

SCOTTSDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Internal Affairs Activities Report 2025

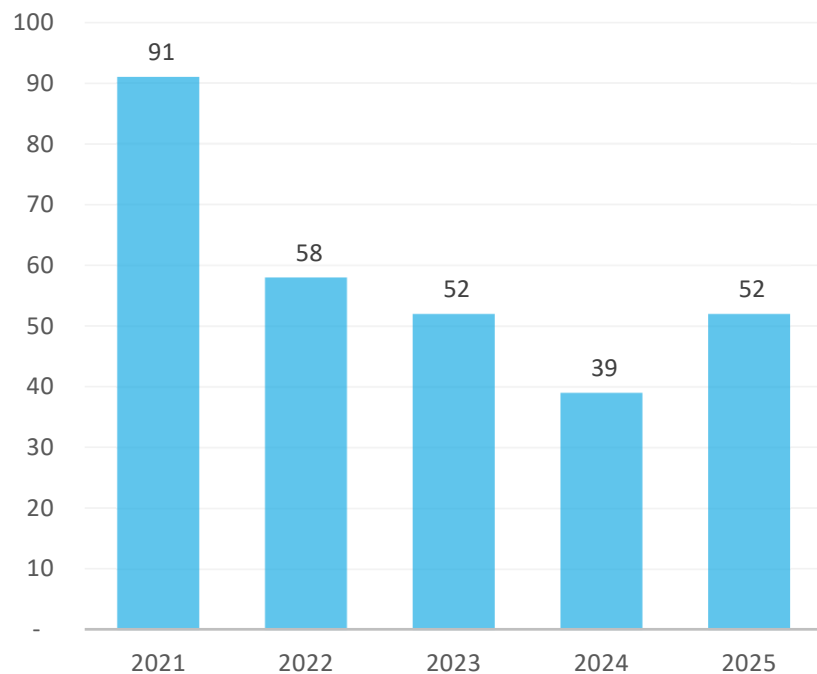


Definitions – Investigative Findings

- Exonerated: Evidence tends to support the factual occurrence, but the conduct does not appear improper.
- Misconduct Not Based on Complaint – Sustained: Substantiated misconduct not alleged in the complaint but disclosed during the investigation.
- Policy Failure: Investigation revealed the allegation is accurate, however the employee's conduct was consistent with department policy.
- Not Sustained: Insufficient evidence exists either to prove or disprove the allegation(s) of misconduct.
- Sustained: Preponderance of the evidence supports the allegation(s) of misconduct.
- Unfounded: Evidence tends to disprove allegation(s) of misconduct.

See General Order [1401/Definitions](#).

Commendations



Positive documentation designed to reinforce and reward superior performance.

See General Order
[1405/Documenting Employee Conduct.](#)

Public Comments & Complaints

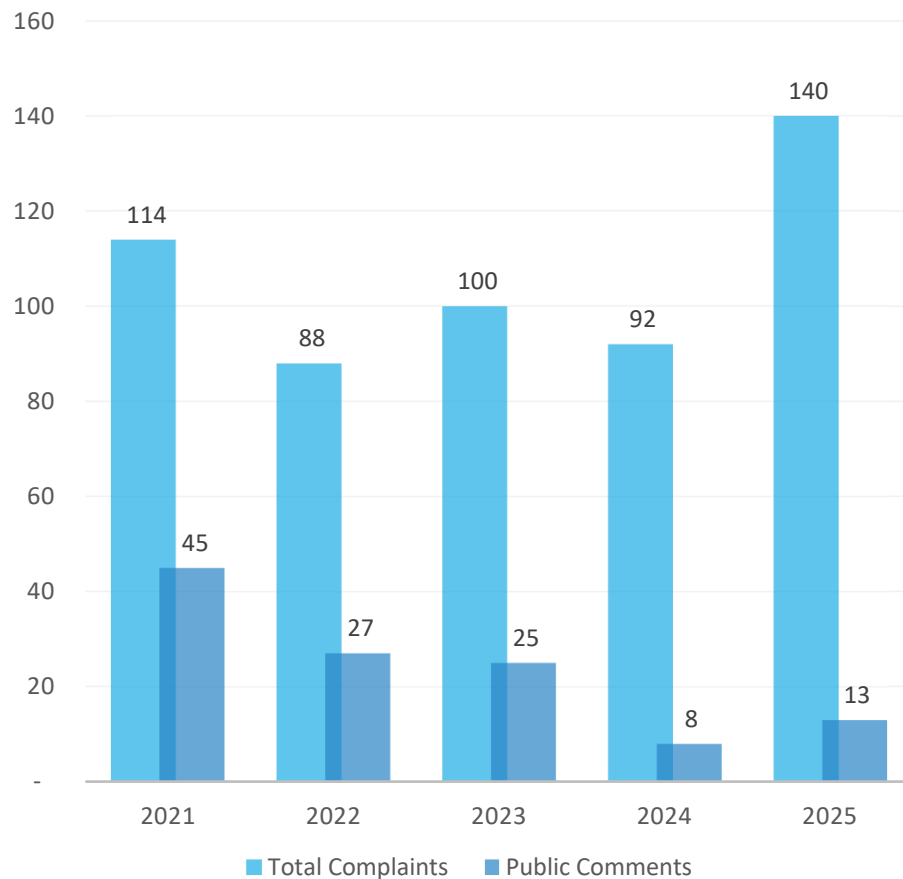
Complaint on Personnel (CP): Official complaint lodged against an employee or circumstances surrounding an incident requiring investigation.

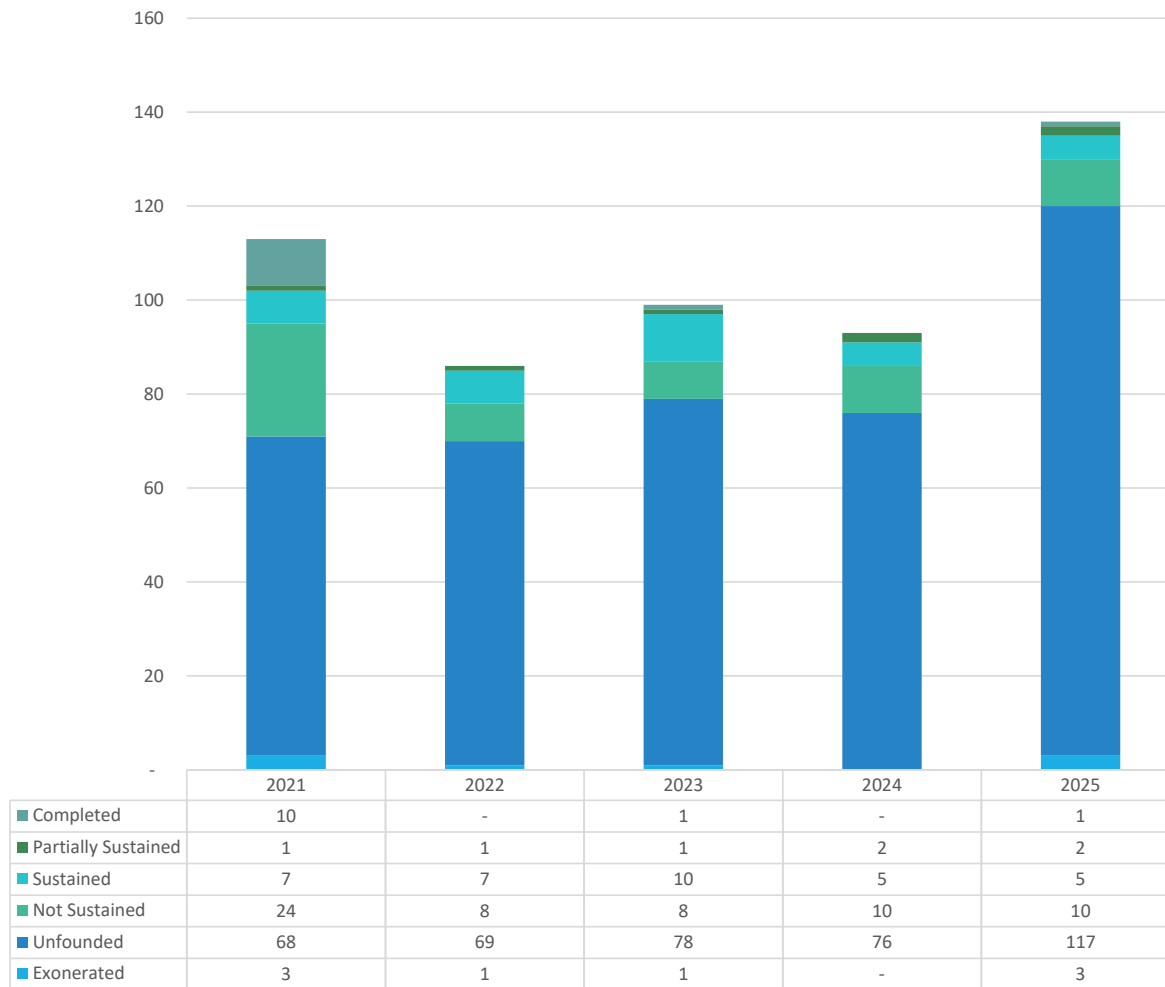
See General Order [2501/Chain of Progressive Discipline](#).

All complaints are reviewed, regardless of source (walk-ins, emails, letters, anonymous submissions, etc.) and any sustained findings are addressed in a manner consistent with the Chain of Progressive Discipline.

Public Comments: Complaint lodged against the department or policing but not directed at a specific employee.

*This category was implemented in 2018





Citizen Complaint Investigations

All complaints received are investigated by their Supervisor or Internal Affairs. The findings listed here were completed by a supervisor and documented in our internal affairs system. If the complaint meets specific criteria, the investigation is completed by Internal Affairs and is captured in “Externally Generated Investigations.”

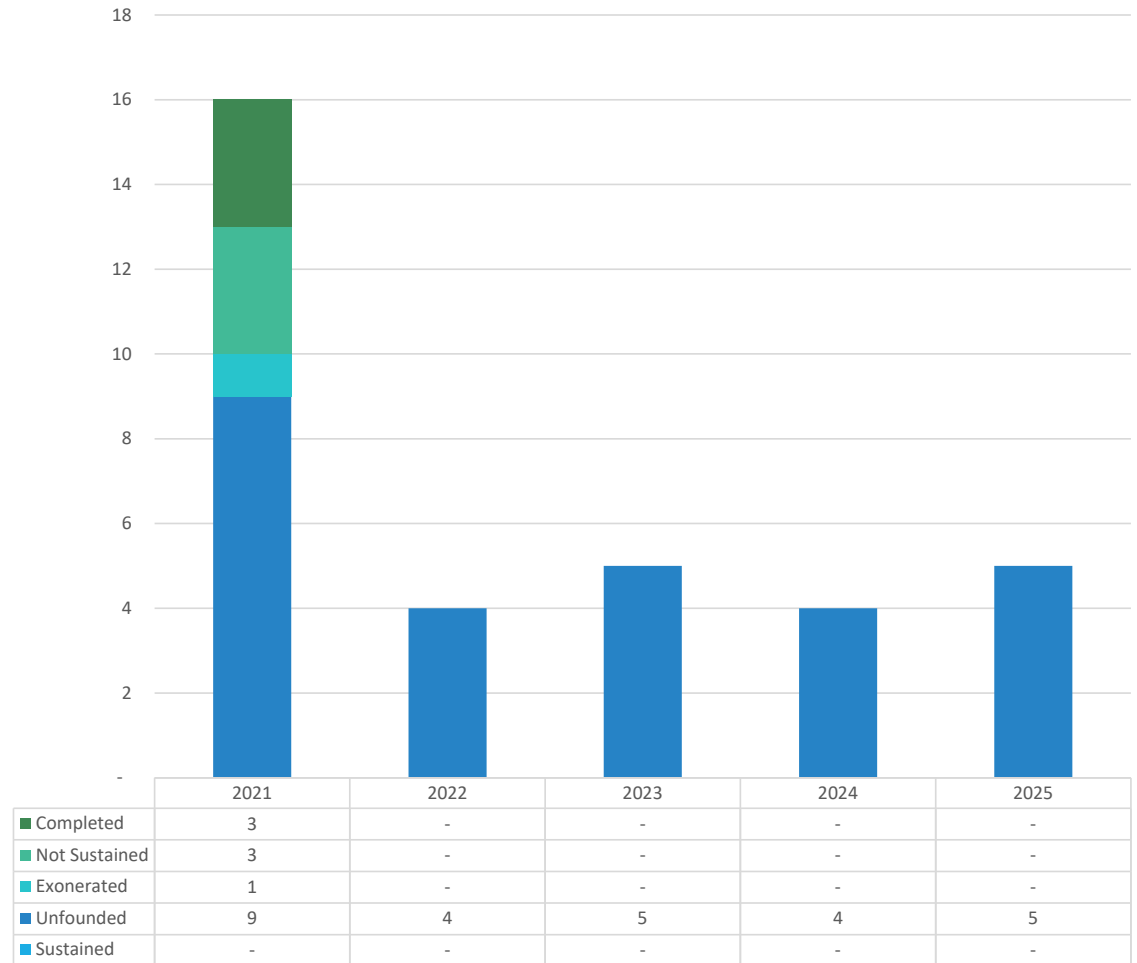
Complaint on Personnel (CP): Official complaint lodged against an employee or circumstances surrounding an incident requiring investigation.

See General Order [2501/Chain of Progressive Discipline](#).

Complaints of Bias

IA formally reviews all department employee complaints alleging disparate treatment as a result of bias-based behavior, on a timely basis to ensure legal compliance, and assists in correcting deficiencies and providing remedial training, if warranted. Sustained complaints are processed following procedure in GO chapter 1400/Internal Affairs.

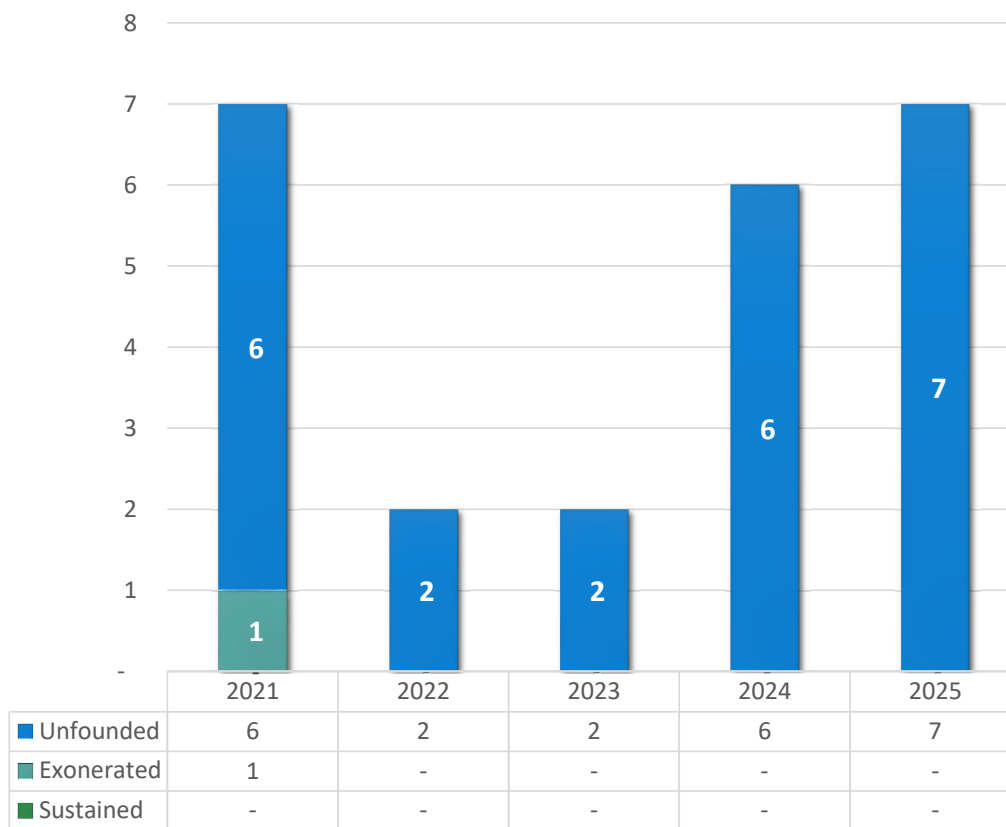
See Field Order [1122/Bias Based Profiling](#).



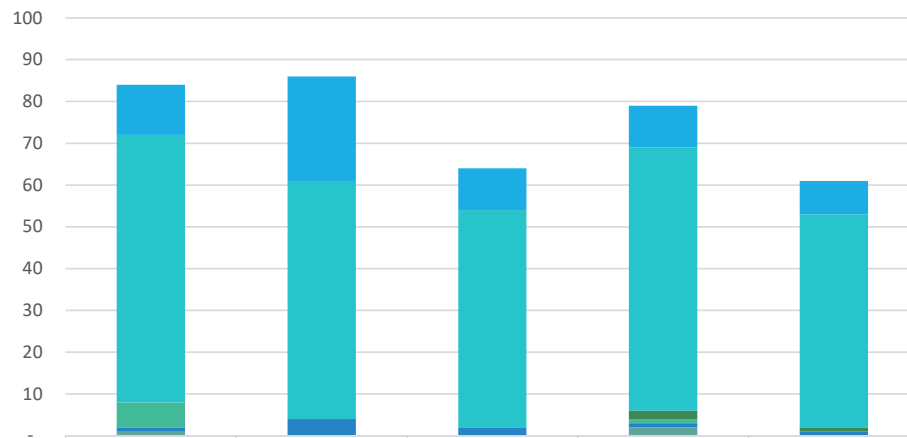
Complaints of Excessive Force

Excessive force issues are handled according to standard disciplinary policy.

See Field Order [1202/Factors Influencing Use of Force](#).



Internally Generated Investigations



Internally generated investigations are completed by Internal Affairs Sergeants and are initiated by internal employees.

Conduct, actions, offenses, or allegations of misconduct that warrant additional scrutiny to determine if corrective or disciplinary action is warranted.

See General Order [2503/Misconduct](#).

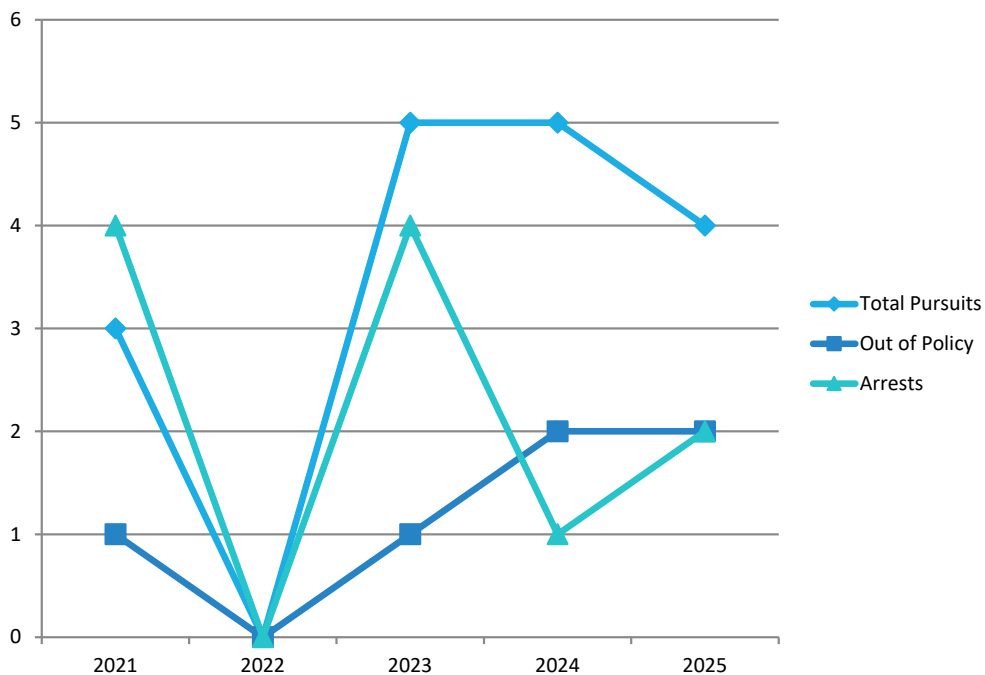
Externally Generated Investigations



Externally generated investigations are completed by Internal Affairs Sergeants and are initiated by someone outside the department, such as through a citizen complaint. Conduct, actions, offenses, or allegations of misconduct that warrant additional scrutiny to determine if corrective or disciplinary action is warranted.

See General Order [2503/Misconduct](#).

Pursuits



Attempt by an officer to apprehend one or more occupants of a moving vehicle, with or without the use of emergency lights and/or siren, when the driver of that vehicle is resisting apprehension by attempting to elude the officer and flee.

See Field Order [4017/Pursuits](#)

Firearm Discharges

Class I Shooting Incident: Unintentional or negligent discharge of a firearm that does not injure or kill a person.

Class II Shooting Incident: Deliberate shooting or attempted shooting of an object or animal other than a person.

Class III Shooting Incident: Incident in which a person is injured or killed by the discharge of a Scottsdale employee's weapon; or an attempt is made to shoot a person by discharging a weapon.

See General Order [1421/Officer Involved Shooting](#).

All incidents were investigated, the accidental discharge was not within policy, all others were within policy.

Dispatching of animals are in response to injured animals (deer and javelina, most commonly).

