



Presented by the City Attorney's Office  
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# Police Auditor

Monthly  
Report

February  
2024

## Table of Contents

- Page 1 - Mission Statement & Monthly Activities
- Page 1-6 - APD Data
- Page 7 - Beat Map

[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 February

- Attended CompStat and Professional Standards meetings.
- Completed draft of employee wellness report.
- Completed draft of use of force memo

### Complaints

In February 2024, APD received zero complaints.

So far in 2024, APD has received zero complaints compared to three 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. Since at least 2021, more complaints have been generated internally by APD than externally by members of the public.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Externally Generated Cases	0	1	0
Internally Generated Cases	0	2	0
Total Complaint Cases Received	0	3	0

The Police Auditor reviewed the two cases that closed in February 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.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Pointing of a Weapon	4	4	12
Low-Level Force (control holds/WRAP* etc.)	6	5	19
Intermediate Force (strikes by hands, feet, or weapon, TASER deployments, etc.)	0	1	0
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 February 2024, there was a notable decrease in low-level uses of force compared to January 2024. However, despite this decline, the total number of low-level force incidents for the year remains considerably higher than the total recorded for the comparison period in 2023. Additionally, instances where a weapon display was the only use of force has also increased in 2024, primarily due to the increase observed in January.

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

**Arrests**

In February 2024, there were 32 felony arrests and 39 misdemeanor arrests. Through February, felony arrests have increased 11% and misdemeanor arrests have decreased 19% compared to the same period last year.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Felony	32	64	71
Misdemeanor/Infraction	39	104	84
Total	71	168	155

**Calls for Service**

The APD received 4,506 calls for service during the month of February which is a 2% decrease compared to January. There has been a 3% decrease in calls for service this year compared to the same period last year.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Calls for Service (excluding Fire)	4,506	9,389	9,093

**Pursuits**

In February 2024, there were no pursuits initiated by a member of APD. So far this year, and for the same period last year, there were no pursuits initiated by APD.

Officers are authorized to initiate a pursuit when:

- A suspect was involved in a violent felony and posed an ongoing and specific threat to public safety or
- A person suspected of committing a crime was believed to be armed with a firearm and posed an ongoing and specific threat to public safety.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Pursuits	0	0	0

**Collisions Involving APD Employees**

There was one collision involving APD employees in February 2024. The employee was found not to be at fault. So far this year, there has been one collision which is the same number of collisions from January and February as last year.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Collisions	1	1	1

**Stops**

In February 2024, the APD completed 280 stops, a 26% decrease compared to January 2024. The decrease was predominately driven by a 31% decrease in traffic stops. 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 six stop reasons below.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Consensual encounter resulting in search	7	9	9
Investigation to determine if person is truant*	0	0	0
Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/wanted person	7	10	11
Known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision	3	5	5
Probable cause to arrest or search <sup>1</sup>	7	-	21
Probable cause to take into custody section 5150 <sup>1</sup>	1	-	3
Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	60	114	128
Traffic Violation	195	972	481
Total	280	1,116	658

\* 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 73% 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

69% of traffic stops involved moving violations so far in 2024

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Equipment violation	32	59	75
Moving violation	127	880	331
Non-moving violation, including registration	36	33	75
Total	195	972	481

The chart below identifies the top beats for traffic stops so far in 2024. Over a quarter of traffic stops so far in 2024 have occurred in Beat 31 which is located on the east end of Alameda near the bridges. Beat 32 had the second most traffic stops and is located next to Beat 31 on the east end of Alameda. A map with Beat boundaries can be found at the end of this document.

Top 5 Beats for Traffic Stops	Jan-Feb 2024	
	#	% of Total
Beat 31	131	27%
Beat 32	65	14%
Beat 21	53	11%
Beat 9	49	10%
Beat 13	47	10%

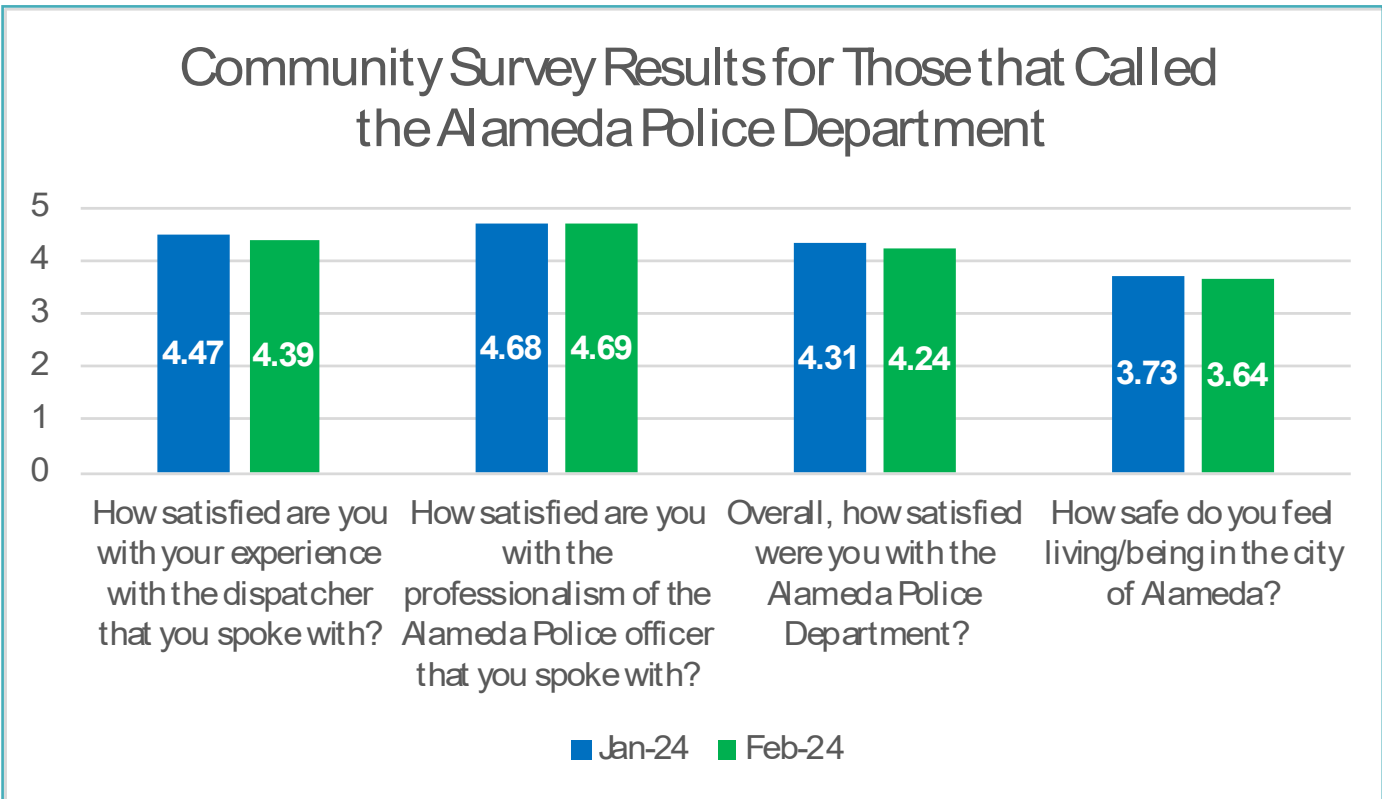
### Community Surveys

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 February 2024, 1,852 survey invites were sent. Four-hundred and six (406) respondents completed the survey for a completion rate of 22%. This is a slight increase compared to January 2024’s completion rate of 21%.

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

In February 2024, there was a slight decrease in the satisfaction level of respondents in three of the four questions compared to all of 2023. Overall, respondents are satisfied with their experience with dispatchers, officers, and with the Department. For safety in Alameda, respondents on average feel between neither safe or unsafe and safe.



**Litigation and Administrative Claims**

In February 2024, there were no administrative claims filed. So far in 2024, there has been one claim filed. During the same period in 2023, there were two claims filed.

	Feb 2024	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024
Claims Filed	0	2	1
Litigation Filed	0	0	0

**Training Hours**

The APD provides internal and external training opportunities to its employees. In the month of February, sworn staff completed 650 training hours and professional staff completed 40 training hours. Training for sworn members consisted of the following topics: defensive tactics, accident reconstruction, investigations, and instructor courses for firearms and arrest and control. The professional staff training included basic fingerprint identification. 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 February 2024, the Department had 73 sworn employees and 32 professional staff, an increase of three sworn and one professional staff member from January. Twenty-four sworn employees are on probation because they are new hires or because of a promotion. Two sworn employees are on medical leave and one is on military leave.

	Sworn Staff	Professional Staff
# of Authorized Positions	88	36
# of Filled Positions	73	32
# of Employees on Probation (new hires or promotions)	24	3
# of Employees on Light Duty	0	0
# of Employees on Administrative Leave	0	0
# of Employees on Military Leave	1	0
# of Employees on Medical Leave	2	0

### Community Beat Map

