



Presented by the City Attorney's Office  
Yibin Shen - City Attorney  
Dr. Leigh Grossman - Police Auditor

# Police Auditor

Monthly  
Report

January  
2024

## Table of Contents

- Page 1 - Mission Statement & Monthly Activities
- Page 1-6 - APD Data

[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 January

- Attended CompStat and Professional Standards meetings.
- Completed annual report.
- Began work on officer wellness report.

## Complaints

In January 2024, APD received zero complaints.

So far in 2024, APD has received zero complaints compared to two received in January 2023.

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.

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

The Police Auditor reviewed the three cases that closed in January 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.

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Pointing of a Weapon	4	4	4
Low Level Force (control holds/WRAP* etc.)	12	4	12
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.

Compared to January 2023, in January 2024, there was a large increase in low level uses of force. There are typically fluctuations in monthly counts of low level uses of force, however, in January 2024, the number of low level force incidents was the highest it has been. The increase in low level force incidents does not necessarily indicate a problem or reason to be concerned. The Police Auditor will continue to monitor the data to determine whether the increase becomes the norm or whether it was just a monthly fluctuation.

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

**Arrests**

Arrest data for January 2024 broken down by type was not available at the time this report was completed. Overall, there was a 5% decrease in arrests in January 2024 compared to January 2023.

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Felony		38	
Misdemeanor/Infraction		50	
Total	84	88	84

**Calls for Service**

The APD received 4,587 calls for service during the month of January which is a 3% decrease compared to December. There has been a 5% decrease in calls for service this year compared to the same period last year.

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Calls for Service (excluding Fire)	4,587	4,821	4,587

**Pursuits**

In January 2024, there were no pursuits initiated by a member of APD. During the same period last year, there were also 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.

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Pursuits	0	0	0

**Collisions Involving APD Employees**

There were zero collisions involving APD employees in January 2024. Last year during the same period, there was one collision involving an employee who was found to be at fault.

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Collisions	0	1	0

**Stops**

In the first month of 2024, the APD completed 378 stops, a 39% decrease compared to 2023 during the same period. The decrease was due to an almost 50% 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.

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Consensual encounter resulting in search	2	3	2
Investigation to determine if person is truant*	0	0	0
Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/wanted person	4	10	4
Known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision	2	4	2
Probable cause to arrest or search <sup>1</sup>	14	-	14
Probable cause to take into custody section 5150 <sup>1</sup>	2	-	2
Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	68	67	68
Traffic Violation	286	531	286
<b>Total</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>378</b>

\* 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 76% 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

72% of traffic stops involved moving violations so far in 2024

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Equipment violation	43	39	43
Moving violation	204	469	204
Non-moving violation, including registration	39	23	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>286</b>

The chart below identifies the different outcomes for traffic stops. In January of 2024, 45% of traffic stops resulted in a citation while in 2023, 63% resulted in a citation. Alternatively, in 2024, 53% of traffic stops resulted in a warning while in January 2023, 36% of stops resulted in a warning.

Traffic Stop Result	Jan 2023		Jan 2024	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
Arrest	5	1%	4	1%
Citation	332	63%	128	45%
Community Caretaking	0	0%	0	0%
No Action	2	0%	1	0%
Warning	192	36%	153	53%
<b>Total</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>100%</b>

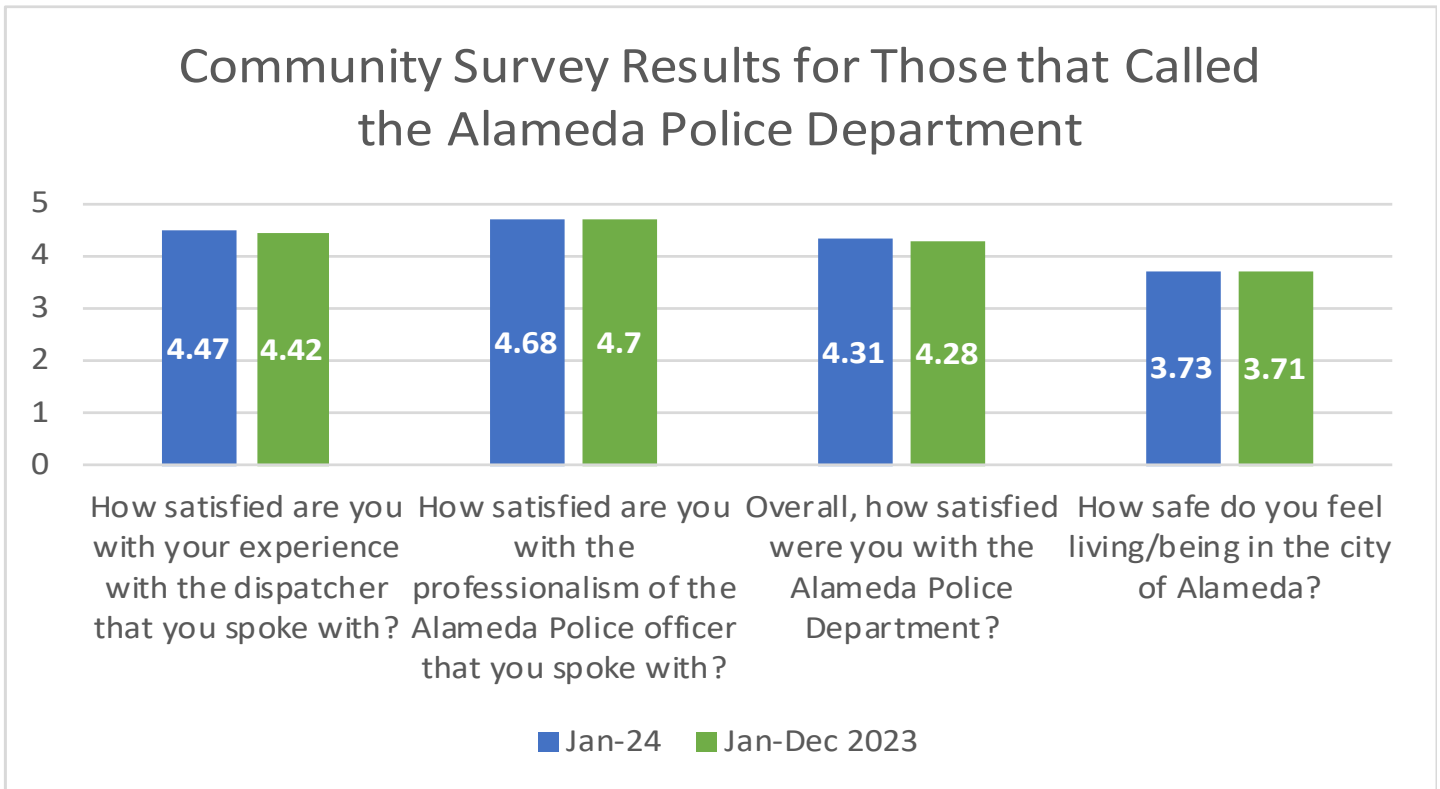
### Community Surveys

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 January 2024, 1,176 survey invites were sent. Two-hundred and fifty-two (252) respondents completed the survey for a completion rate of 21%. This is a decrease compared to 2023’s completion rate of 22.5%.

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 January 2024, there was a slight increase 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 January 2024, there was one administrative claim filed. During the same period in 2023, there were no claims filed.

	Jan 2024	Jan 2023	Jan 2024
Claims Filed	1	0	1
Litigation Filed	0	0	0

**Training Hours**

The APD provides internal and external training opportunities to its employees. In the month of January, sworn staff completed 174 training hours and professional staff completed 37 training hours. Training for sworn members consisted of the following topics: arrest & control instructor course, sexual assault investigations, gun violence restraining orders, supervisory leadership, and firearms qualification. The professional staff training included CPR, crime scene and evidence collection, and how to use cell phone data to support investigations. 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 January 2024, the Department had 70 sworn employees and 31 professional staff. Twenty-one sworn employees are on probation because they are new hires or because of a promotion. Three sworn employees are on medical leave and one is on military leave.

	Sworn Staff	Professional Staff
# of Authorized Positions	88	36
# of Filled Positions	70	31
# of Employees on Probation (new hires or promotions)	21	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	3	0