To the Citizens of Rapid City:

The Rapid City Police Department provides law enforcement services to the City of Rapid City and its visitors. We meet the public safety needs of a growing community and respond to a high volume of calls for service. Our officers routinely make arrests, enforce traffic laws, mediate conflict, and inevitably insert themselves into confrontational and emotionally charged situations.

During the course of the year, we received complaints from citizens regarding RCPD employees and their actions. We take these complaints seriously and make a point to investigate them thoroughly. When we are wrong, we admit it, and we take measures to improve our ability to provide service to the citizens. Such efforts include policy or procedure changes, employee training or re-training, and employee discipline.

The following is a summary of employee complaints in 2021 compared to 2020-2012.

The Rapid City Police Department has two categories for complaints, Formal and Informal.

<u>Formal complaints</u> may include: criminal acts, excessive force, improper or unjust arrest, improper entry into a building or onto property, inappropriate or unjustified search, differential treatment, serious policy infractions, repeated minor policy infractions, sexual misconduct or harassment, or other complaints depending on the circumstances.

<u>Informal complaints</u> may include general demeanor such as gestures, bearing, attitude, language, or other inappropriate actions, minor policy infractions, insufficient cause to stop a vehicle, judgment issues, and complaints regarding the delivery of services.

Upon the completion of a complaint investigation, the investigating staff will close the complaint as:

Exonerated: The alleged incident did occur, but the officer's actions were justified, legal, and proper.

<u>Substantiated:</u> The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to prove the allegation against the officer or Department:

<u>Unsubstantiated:</u> The investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation.

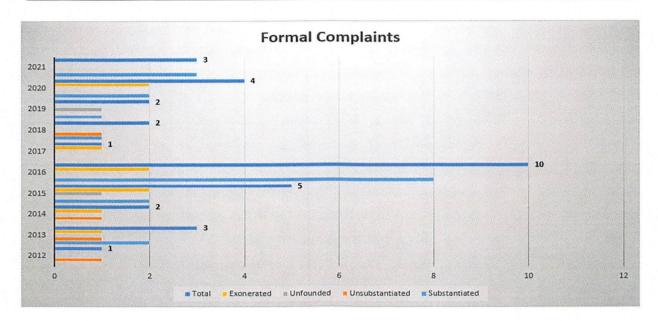
Unfounded: The alleged incident did not occur.

Complaints of officer misconduct are accepted from all persons wishing to file a complaint regardless of the hour or day of the week. This includes reports from anonymous sources, juveniles, and persons under arrest or in custody. Citizens are encouraged to submit complaints as soon after the incident as possible. The following methods may be used to file complaints: Direct verbal communication to a supervisor or commander; telephone communication to a supervisor or commander; or by letter or email to a supervisor, commander or the Chief of Police, on an official complaint form, or through the online complaint form located on the Department's website (www.rapidcitypolice.org).

The following two tables summarize complaints received and their final disposition during 2021 compared to previous years. It is important to note that body camera reviews were utilized to review facts and circumstances surrounding most of the complaints listed below.

Formal Complaints

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Substantiated	0	2	0	2	8	0	1	1	2	3
Unsubstantiated	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Exonerated	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	2	0
Total	1	3	2	5	10	1	2	2	4	3

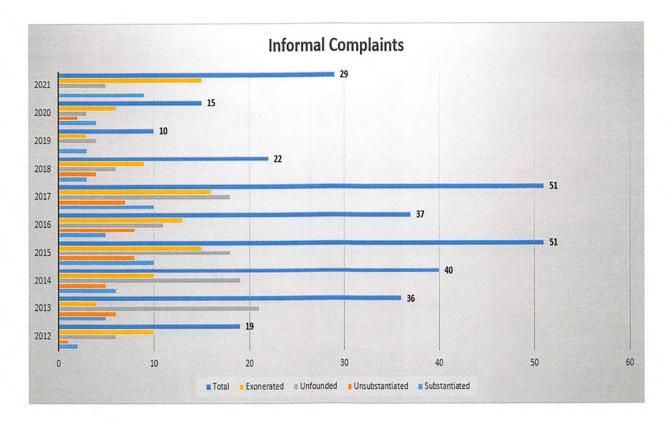


Summary of Formal Complaint Type for 2021:

- Substantiated
 - o (1) Judgement
 - o (2) Policy Violation
- Unsubstantiated
 - o (0))
- Unfounded
 - 0 (0)
- Exonerated
 - 0 (0)

Informal Complaints

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Substantiated	2	5	6	10	5	10	3	3	4	9
Unsubstantiated	1	6	5	8	8	7	4	0	2	0
Unfounded	6	21	19	18	11	18	6	4	3	5
Exonerated	10	4	10	15	13	16	9	3	6	15
Total	19	36	40	51	37	51	22	10	15	29



Summary of Informal Complaint Type in 2021:

Substantiated

- o (1) Policy Violation
- o (5) Demeanor
- o (1) Improper Tactics
- o (1) Reporting Error
- o (1) Judgement

Unsubstantiated

0 (0)

Unfounded

- o (2) Use of Force
- o (1) Errors in Report
- o (2) Improper Action

Exonerated

- o (1) Failure to Return Identification Card
- o (3) Demeanor
- o (7) Judgement
- o (1) Improper Tactics
- o (1) Use of Force
- o (1) Policy Violation
- o (1) Improper Search

Calls for Service

Calls for service (CFS) are classified into two categories. The CFS number below reflects both *public-initiated* calls and *officer-initiated* calls to include traffic stops, subject stops, response to a crime in their presence, and so on.

CFS	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Tota	I 118,143	126,540	123,261	123,457	135,376	142,186	122,159	114,816

Arrests	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	8,229	8,471	8,185	8,672	8,565	8,243	6,049	6,231

When reviewing the total number of complaints received in 2021, it is essential to consider the number of calls for service police employees handled and the number of contacts made with citizens. Comparing the total calls for service, which can involve multiple police contacts, vs. the total amount of formal and informal complaints, a complaint is generated less than 0.00027% of the time.

The men and women of the Rapid City Police Department are dedicated to providing quality and professional public safety services to the Rapid City community. The high call for service volume and the low number of complaints directly reflect the professional employees at the Rapid City Police Department, which is something all those who live in and visit Rapid City can be proud of.

Sincerely,

Don Hedrick Chief of Police

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