



NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: Director Hilden

FROM: Lt. Reinke, Special Services

SUBJECT: Citizen Complaints & Biased Based Policing 1.2.9c, 1.5.4

DATE: 1/23/2025

CC: Deputy Chief MacKenzie

Citizen Complaints

In 2024, the Northville Township Police Department received, processed, and investigated (15) citizen complaints. This is consistent with the past five years in which the agency averages approximately (16) complaints.

The complaints were received via U.S. mail, emails, in person, and by phone.

The (15) investigations involved specific allegations related to service, conduct and one allegation of larceny. The total number of allegations received within the 15 investigations was 32. The outcome of these investigations are as follows:

Disposition of Investigation	Total Allegations
Founded	1
Unfounded	26
Unfounded/Resolved	5
Founded/Resolved	0

In 2019, there were (12) citizen complaints filed and (4) were determined to be founded. One complaint was resolved with no further action leading to 58% of complaints being unfounded. In 2020, there were (16) citizen complaints filed with (4) determined to be founded, 75% of complaints were determined to be unfounded. In 2021, there were (18) citizen complaints filed with (0) determined to be founded, (1) complaint was founded in part, and 94% of complaints were determined to be unfounded. In 2022, there were (19) citizen complaints filed with (1) determined to be founded, (4) determined to be founded in-part and 73% of complaints determined to be unfounded. In 2023, there were (16) citizen complaints filed with (3) determined to be founded, (3) founded in-in part and 63% of complaints determined to be unfounded.

In addition to tracking overall complaints, the department tracks individual allegations that are brought forth in each complaint. In 2024, there were a total of 30 allegations. The chart above shows that out of the 30 allegations, 29 of them were either unfounded or unfounded/resolved. The chart below breaks these allegations down even further to account the specific type of complaint filed.

Type	Allegations	Founded	Unfounded	Founded/Resolved	Unfounded/Resolved
Service	20	1	16	0	3
Conduct	8	0	5	0	3
Larceny	2	0	0	0	2

Of the (30) allegations investigated, the disposition rate was found to be 3.3% founded, 70% unfounded, 26.7% unfounded/resolved, and 0% founded/resolved. One citizen complaints resulted in verbal counseling. The one criminal allegation made was an accusation of larceny against two officers. The investigation into this incident cleared the officers of any wrongdoing and the complainant was satisfied with the conclusion of the investigation.

The gender of the complainants was summarized as 66.7% male and 33.3% female. The race of the complainants was summarized as 80% white and 20% black/African American. This analysis was enhanced to review the gender and race of each complainant as shown below. A review of this data does not identify any significant trends inconsistent with the gender and race of our service population.

Race of Complainant	Gender of Complainant	Occurrence(s)
Black/African American	Female	2
Black/African American	Male	1
White	Female	3
White	Male	9

Biased Policing Review

The Southeast Michigan Council on Government (SEMCOG) identifies the race and Hispanic origin of the population of Northville Township as 74.0% White, 16.8% Asian, 3.8% Multi-racial, 2% Black and 3.4% Hispanic. Northville Township is located in the suburbs of the metropolitan Detroit area. SEMCOG identifies the race and Hispanic origin of Southeast Michigan as 65.4% White, 20.6% Black, 5.0% Asian, 4.2% Multi-racial and 4.8% Hispanic. This data is based on the 2020 census.

In 2024, the Northville Township Police Department responded to 33,255 calls for service in the community. This included citizen contacts to include 5,951 traffic stops and 541 arrests. Data associated to citizen contacts from traffic stops and arrests are shown below:

Citizen Contact	Male	Female	X	Unknown
Traffic Citations – 2,380	1,439 (60.4%)	924 (38.8%)	0	17 (<1%)

Traffic Warnings – 4,086	2,417 (59.1%)	1,639 (40.1%)	1 (<1%)	38 (<1%)
Arrest - 541	379 (70%)	162 (30%)	0	0

Citizen Contact	White	Black	Asian	American Indian/ Alaskan Native	Hispanic	Unknown/Other
Traffic Citations – 2,380	1,688 (70.9%)	471 (19.8%)	184 (7.7%)	1 (<1%)	11 (<1%)	25 (1%)
Arrest - 541	247 (45.7%)	269 (49.7%)	20 (3.7%)	2 (<1%)	0	3 (<1%)
Traffic Warnings – 4,086	2,893 (70.8%)	830 (20.3%)	301 (7.4%)	4 (<1%)	0	58 (1.4%)

In 2024, civilian and sworn employees received Anti-Bias Training for Law Enforcement via the PoliceOne Academy Platform along with a training for Ethics in Law Enforcement. In January of 2025, additional training is being provided by Spectrum Training Solutions for Interacting with the Special Needs population and cultural competency.

During 2024 there were no complaints received by the department that alleged profiling or bias of any type. A review of the department’s written directive on Bias Influenced Policing was conducted. There were no recommendations made to update or modify the directive and it appears to remain relevant and contemporary to the agency, its operations and is aligned with Constitutional principles.