.

General Categories of 2016 Complaints ¹	
Dissatisfied with handling of call, investigation or report	22
Demeanor / courtesy / rudeness	9
Use of Force	2
Traffic Violations / Vehicle Use by Officer	2
Failure to Arrest	1
Search and Seizure	2
Didn't agree with Traffic Ticket	3
TOTAL	41

Dispositions	Explanation of Dispositions	# of Complaints in each disposition category
Exonerated	The alleged act occurred, but that the act was justified, lawful and/or proper.	13
Unfounded	The allegation was false or not factual or that the alleged act(s) did not occur or did not involve Department personnel.	12
Not sustained	There is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the employee.	7
Sustained	The act occurred and it constituted misconduct. ²	8
Unresolved	Complainant did not respond to sergeant's attempts to contact.	1
		41

Complaint #	Details	Disposition
C16-01	DV burglary suspect felt officer's investigation that led to his arrest was flawed.	Unfounded
C16-02	Rudeness.	Sustained. Letter of Discussion

¹ Many complaints could fit two or more categories (e.g. "I didn't like getting a ticket and the officer was rude." Judgments are made as to the best category fit for such complaints.

² Complaint logged in this category if any portion sustained.

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C16-03	Rudeness. Handling of a collision investigation.	Unfounded
C16-04	Excessive Force. Unprofessional demeanor.	Excessive Force – Unfounded Demeanor – Sustained. Record of Discussion
C16-05	Upset officer would not call another citizen at 1 AM regarding harassment.	Exonerated
C16-06	Note: Was initially issued a complaint number. Upgraded to an internal investigation and documented under IA 03-16	N/A
C16-07	Upset over being stopped twice by same officer for illegally modified exhaust	Not Sustained
C16-08	Complaint says officer made obscene gesture toward him while driving.	Not Sustained
C16-09	1) Office provided Incorrect information regarding impound fees. 2) Improper hand restraints	1) Not sustained 2) Exonerated
C16-10	Rudeness. Felt officer was “mean,” while investigating a complaint against her neighbor, who is also ex-husband.	Not sustained
C16-11	Upset with officer’s handling of his 911 call about juveniles running into his yard to retrieve a ball and the subsequent confrontation with the children’s father.	Unfounded
C16-12	Believed Sheriff’s deputy influenced officer not to write deputy’s wife a ticket for a collision. Complainant the other half of the collision.	Unfounded
C16-13	Complained about receiving traffic ticket.	Unfounded
C16-14	Rudeness. Used profanity.	Unfounded
C16-15	Complainant made a noise complaint against local bar. Officer checked area and did not find a noise violation. Complainant upset officer did not call him back. Officer unaware complainant wanted a call back.	Exonerated
C16-16	Fugitive in the house. Complained about officer preventing the door being shut by placing his foot in the door jam. Lying on a search warrant.	Block door open – Exonerated Lying - Unfounded
C16-17	Upset other driver in a collision was not cited.	Exonerated
C16-18	Records staff inadvertently misdirecting call	Records Supervisor reset expectations with staff.
C16-19	Rudeness. Failing to recognize complainant was in a “state of crisis.”	Unfounded
C16-20	Dissatisfied that officer did not cite neighbor for Disturbing the Public. Did not like Officer’s demeanor.	Unfounded
C16-21	Complainant felt she was assaulted at local bar. Believed officers did not forward the report to the prosecutor and surveillance video of the incident was overwritten because officer slow to request it from a business.	Issue 1 – Not filing paperwork with court. Unfounded. Was sent to Bremerton Muni Court. Issue 2 – Failing to retrieve video in timely manner – Sustained. Record of Discussion
C16-22	Unwanted patient at the hospital. Upset officer did not side with her against hospital staff.	Exonerated

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C16-23	Domestic dispute. Wife believed officer displayed a lack of concern and did not adequately listen to her version of events.	Not sustained.
C16-24	Mother upset. Doctor's viewed her son's condition as a mental health issue, not a medical issue as the mom believes. Upset BPD officers did not force her adult son into the care of medical providers so she could demand treatment.	Exonerated
C16-25	Complainant had second hand information regarding a welfare check. Wanted to know why a particular person wasn't questioned or a police report written.	Unfounded
C16-26	Complainant wanted officer to tell a man who he has a protective order against that the man can't enroll his children at a daycare across the street from complainant's house. Upset officer told him that the police did not have the authority to do that. Complainant did not return phone calls from supervisor.	Exonerated
C16-27	Speeding. Unknown officer. The most likely officer does not recall the incident.	Not sustained
C16-28	Complainant thought an officer and a suspected drug dealer were whispering and pointing at her house, which offended her. The person the officer was talking to was actually pointing at another building – the general direction of a wanted suspect.	Unfounded
C16-29	Woman in car told she was under arrest for lying about her name. Wanted officers to let her call her attorney before she got out of the car. Upset officer did not let her make the call and about the force used in removing complainant from vehicle.	Exonerated
C16-30	Security guard upset about officer refusing to force man to leave ferry terminal. Rudeness.	Handling of Call – Exonerated Rudeness – Sustained – Counseled by supervisor
C16-31	Complainant extremely intoxicated and belligerent. Upset officer did not arrest his wife for assaulting him. His injury was a very small cut on his finger from smoking marijuana from a broken glass pipe	Unfounded
C16-32	Poorly written search warrant.	Sustained - Retraining
C16-33	Sergeant's handling of a dispute between a citizen and a tow truck driver.	Exonerated
C16-34	Upset about being issued an infraction for causing a collision.	Exonerated
C16-35	Upset officer would not let her and her group cross a fire perimeter established by the fire department while battling a house fire.	Exonerated
C16-36	Rudeness.	Sustained
C16-37	Report missing some information	Closed. Unresolved. Complainant did not respond to sergeant's attempts to contact.
C16-38	Driving. Felt officer, who had lights and sirens on, cut him off.	Exonerated
C16-39	Complainant claimed he was pulled over by two BPD officers in an unmarked car and that one of the officers made contact with him. Officers used profanity, ordered him from car, examined his wallet then released him without explanation. No	Unfounded – Complainant was late to work and lied about police contact

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	two-man cars working that day. Complainants name or license not checked through CenCom. GPS units on cars show no BPD units in area at that time.	to justify his tardiness.
C16-40	Complaint about the arrest of boyfriend. Boyfriend shoved into patrol car. Officers told her not to film.	Not sustained
C16-41	Complainant felt his theft case was not followed up within a timely manner. Officer made him feel the case was a waste of time.	Sustained. Records of Discussion
C16-42	Officer's demeanor when dealing with hospital nursing staff, wanting them to draw blood from a DUI suspect.	Not sustained

2016 INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS

Control Number	Description	Disposition	Action Taken
01-16	Missed required training. Failed to submit doctor's note as required.	Sustained	Counseling / Record of Discussion
02-16	Officer self-reported using a curse word when dealing with a suspect.	Sustained	Written Reprimand
03-16	Demanding attitude when dealing with school staff on an investigation.	Partially sustained	Re-training
04-16	Failure to submit evidence prior to the end of shift as required by policy.	Sustained	Written Reprimand
05-16	Failure to submit evidence prior to the end of shift as required by policy.	Sustained	Written Reprimand

2016 CIVIL CLAIMS*

Claim #	Inc. Date	Cause	Effect	Demand Amt.	Amount Paid	Status
20160012	2/16/16	Forced Entry by Police	Damaged door.	\$557	\$557	Closed with payment.
20160093	10/13/16	Auto Collision	Damaged 2015 Toyota Sienna	\$1,478	\$1,478	Closed with payment.
20160075	10/20/16	Altercation with suspect during arrest.	Damage to third party vehicle.	\$2,110	\$1,401	Closed with payment.
20160060	9/2/16	Police encounter.	Broken vehicle window.	\$600	\$0	Closed - no payment
20160049	6/25/16	Police response.	Violation of 14th Amendment rights.	\$0	\$0	Closed - no payment.

- Supplied by Risk Manager

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BIAS-BASED POLICING

The Bremerton Police Department prohibits race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, economic status, age, cultural group, disability or affiliation with any other similar identifiable group from being used as the basis for providing differing levels of law enforcement service or the enforcement of the law.

The most frequent way that police agencies have attempted to learn whether bias based policing is systematically occurring is through analysis of discretionary traffic stops.

The Bremerton Police Department has the ability to track infractions issued by race through the electronic capture of SECTOR data. The Department also tracks citizen complaints of bias-based policing.

Citizen complaints of biased based policing in 2016: 0

Race	Criminal Traffic Infractions (e.g. DUI, Driving While License Suspended, Reckless Driving)		Traffic Infractions (e.g. Speeding, Failure to Yield, cell phone violations, seatbelt violations)		Totals		Bremerton Demographics
	# by race	% by race	# by race	% by race	# by race	% by race	
White	199	67.2	1893	73.4	2092	72.8	74.0%
Black	49	16.6	261	10.1	310	10.8	6.7%
Hisp	15	5.1	153	5.9	168	5.8	6.8%
Asian - PI	19	6.4	138	5.4	157	5.5	9.6%
Amer Ind	1	0.3	13	0.5	14	.05	2.0%
Unk	13	4.4	121	4.7	134	4.7	
Totals	296		2579		2875		

Notes / Trends

- Infraction statistics from SECTOR
- Demographic data from 2010 US census
- Infractions include both traffic and non-traffic infractions

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EMPLOYEE COLLISIONS

Per internal policy, all collisions involving police department employees are thoroughly investigated regardless of the degree of damage.

The majority of these driving incidents involved low speeds and minimal damage (i.e. minor scrapes and dents) and would not be classified as reportable collisions under Washington law.

Each collision is reviewed by an internal panel of Department members who evaluate all available data and then classify the collision as 'preventable' or 'non-preventable.'

Action taken depends on many factors, including the employee's previous driving history, the amount of damage and the degree of inattention involved.

Collisions by Category	
# of officer involved collisions	12
# of collisions that were ruled 'Preventable'	9
# of collisions that were ruled 'Non-preventable'	3
# of collisions that involved injury	0
# of collisions that involved pursuits	1
# of backing collisions	4

DATE	BRIEF	PREV.	NON-PREV.	DISPOSITION
4/4/2016	Driver changed lanes and struck patrol car.		X	No further action
4/4/2016	Officer driving through alley struck a cement post. Minor damage.	X		No further action
5/13/2016	Officer backed into low metal railing in a parking lot. Minor damage to bumper and running lights.	X		No further action
7/26/2016	Officer backed into another patrol car at Police Department lot. Minor damage to door.	X		No further action
7/26/2016	Officer struck by vehicle which ran a light.		X	No further action
8/27/2016	Officer turned into parking lot and sideswiped a retaining wall causing minor damage to the door.	X		No further action
9/23/2016	Detective stopped for traffic. Struck from behind by another vehicle.		X	No further action
10/13/2016	Sergeant in pursuit of armed robbery suspect who ran a stop sign. Sergeant followed. Was struck on the wheel by an uninvolved vehicle he thought was yielding to him, but had not actually seen him.	X		Additional training.
11/20/2016	Officer responding to attempted robbery. Officer backed his patrol vehicle into the intersection in an attempt to turn and assist the officers. Struck a vehicle stopped at the intersection.	X		Additional training.
11/24/2016	Officer struck a cement pillar in parking garage. Minor damage.	X		No further action
11/29/2016	Officer backed into garage door at Fire Station.	X		No further action
12/28/2016	Sergeant took a turn too wide. Hit the curb with tire, causing minor damage to the rim.	X		No further action

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PURSUIITS / ELUDING

Pursuit Statistics	2014	2015	2016
Total number of pursuits / eluding	21	8	18
Day pursuits	7	2	6
Night pursuits	14	6	12
Pursuits discontinued by officer	15	7	18
Pursuits terminated by: collision	7	2	3
spike strip	1	0	0
Pursuits ruled "Within Policy"	16	8	18
Pursuits ruled "Outside of Policy"	5	0	0

Reasons for the 2016 Pursuits	
Robbery	1
Traffic Violation / Speed / DUI	15
Stolen Vehicle	1
Driver had arrest warrant	1

Notes / Trends

- These statistics include those circumstances where an officer attempts to stop an offender. The offender refuses to stop and the officer never engages in a chase.
- Training was conducted both in the classroom and at the driving range to reinforce the policy.

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USE OF FORCE

Use of Force: Type of Force			
Primary Type – the first tool or tactic an officer used.		Secondary Type – used when the 1 st tool or tactic proved ineffective	
Physical controls	100	Physical controls	2
Taser: Air deployment	4	Taser: Air deployment	3
Taser: Contact deployment	1	Taser: Contact deployment	1
OC / Chemical	1	OC / Chemical	0
Impact	0	Impact	2
Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint	1	Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint	0
Firearm	0	Firearm	0
Personal Weapons	5	Personal Weapons	5
Impact Munition	0	Impact Munition	0
Other	1	Other (leverage tools)	3
Leg Restraints	2	Leg Restraints	4
TOTAL	115	TOTAL	20

Use of Force Aggravating Factors	
Intoxicated / Drugs	46
Domestic Violence	11
Mental Health	28

Use of Force by Race	
White	88
Black	19
Asian	1
Native American	2
Hispanic	5
Multiple / Unknown / Other	0

Use of Force by Gender of Subject	
Male	85
Female	30

	Use of Force Injuries			
	# of Injuries (visible or complained of)	Treatment		
		Minor – No treatment required	On-scene by Aid	Hospital
Officer	12	10	0	2
Suspect	19	6	9	3

Notes / Trends

- Total incidents where officers used force: 115
- Total Incidents: 55,289
- % of Incidents in which force was used: 0.21%

Note: Injury statistics do not include those cases where the only "injury" was probe penetration from the use of the Taser