



CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SECTION

INTERNAL AFFAIRS – INSPECTIONS – ACCREDITATION
A DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Since 1988

**To: Colonel Thomas Davoren
Deputy Commissioner
Division of State Police**

**From: Lieutenant Colonel Robert A. Duffy
Commanding Officer, Internal Affairs Unit**

Date: March 4, 2009

Subject: 2008 Internal Affairs Unit Annual Report

Sir,

During the 2008 calendar year, a total of ninety-six (96) investigations were conducted by the Internal Affairs Unit. This figure reflects investigations of sworn and civilian employees of the Department of Public Safety, Constables under the supervision of Resident State Troopers, and investigations for two municipal police departments.

There were ninety (90) Internal Affairs (IA) cases and six (6) Administrative Inquiries (AI). The ninety-six (96) investigations had a total of one hundred twenty-three (123) subjects investigated. The number of investigations was down 47 percent from 2007 which had a total of 180 investigations. We attribute this decrease to continuous training throughout the Department at the recruit level and in-service for the past two years about the Internal Affairs process, improved policies effected in 2007, and greater vigilance by supervisors and commanders.

The nature of the Internal Affairs Unit investigations is as follows:

Criminal: 10
Excessive Force: 1
Civil Rights: 4
Rules and Regulations: 81
Expectations of Performance: 24
Discharge of Firearms: 3

Additionally, the Internal Affairs Unit received and processed 872 other complaints, inquiries, and commendations from the public. The breakdown by category follows:

497 Complaint investigations (Non IA or AI)
64 Commendations
311 Inquiries or complaints (Not DPS related)

This reflects an increase of 25 percent in these areas from 2007 which had a total of 699 contacts. It should be noted that 2008 was the first year we more clearly defined by category the nature of contacts to this office by members of the Department and the public.

Analysis of Use of Force:

The Department's trend for use of force saw a dramatic rise from recent years. The significant change that was identified was an increase in Taser deployments. The year 2007 was the first full year of deployment of Tasers to the field, but not all personnel had received a Taser.

Troopers are trained to use this device to safely bring combative subjects under control. The issued number will continue to rise as all sworn personnel are outfitted with Tasers.

Also, during the summer of 2008 numerous troopers were assigned to New Haven and Hartford as an initiative to respond proactively to the increased criminal activity in those cities and worked together with the New Haven and Hartford Police Departments. Of the total number of Taser deployments in 2008, 36 of the 54 incidents were attributed to troopers assigned to the Hartford and New Haven initiatives.

Reviews of investigative reports for 2008 indicated that our personnel continue to use sound judgment and only use a justifiable amount of force when required. We recommend continuing with use-of-force training specifically with *Graham v. Connor* and *Tennessee v. Garner*. Also putting emphasis on the "reasonable standard" as this is how all use-of-force incidents will be analyzed.

Use of Force Reports are completed in the field, reviewed, and forwarded to Professional Standards for review and retention. These reports are submitted through the chain of command to document the incident type and to identify and address training needs.

During 2008 there were two hundred five (205) Use of Force Reports submitted which is an increase from 2007 by one hundred twenty-three (123) reported incidents.

Of all prisoner injury reports reviewed for 2008, the vast majority were minor in nature such as complaints of pain in wrists from handcuffing along with scrapes and abrasions with non-compliant combative individuals.

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Cap Stun	41	28	34
Hartford Initiative			1
Other Force Used	6	1	9
Report of Injury to Prisoner	13	16	20
Complaint of Injury by Prisoner	4	11	24
Baton	1	1	4
K-9 Bite	15	12	19
New Haven Initiative			2
Firearm	1	0	2
Taser	2	13	54
Hartford Initiative			31
New Haven Initiative			5
Totals for the Year	83	82	205

Total Use of Force by District/Troop

***NEXGEN codes specialized units and initiatives as HQ.

District	Eastern	Central	Western
HQ – 67 ***	D – 16 E – 25 C – 14 K - 23	H – 11 F – 12 I – 4 W - 0	A – 12 B – 6 G – 8 L - 5