



Barnegat Township Police Department
900 West Bay Avenue
Barnegat, New Jersey 08005

Chief Arthur P. Drexler

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2010 Professional Standards Unit Summary Report

In 2010, twenty-five officer complaints were filed with the Professional Standards Unit of the Barnegat Township Police Department. These complaints were lodged by either citizens or other police officers concerned by the actions of their colleagues.

Thirteen of these complaints were brought forth by citizens and were as follows: eight related to the officer's attitude and/or demeanor; two alleged excessive use of force, two claimed officer harassment and/or differential treatment and one alleged a motor vehicle violation. The remaining twelve complaints were supervisory in nature and were brought forth by agency supervisors. These complaints pertained to officer conduct which can result in departmental discipline. Violations of department rules and regulations can range in punishment from a negative performance notice to dismissal from the agency.

In each case, the Professional Standards Unit initiated an internal investigation to determine whether the complaint was valid. Investigations were completed in all of the reported complaints. The outcome of each investigation was documented as follows; one of the alleged excessive use of force complaints was not sustained based on the fact that the investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation and the other case was unfounded; of the eight attitude and demeanor complaints one was not sustained, two were unfounded, three were administratively closed and two were sustained. The sustained complaints resulted in departmental discipline in accordance with agency policy.

All of the supervisory complaints resulted in violations of departmental rules and regulations with punishments ranging from negative performance notices to suspension without pay.

The agency also received twelve compliments in 2010 from citizens and police supervisors pleased with officer performance. Officers actions ranged from pulling a driver to safety from a burning car and taking action that prevented the likely death of an injured man to saving lives performing CPR and successfully apprehending burglary suspects.

Captain Richard Dugan

Commander, Operations Division

Professional Standards Unit