



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

Police Auditor

Monthly Report

September
2025

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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 po-
licing 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 inci-
dents and confirming the Department conducts quality investigations, holding its employees accountable if a vi-
olation 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 September

- Attended CompStat and Professional Standards meetings.
- Continued CALEA accreditation process.

Complaints

In September 2025, APD received four complaints. Two complaints were generated by a member of APD following statements made by a member of the public and two complaints were internally generated by a member of APD.

In 2025, APD received 50 complaints compared to 24 received in 2024 during the same period.

Externally generated complaints come from anyone who is not an employee of APD. Internally generat-
ed 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. The Police Auditor is briefed on each
complaint.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Externally Generated Cases (includes claims filed)	0	6	21
Internally Generated Cases (Based on Com- ment by a member of the public)	2	13	23
Internally Generated Cases	2	5	6
Total Complaint Cases Received	4	24	50

The Police Auditor reviewed seven cases that closed in September 2025 and did not object to the findings. The review included watching body camera footage, reading reports, and listening to interviews as neces-
sary to make a determination.

Numbers are preliminary and subject to change.



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:

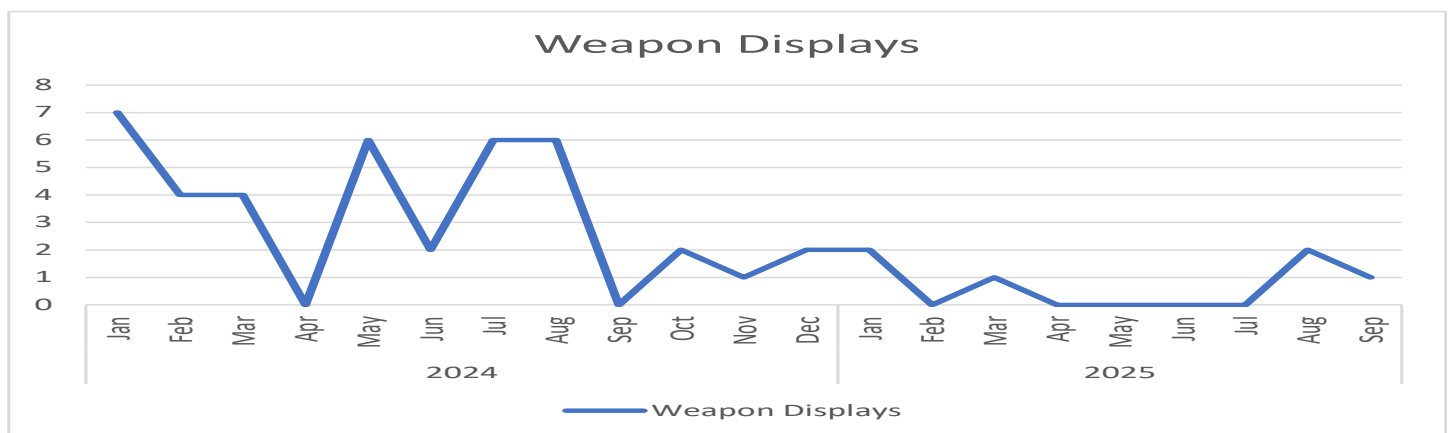
- Incidents where officers displayed a weapon such as a firearm or taser but no other force was used,
- Low-level uses of force such as control holds or takedowns,
- Intermediate uses of force such as punches, knee strikes, or taser deployments, and
- Force resulting in serious bodily injury or death and all firearm discharges directed at a person.

In this report, force is counted by incident and the highest level of force used.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Pointing of a Weapon	1	31	6
Low-Level Force (control holds/WRAP* etc.)	14	81	114
Intermediate Force (strikes by hands, feet, or weapon, TASER deployments, etc.)	1	3	7
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.

So far in 2025, there has been an 81% decrease in weapon displays compared to the same period last year.



The reduction in weapon displays corresponds with a September 2024 decision by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, which held that a belief that a vehicle is stolen, by itself, does not justify a high-risk felony vehicle stop absent specific, articulable facts indicating that the occupants are armed or dangerous.

Following the release of this decision, the Department promptly provided additional training to its officers to ensure compliance with the new legal standard while maintaining officer safety during future felony vehicle stops.

Arrests

In September 2025, felony and misdemeanor arrests decreased compared to August. Compared to the same period in 2024, felony arrests have increased 43% and misdemeanor arrests have increased 30%.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Felony	21	306	438
Misdemeanor/ Infraction	65	490	635
Total	86	796	1,073

Calls for Service

The APD received 5,867 calls for service during the month of September which is an increase compared to July. Due to a change in reporting, the calls for service numbers will now include calls that were directed to the Fire Department. 2024 numbers have been updated to reflect the change.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Calls for Service	5,867	51,186	52,680

Pursuits

In September 2025, there was one pursuit initiated by a member of APD. It was terminated by the supervisor. There were five pursuits in 2024 during the same period compared to 11 in 2025.

On August 7, 2024, the APD pursuit policy was modified to explicitly allow officers to pursue suspects or vehicles wanted for felony crimes. This policy change is likely to result in an increase in vehicle pursuits. Officers are now authorized to initiate a pursuit when:

- A suspect was involved in a felony or
- A person suspected of committing a crime was believed to be armed with a firearm.
- Pursuits outside the above criteria must be approved by a Watch Commander.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Pursuits	1	5	11

Collisions Involving APD Employees

There were no collisions involving an APD employee in September 2025. So far this year, there have been seven collisions while last year, there were five during the same period.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Collisions	0	5	7

Stops

In September 2025, the APD completed 608 stops, a slight decrease compared to August 2025. 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 eight stop reasons below.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Consensual encounter resulting in search	4	39	54
Investigation to determine if person is truant	0	0	0
Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/wanted person	12	70	126
Known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision	3	17	37
Probable cause to arrest or search	13	125	197
Probable cause to take into custody section 5150	6	15	32
Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	105	631	857
Traffic Violation	465	3,016	6,229
Total	608	3,913	7,532

Traffic stops made up 83% of stops so far in 2025. 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

73% of traffic stops involved moving violations so far in 2025

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Equipment violation	84	643	1,343
Moving violation	357	1,785	4,533
Non-moving violation, including registration	24	588	353
Total	465	3,016	6,229

So far in 2025, the most traffic stops have been made in Beat 31 which is bounded by Park Street, Encinal Ave, and the water. The Beat with the most other stops combined is Beat 23 which includes South Shore Center. A Beat map can be found on page 7 of this report.

	9*	11	12	13	14	21	22	23	24	31	32	33	34
Traffic Stop	310	150	270	757	240	649	622	583	212	1,311	919	101	105
All Other Stops	0	81	171	139	79	91	182	301	20	116	80	22	21
Total	310	231	441	896	319	740	804	884	232	1,427	999	123	310

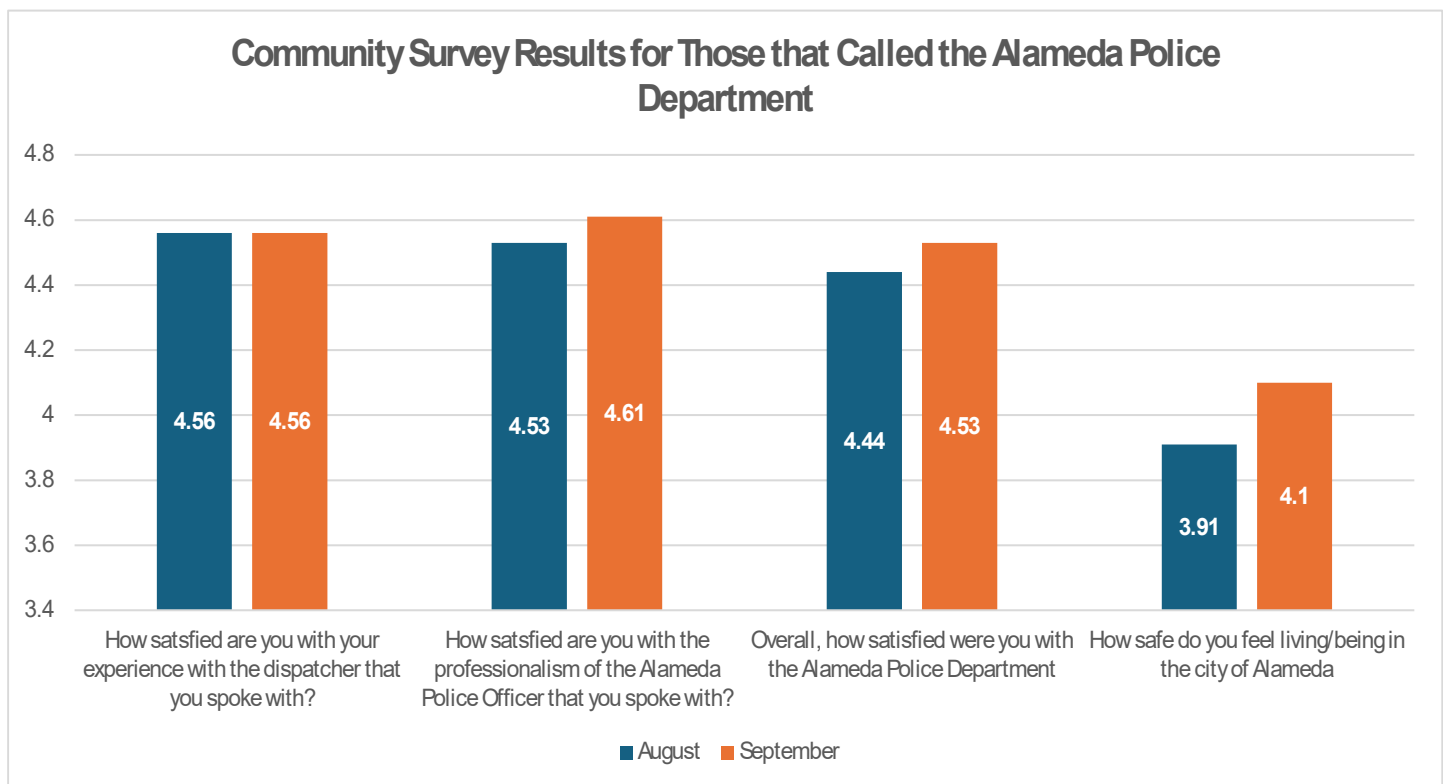
*Stops coded Beat 9 were made outside of Alameda

Community Surveys

On March 17, 2025, the APD transitioned to using PowerEngage for their citizen engagement software. When an individual calls 911 or the non-emergency number and their incident has been closed, they will receive text message survey questions about the service they received. This differs from the prior software which texted a link to callers. If the Department receives negative feedback from a respondent, they are now able to reach out by text in addition to calling the respondent. The goal is to increase the survey response rate due to the easier response method which will provide the Department with more feedback on their interactions with the public.

In September, the survey was texted to 979 individuals. Three-hundred and thirty-six people responded to the survey for a response rate of 34.3% which is higher than the response rate from August.

Compared to the August surveys, satisfaction with officers stayed the same, while satisfaction overall with the Department and with safety in Alameda increased. Satisfaction with dispatchers stayed the same.



Litigation and Administrative Claims

In September 2025, there was four administrative claims filed. So far in 2025, there have been twenty-four claims and two lawsuits filed. During the same period in 2024, there were nine claims filed and two lawsuits. Eight of the twenty-four claims in 2025 are for vehicle tows and two are for vehicle tows following a stolen vehicle recovery.

	Sep 2025	Jan-Sep 2024	Jan-Sep 2025
Claims Filed	4	9	24
Litigation Filed	0	2	2

Training Hours

The APD provides internal and external training opportunities to its employees. In the month of September, sworn staff completed 652 training hours and professional staff completed 24 training hours. Training for sworn members consisted of the following topics: interview and interrogation, traffic collisions, crisis negotiation, firearms training, and forensic vehicle inspection. The professional staff training consisted of an evidence and property seminar. 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, however the number of sworn staff has been frozen at 72 members. As of the end of September 2025, the Department had 68 sworn employees and 34 professional staff. Seventeen sworn employees are on probation because they are new hires or because of a promotion.

	Sworn Staff	Professional Staff
# of Authorized Positions	88	36
# of Filled Positions	68	34
# of Employees on Probation (new hires or promotions)	17	5
# of Employees on Light Duty	3	0
# of Employees on Administrative Leave	0	0
# of Employees on Military Leave	0	0
# of Employees on Medical Leave/Workers Comp	5	0

Community Beat Map

