

503.00 - PERFORMANCE

503.01 Complaint and Discipline Procedures for Sworn Officers

(1) Policy:

The policy of the Denver Police Department in creating a complaint and discipline process is to establish a set of accountability standards that address how complaints of officer misconduct are made, filtered, processed and evaluated at all levels. These standards are driven by the Mission, Vision and Value statements of the Department and find, as their chief cornerstones, the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics and the rules and regulations of the Department. These documents set the foundation for accountability of the Department and its members to citizens whom it serves, to the greater law enforcement community of which it is a member and to the Constitution of the United States, which the Department has sworn to uphold.

The Department recognizes the vital importance of the internal investigation process and that no system of discipline can be effective without investigations that can be considered by members of the Department and the general public as unbiased and trustworthy. The Department is committed to investigating all allegations of officer misconduct in a fair, thorough and timely manner in accordance with accepted Department policies and procedures. Such investigations must be conducted with the full regard for the Officer's Bill of Rights and all other rights and respect due to fellow officers. Likewise, they must be conducted with regard for the rights and respect due to non-sworn members of the Department, all complainants and witnesses and all other citizens. The administration of the discipline process shall not discriminate against anyone on the actual or perceived basis of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, military status, marital status, or other basis protected by Federal, State or local law or regulation. The Department further believes that truthfulness is vital in an internal investigation and is expected and demanded from all Department personnel who may be the subject of or a witness in an investigation. Lastly, the Department understands that timeliness in the imposition of discipline is a critical component of the complaint handling and disciplinary processes and that untimely imposition of the discipline is unfair to the involved officers, community members harmed by officer misconduct and the Department as a whole.

This policy applies only to members of the classified service of the Denver Police Department.

(2) Guidelines and Definitions:

- a. Subject Officer: The officer under investigation for possible misconduct.
- b. Complaint: An allegation of misconduct.
- c. Service Complaint: A citizen complaint that pertains generally to services or policies of the department but which is not an allegation of misconduct against an employee.
- d. Misconduct: A violation of a law, policy, procedure, or rule and regulation. There are several classifications of misconduct:
 1. Minor Misconduct: Potential violations of policy or procedure that have minimal adverse impact on the operation or integrity of the Department and that are not likely to result in a formal disciplinary action against a named employee.
 2. Pattern Misconduct: A pattern of potential misconduct by an officer or group of officers that includes, but is not limited to, allegations or complaints over time that indicate conduct of more concern than that created by infrequent or isolated incidents of citizen complaints or unacceptable conduct.
 3. General Misconduct: All potential violations that do not fall into the categories of minor, serious, or pattern misconduct are considered general misconduct. Examples of general misconduct include but are not limited to: violation of a policy that requires a fixed penalty such as failure to attend court, failure to attend scheduled training, or failure to complete firearms qualification.

4. Serious Misconduct (including Conduct Prohibited by Law): Potential violations of policies, procedures, rules, or regulations that have an adverse impact on the operation or integrity of the Department and that, if proven, would likely result in formal disciplinary action against a named employee. Investigations involving allegations of serious misconduct or law violations shall be conducted by the Internal Affairs Bureau. Examples of serious misconduct include but are not limited to: commission of a deceptive act, sexual misconduct, inappropriate force, harassment, discrimination, and conduct prohibited by law.
- e. Complaint Intake: The initial fact-finding stage of an investigation in which a sergeant or above determines whether or not the complaint, if true, would constitute misconduct, or if the issue amounts to a service complaint.
- f. Denver Police Department Discipline Handbook: Conduct Principles and Disciplinary Guidelines: The official guide adopted by the Manager of Safety and Chief of Police to be utilized by all persons responsible for making disciplinary recommendations and determinations. The "Discipline Handbook" sets forth the procedures for determining whether officers have violated DPD rules or policies and, if so, guidelines for making penalty recommendations and determinations.
- g. Discipline Matrix: The official guide adopted by the Manager of Safety and Chief of Police establishing penalty ranges and limits for misconduct to be utilized when making penalty recommendations and determinations.
- h. Dismissal: The Chief of Police or his designee may elect not to investigate and thereby dismiss certain complaints. The grounds for dismissal of complaints are outlined in OMS 503.01(4)(b).
- i. Formal Investigation: All allegations of misconduct that are not classified as minor misconduct, service complaints, or dismissals shall be formally investigated. An Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) complaint number shall be issued for each Formal Investigation and an official disposition must be reached at the conclusion of each Formal Investigation. A Formal Investigation may be handled either by the subject officer's chain of command or by the Internal Affairs Bureau.
- j. Informal Investigation: Informal Investigations are conducted when there is a complaint of minor misconduct. If applicable, the investigation should include debriefing the subject officer regarding a complainant's concerns about the officer's actions or quality of service. The informal investigation is an expedited process that does not result in a formal finding or the imposition of discipline.
- k. Investigative Review Process (IRP): The Investigative Review Process (IRP) is a review process consisting of two (2) phases. Phase I consists of a review by the subject officer (and his or her representative) of the IAB investigative reports. Phase II consists of a meeting between the subject officer, his or her representative, the investigator, and the IAB commander with the intent of reaching an agreement as to the material facts of the case.

Deleted: I. Disciplinary Review Board (DRB)

- I. Deliberative Process: The Office of Independent Monitor, the Citizen Oversight Board, and the officers and citizens who serve on the Department's internal review boards such as, Use of Force Review Board, and Tactics Review Board are all part of the City's deliberative process regarding investigative and disciplinary procedures for sworn personnel. As such, all information learned by any of those persons or groups during the exercise of their duties shall be protected by the deliberative process privilege.

(3) Roles and Responsibilities:

- a. Individual Officer Responsibility:
 1. All officers of the Department shall report possible misconduct by other officers to a supervisor, command officer, or the IAB regardless of whether the reporting officer has first-hand knowledge of, or has otherwise learned of, the alleged misconduct. If the possible misconduct involves the officer's supervisor or command officer, the reporting officer may report the possible misconduct directly to the IAB or the Chief of Police.

2. Any sworn personnel who becomes aware that he or she is under investigation for, or charged with any crime, has had their State's driver's license revoked, suspended, or when charged with a traffic offense of eight (8) or more points shall self-report such investigation or charge immediately to a supervisor, command officer, or Internal Affairs. IAB shall relay the information to the Office of Independent Monitor and Manager of Safety within three (3) business days.
 3. Officers shall cooperate in a Department investigation and shall answer questions by, or render material and relevant statements to, the appropriate supervisor, command officer, or IAB investigator. Officers shall answer all questions fully and truthfully and shall not omit any material facts.
 4. For the duration of the complaint process, including the Complaint Intake, Formal Investigation, IRP, the subject officer and his or her representative are prohibited from contacting and/or interviewing any witnesses or conducting any type of investigation into the allegations. The only officers authorized to interview witnesses or the subject officer or to conduct any further investigation of a case on behalf of the Department or its members are those investigators designated by the commander of IAB or the Chief of Police.]
 5. A subject officer shall not be armed during the pre-disciplinary meeting with the Chief of Police or designee (Chief's hearing).]
- b. Supervisor and Command Officer Responsibilities:
1. General
 - a. A supervisor or command officer must assume the duties and obligations of his or her rank in the investigation of misconduct by police personnel.
 - b. A supervisor or command officer shall continually examine areas of the police operation under his or her purview.
 - c. A supervisor or command officer shall not look to higher authority to initiate investigations when the actions in question are within his or her own authority.
 - d. When the complexity of the case justifies, the assistance of the Internal Affairs Bureau may be requested.
 - e. A supervisor or command officer of a district or bureau shall resolve minor procedural violations in accordance with this policy.
 - f. A supervisor or command officer of a district or bureau shall conduct an investigation in accordance with this policy.
 - g. A supervisor or command officer of a district or bureau shall immediately report to IAB all allegations of serious misconduct, including conduct prohibited by law.
 - h. A supervisor or command officer of a district or bureau shall, in a timely manner, notify the IAB regarding allegations of general misconduct or pattern misconduct that is not serious in nature and does not constitute conduct prohibited by law.
 - i. Supervisors and command officers shall obtain the assistance of IAB or a superior officer when assistance is needed with the complaint process or while conducting a complaint intake or investigation.
 - j. If a supervisor or command officer observes or learns of possible misconduct by an officer not under his or her supervision, the supervisor or command officer shall notify the supervisor or command officer of the subject officer. (See OMS Duties and Responsibilities sections 7.0 and 8.0 regarding responsibilities of all supervisors and command officers with respect to discipline and conduct of officers.)

- k. Any command officer (or supervisor, with the approval of a higher-ranking officer) may relieve an officer of duty when the charges are of a serious nature and it appears that such action would be in the best interest of the Department or the officer. Officers shall surrender their badges and identification cards when relieved of duty.
 - l. Whenever it becomes necessary to place a Denver police officer in any detention facility, the ranking supervisor or command officer handling the case shall immediately relieve the officer of duty and retain all Department property in the officer's possession. Requests to hold or obtain the subject officer's police uniform shall be made to the proper authority in the detention facility. The ranking supervisor or command officer shall immediately notify the IAB of the subject officer's detention or incarceration.
 - m. The IAB Commander, the Chief of Police or the Manager of Safety shall report all allegations of serious misconduct, including conduct prohibited by law to the Officer of Independent Monitor within three business days of becoming aware of the allegations.
2. Investigating Supervisor and Command Officer Responsibility:
- a. When alleged misconduct is classified as serious misconduct, including conduct prohibited by law, the supervisor or command officer shall immediately contact the IAB, which shall coordinate the intake for such allegations. The IAB may also handle investigations for other allegations of misconduct where complainants contact the IAB directly or when ordered by the Chief of Police.
 - b. If not previously determined, the bureau/district commander shall review the matter to determine whether the investigation should be conducted at the bureau/district level or forwarded to the IAB. The bureau/district commander should consult with the commander of the IAB if there is any question as to where the investigation should be conducted. If the investigation shall be conducted by the IAB, the bureau/district commander is responsible for ensuring that all original reports, forms, related documentation, and materials collected during the intake process are sent to the IAB along with a request for a Formal Investigation.
 - c. The command officer and division chief of a subject officer shall ensure that complaints are processed as required by this policy.
 - d. The commander of the district/bureau shall be responsible for monitoring the performance and conduct of employees under his or her command and, if any conduct indicates an emerging pattern of unacceptable behavior, the commander shall initiate actions to correct the behavior, including advising the involved employees that any further allegation of a pattern of unacceptable behavior may be handled as a formal investigation.
 - e. If the commander determines that training, oral admonishment, counseling, etc. is an appropriate action involving an employee, the commander shall be responsible for ensuring that the training, oral admonishment, counseling, etc. is accomplished and documented.
- c. Internal Affairs Bureau Authority and Responsibilities:
- 1. Officers of the IAB act directly pursuant to the command and with the authority of the Chief of Police. They have the authority to require any officer of the Department, regardless of rank or appointment, to make a full and complete disclosure pertaining to the commission of, or omission of, any act which might be in conflict with that officer's, or any other officer's duties and obligations as an officer of the Department. The IAB Commander may, at his/her discretion, investigate any complaint lodged against any other officer of the Department, regardless of rank or appointment.
 - 2. Upon receipt of information from an officer or supervisor regarding an allegation of serious or pattern misconduct, the IAB shall immediately begin a formal investigation into the allegations.

3. The IAB shall have the full authority to conduct an investigation without interference from any officer.
 4. The primary duty of the IAB shall be to ensure the integrity of the Department. The IAB shall direct its efforts toward conducting an efficient, impartial, prompt, and complete investigation of allegations of misconduct by officers of the Department.
 5. The IAB shall maintain a central file of disciplinary investigations pursuant to the applicable document retention schedule of the Department and the City. The central file shall contain all complaints, final dispositions, supporting documents, and other investigative material pertaining to disciplinary cases.
- d. Monitor's Role in IAB Investigations.
1. The Office of Independent Monitor shall actively monitor and participate in any criminal investigation of the incidents set forth. In addition, IAB shall investigate any incident set forth below and the Monitor's office shall actively monitor and participate in such IAB investigations:
 - a. Any shooting involving a Denver police officer, whether duty related or not;
 - b. Any in-custody death;
 - c. Any duty-related incident during which, or as a result of which, anyone dies or suffers serious bodily injury as that term is defined in C.R.S. §18-1-901(3)(p), as it may be amended from time to time;
 - d. Any incident whether or not duty related, in which a Denver police officer is under investigation for, or charged by, any jurisdiction with a felony;
 - e. Any incident, whether or not duty-related, in which a Denver police officer is under investigation for, or charged with, any crime set forth in C.R.S. Title 18, Article 3 (offenses against the person, which includes homicide, assault, kidnapping, and unlawful sexual behavior) as they may be amended from time to time; or
 - f. Any incident, whether or not duty-related, in which a Denver police officer is under investigation for, or charged by, any jurisdiction with a misdemeanor or local law violation in which a use of force (defined as assaulting, beating, striking, fighting, or inflicting violence on a person) or threatened use of force is an element of the offense.
 2. If no criminal charges are filed subsequent to an investigation or such criminal charges are dismissed, the Monitor's office shall nevertheless have the discretion to monitor any internal investigation arising from the subject incident.
 3. In addition, the Monitor's office shall monitor any other internal investigation of possible misconduct by Denver police personnel when requested to do so by the Citizen Oversight Board or Manager of Safety. The Board or Manager shall advise the Monitor's office of the reasons why the Board or the Manager believes the Monitor's office should monitor the investigation. Within three (3) business days of determining to monitor an investigation or of receiving the request from the Board or the Manager, the Monitor's office shall advise IAB only that the Monitor's office will monitor the investigation.
 4. The Monitor and/or his designee may attend all Internal Affairs officer and civilian interviews. The Monitor may suggest questions for the IAB interviewers to ask of the witnesses but the IAB interviewer retains the discretion to determine the subject matter and form of the questions to be asked.
 5. The Monitor shall have access to all evidentiary items and stages of the administrative investigation. Where the investigation involves potential criminal charges, the DA may restrict or place conditions on access that he or she believes would jeopardize the integrity of the investigation or adversely impact any potential criminal prosecution. The Monitor shall also have complete access to all Department documents and electronic files relating to any complaints against, or investigations of, sworn personnel within the Monitor's jurisdiction and personnel files, including work history and officer statements but not including documents protected by the attorney-client privilege or the attorney work product privilege.

6. During the course of the investigation, the Monitor may discuss the investigation with IAB including recommending additional investigation.
7. For any investigation that it monitors, the Monitor shall review the investigation to ensure that it is thorough and complete. If the Monitor cannot certify that the investigation is thorough and complete, the Monitor may request that IAB conduct additional investigation. If IAB does not complete the additional investigation to the Monitor's satisfaction, the Monitor may conduct additional investigation, including issuing subpoenas. The Monitor shall advise the Citizen Oversight Board, Manager of Safety, and Chief of Police of the reasons that the Monitor was not satisfied with IAB's investigation and of the additional investigation conducted by, or to be conducted by, the Monitor. The IAB shall not forward the investigation until the Monitor has completed its supplemental investigation, if any, and then the IAB shall forward its investigation together with the Monitor's supplemental investigation to the appropriate person(s).
8. The Monitor shall treat all documents and information regarding specific investigations or officers as confidential and shall divulge such information on a need-to-know basis or unless otherwise disclosed by the City and County of Denver.

(4) Complaint Intake Procedures

a. Processing Allegations:

1. Allegations by citizens: Any officer who is contacted by a citizen wishing to complain about possible misconduct by an officer shall immediately put the citizen in contact with an on-duty supervisor. The supervisor shall attempt to make contact with the complainant immediately; but in no case later than the end of his or her shift. The supervisor shall complete a Commendation/Complaint Intake Form as prescribed in this policy.
2. Allegations by officers: Any officer who has observed or otherwise learned of possible misconduct committed by another officer shall report the same directly to a supervisor in the reporting officer's or subject officer's chain of command or to the IAB. Any officer who initiates an allegation shall either prepare an Inter-Department Correspondence, DPD 200, outlining the allegations and/or other reports as directed by a supervisor. The reporting officer shall not communicate his or her allegation to any other agency, officer, or individual without proper authorization in compliance with all OMS governing the same.
3. Allegations by government officials: Allegations of misconduct made by government officials (including, but not limited to, law enforcement agencies, judges and prosecutors) shall be handled by the IAB. The IAB shall review the allegation and determine whether the case shall be handled at the district/bureau level or by the IAB.
4. Allegations by filing of law suits or tort claims: Allegations of misconduct made in the form of tort claims or law suits shall be reviewed by the Monitor's Office and IAB to determine whether an IAB investigation would be warranted.
5. Complaints against the Chief of Police: If the Chief of Police has engaged in possible misconduct, the IAB shall forward a copy of the allegation to the Manager of Safety for his or her direction. The Manager of Safety will confer with the Independent Monitor (and may retain an independent investigator from outside the Department) in such circumstances.

b. Complaint Screening: the Supervisor or command officer receiving the complaint shall make an initial determination whether the complaint describes possible misconduct, the issue amounts to a service complaint, or the complaint is eligible for mediation and/or dismissal based on the criteria set forth below.

1. If the supervisor concludes that the complaint should be handled as a service complaint or describes possible misconduct, the complaint shall be documented on the Commendation/Complaint Intake Form, DPD 687, and forwarded to Internal Affairs. Regardless of who will eventually handle the investigation or complaint resolution, the supervisor or command officer conducting the Complaint Intake will collect any evidence necessary to ensure that there can be a complete determination of facts in the case.

2. If the supervisor concludes that the complaint does not state a violation of a law, policy, procedure, rule and regulation, the supervisor may resolve the issue by explaining the law, policies, procedure, rules and regulations to the complainant and indicating that no further investigation will take place. If the complainant is not satisfied with the explanation provided, the supervisor shall refer the complainant to Internal Affairs or the Monitor's Office.
3. If the supervisor believes the complaint is eligible for mediation and/or dismissal, the responsible supervisor shall be required to initiate and complete, as much as possible, and per policy, the investigation of the complaint regardless of any possible future mediation option. The complaint shall then be referred to the Internal Affairs Bureau for a final determination.
4. A complaint may be dismissed for the following reasons:
 - a. Mediation: Mediation is a voluntary process involving numerous stakeholders, including community members, police officers, police administration and the Independent Monitor. There is no right to mediation. Even if a complaint is eligible for mediation, any stakeholder may decline to allow a complaint to be resolved through the mediation process for any reason. No stakeholder shall be required to state the reason for declining to participate in a mediation or agreeing to assign a case for mediation. Statements made during mediation cannot be used against a police officer in a criminal or civil matter. Furthermore, the decision to mediate a matter or not to mediate a matter cannot be considered during disciplinary proceedings in comparing the discipline issued in previous matters to that issued in a pending matter (*i.e.*, cannot be used for purposes of considering "consistent discipline"). A complaint will be dismissed upon the completion of a mediation session administered by the Monitor's Office.
 1. A complaint may be considered for mediation if it resulted from a failure to communicate or a lack of communication such that the allegation would be resolved better through mediation than through the formal disciplinary process and if it meets any other requirements set forth below. A complaint which, if proven, could constitute a violation of RR-138, Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation, may be eligible for mediation only in accordance with **the provisions of the Department of Safety EEO Investigation Procedures**.
 - a. Any allegation of misconduct that falls into one of the following conduct categories, as presented in the Discipline Handbook, is ineligible for mediation:
 1. Category E: Conduct that involves the serious abuse or misuse of authority, unethical behavior, or an act that results in an actual serious and adverse impact on officer or public safety or to the professionalism of the Department.
 2. Category F: Any violation of law, rule or policy which: foresee ably results in death or serious bodily injury; or constitutes a willful and wanton disregard of Department values; or involves any act which demonstrates a serious lack of the integrity, ethics or character related to an officer's fitness to hold the position of police officer; or involves egregious misconduct substantially contrary to the standards of conduct reasonably expected of one whose sworn duty is to uphold the law; or involves any conduct which constitutes the failure to adhere to any contractual condition of employment or requirement of certification mandated by law.

- b. Any allegation of misconduct which, if proven, could constitute a violation of any rule that the Denver Civil Service Commission has designated as making an applicant ineligible to take a promotional examination for, or to be promoted to, the ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, or Captain is ineligible for mediation.
 - c. Any allegation of misconduct that falls into the following conduct category, as presented in the Discipline Handbook, is eligible for mediation only if the Manager of Safety, the Chief of Police, and the Independent Monitor all agree that mediation is appropriate.
 - 1. Category D: Conduct substantially contrary to the values of the Department or that substantially interferes with its mission, operations or professional image, or that involves a demonstrable serious risk to officer or public safety.
 - d. Any allegation of misconduct that falls into one of the following conduct categories, as presented in the Discipline Handbook, is eligible for mediation only if the Internal Affairs Bureau and the Independent Monitor agree that mediation is appropriate.
 - 1. Category A: Conduct that has a minimal negative impact on the operations or professional image of the Department.
 - 2. Category B: Conduct that has more than a minimal negative impact on the operations or professional image of the department; or that negatively impacts relationships with other officers, agencies or the public.
 - 3. Category C: Conduct that has a pronounced negative impact on the operations or professional image of the Department, or on relationships with other officers, agencies or the public.
 - e. Even if a complaint is eligible for mediation, the Manager of Safety, the Chief of Police or his/her designee, or the Monitor or his/her designee has the authority to decide for any reason that a case should not be assigned for mediation.
2. Mediation Procedures: If the complainant expresses an interest in mediating the complaint, that fact shall be documented on the Commendation/Complaint Intake Form which will be forwarded to Internal Affairs for further review. Both the IAB Commander and the Monitor must agree that a complaint is appropriate for mediation for the complaint to be assigned to the mediation program.
- a. The complainant will be advised that the complaint is eligible for mediation, and a determination will be made whether the complainant is still interested in mediation.
 - b. If a complaint has been approved for mediation, a notice will be sent in writing by the Office of Independent Monitor to the involved officer(s), with a copy to their commanding officer, which shall include: the complaint number, the name of the complainant(s), the nature of the allegations, an explanation of the mediation program, an advisement to the officer(s) of the IAB and Monitor's conclusion that the case is appropriate for mediation, a request from the Monitor that the involved officer(s) contact the Monitor's Office within the officer(s) next five (5) working days of receipt of the notice, an explanation that participation in the mediation program is voluntary and that upon completion of the mediation, the complaint will be dismissed. A failure to respond to the request shall be construed to mean the officer has declined the opportunity to mediate the complaint.

- c. The involved officer's supervisors shall ensure that the IAB mediation notice is delivered to the involved officer(s) as soon as possible.
 - d. If any of the involved officers decline to participate in mediation, the complaint shall be returned to the intake process in accordance with normal IAB policies and procedures.
 - e. If a complainant fails to appear for a scheduled mediation, without good cause as determined by the Chief of Police or his designee, the involved officer(s) will be provided with the choice of either rescheduling the mediation or having the case dismissed by IAB.
 - f. If any of the involved officers fail to appear for a previously scheduled mediation, without good cause, the Monitor will notify IAB so that appropriate action can be taken. The complaint may then be processed by IAB as per normal policies and procedures.
 - g. Upon completion of the mediation, the complaint will be dismissed. No new complaint shall be accepted based on the conduct of an officer during mediation. The mediation session shall be confidential as per C.R.S. §13-22-307 and the Colorado Council of Mediators Revised Code of Professional Conduct, Section V and there shall be no requirement that an agreement be reached during the course of mediation.
- b. Judicial or Administrative Review: The complainant could reasonably be expected to use, or is using, another remedy or channel for the grievance stated in the complaint. Complaints that are subject to judicial, administrative, or other review which will explicitly or implicitly require a finding or ruling on the conduct that is the subject of the complaint may be dismissed. A complaint should be dismissed on this basis only if the alternative channel is reasonably accessible to the complainant and can provide an adequate remedy.]
- c. Untimely: The complainant delayed too long in filing the complaint to justify present examination. IAB may waive the timeliness requirement for good cause.
- 1. Except for good cause, complaints of minor misconduct involving courtesy, communications, and minor rules violations should be filed within sixty (60) days of the incident.
 - 2. Except for good cause, complaints of serious misconduct including, inappropriate force, egregious acts of disparate treatment, or major rules violations should be filed within six (6) months of the incident. IAB may waive the time limit if there is substantial corroborating evidence of the misconduct.]
 - 3. There is no specific deadline for complaints alleging criminal conduct or corruption. Such complaints will be evaluated on their merits with due consideration for the quantity and quality of available evidence.
- d. No Misconduct: Even if all aspects of the complaint were true, no act of misconduct would have occurred. An allegation that fails to describe at least a potential violation of federal, state, or municipal law, or City or Department policy will be dismissed. Occasionally, a complaint that fails to state misconduct may merit a referral to the Chief's Office for policy or other considerations or to mediation as a means of improving police-community relations. A complaint may be dismissed if it is apparent that no misconduct was committed and if it is likely that additional investigation would not reach a different conclusion.

- e. False or Trivial: The complaint is trivial, frivolous, false, or not credible.
1. Allegations determined to be intentionally and materially false shall be dismissed.
 2. Trivial or frivolous complaints may be dismissed. Trivial or frivolous complaints allege minor technical violations of procedural rules which have negligible adverse effects on the public or the credibility of the Department.
 3. Complaints that are grossly illogical or improbable may be dismissed during intake by IAB or recommended for dismissal by District or Bureau supervisors, per the procedure outlined in OMS 503.01(4)(b). However, care and compassion must be exercised to ensure that a full, fair and complete investigation is made of complaints made by those who may be suffering from a mental illness.
- f. Third-Party Complaints: A complainant must generally have a reasonably direct relationship to the incident in order to file a minor complaint. Complainants are considered to have a direct relationship if they were directly affected by the alleged misconduct (first-hand sources), witnessed the alleged misconduct (second-hand sources), or have special, professional, or organizational knowledge about the alleged misconduct (e.g., a lawyer, a judge, etc.)
1. Third-hand or anonymous complaints that allege corruption or other very serious police misconduct will not be dismissed.
 2. Dismissal is not allowed for third-party complaints of less serious misconduct if there is a reasonable explanation why a person with standing has not filed a complaint (e.g. the person who was directly affected is a minor child; is elderly, disabled, or deceased; cannot communicate easily in English is not a citizen; is wanted on criminal charges; or has been threatened, etc.).
 3. Anonymous complaints of minor misconduct may be dismissed. However, supervisors will urge the complaining party to encourage a person with standing to file the complaint.
- g. Complaints about Repeatedly Reviewed Categories of Police Activity: IAB may receive allegations about some categories of police action (e.g. police procedures related to photo radar operations) that in the past have been repeatedly reviewed, preliminarily investigated, and subsequently dismissed by IAB. The discretion to summarily resolve a category of complaints should be exercised carefully with due regard to the nature and seriousness of the complaints.
- h. History of Unfounded Complaints: Occasionally, a single individual repeatedly files non-meritorious, unfounded, or duplicative complaints, diverting time, attention and resources from other complaints. The IAB Commander may authorize in writing that repeated complaints from specifically-named individuals receive special handling. District and Bureau supervisors may also recommend dismissal and/or special handling for repeated complaints from specifically-named individuals. Special handling may mean that designated persons are required to file their complaints in writing or that they not be interviewed as part of the intake investigation. This procedure may be used if IAB can demonstrate that a person:
1. Has a history of filing unverifiable, non-credible, or non-meritorious complaints and was warned in writing that the filing of similar complaints in the future may resulting special handling, rapid disposition, or other specified actions, or;
 2. Previously filed a demonstrably false complaint. The discretion to specially handle complaints from named individuals must be exercised with great care and only with a supporting record.

- i. Complainant Withdraws: The complainant withdraws the complaint or fails to complete the necessary complaint steps. The complaint may be dismissed if the complainant requests that it be withdrawn or explicitly agrees that his or her concern has been resolved and that no further action need be taken on the complaint. The complaint may also be dismissed if the complainant cannot be located, does not respond to requests for information, or fails to complete other necessary steps in the complaint process. Whether dismissed during the intake process or during post-intake screening, the file needs to demonstrate a good faith effort to communicate with the complainant. The complainant's request to withdraw a complaint or failure to cooperate in an investigation does not require that IAB dismiss a complaint.
- j. Unable to Identify Officer: The identity of the officer cannot be determined. In some cases there is no reasonable means of identifying the employee who is alleged to have committed misconduct. Depending on the nature of the complaint, dismissal may be prudent and proper to conserve limited public resources. The complaint may be dismissed if, after a good faith effort, the involved employee cannot be identified and it would be unlikely that the employee would be identified. IAB may forward the complaint to an appropriate District or Department Commander for information and educational purposes.
- k. No Jurisdiction: DPD lacks jurisdiction. The authority to dismiss for lack of jurisdiction is inherent in the limited sovereignty of the City and County of Denver. IAB will dismiss complaints over which it has no jurisdiction, including complaints against person who were not employed or supervised by DPD at the time the alleged misconduct was committed. If possible, IAB will refer the complainant to the proper department, agency or government. Complaints brought against Career Service employees may be taken by IAB or at any District or Bureau and will be forwarded to IAB for further action.

The DPD lacks jurisdiction to discipline persons it no longer employs. As such, a complaint may be dismissed if the employee resigns, retires or will no longer be employed by the Department by the time the investigation and discipline process can be completed. However, in cases of serious misconduct by former employees, the IAB Commander may:

1. Conduct an investigation and refer it to the District Attorney's Office and/or place the findings in the employee's IAB or personnel file, or
2. Review the actions of the employee's supervisors, or
3. Review the Department's policies and training curriculum.
4. If it appears that the employee may be rehired by the Department or by another law enforcement agency, IAB may elect not to dismiss the complaint until after an investigation has been completed.

(5) Conducting Investigations:

- a. Informal Investigation: A complaint which alleges minor misconduct may be handled in an expedited manner. Informal Investigations shall be completed within five (5) days from the time the complaint is received by the District/Bureau. Exceptions may occur when the involved employees are unavailable due to time off, vacation, illness, or other emergencies.
 1. Supervisors shall complete the following steps when handling a minor misconduct complaint:
 - a. Discuss the incident and the nature of the complaint with the involved officer(s) as well as the Department's expectations with respect to rules and procedures pertaining to the issues in the complaint, the complainant's perception of the officer's behavior, and alternative approaches the officer could have possibly used to improve service.
 - b. Document the incident and actions taken on the Commendation/Complaint Intake Form, DPD 687.

- c. If the investigation can be completed during the current tour of duty, all documentation shall be forwarded to IAB where a case number will be assigned upon receipt.
 - d. If the investigation cannot be completed during the current tour of duty, the supervisor shall contact IAB for a case number, and forward all documentation to IAB upon completion of the investigation.
2. IAB shall review the documentation and determine if the actions taken by the investigating supervisor were sufficient to address the officer's alleged misconduct.
- a. If IAB determines that the complaint is eligible for dismissal based on the criteria outlined in OMS 503.01(4)b, the complaint shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police or his designee for final disposition.
 - b. If IAB determines that the action taken by the investigating supervisor/command officer sufficiently addressed the complaint, IAB shall advise the officer's chain of command that no further action is required.
 - c. If IAB determines that the actions taken by the investigating supervisor/command officer did not sufficiently address the complaint:
 - 1. The informal complaint may be sent back to the concerned officer's commanding officer for further follow-up as prescribed by IAB. An additional five-day (5) deadline is granted, with exceptions as noted in OMS 503.01(5)a above, or
 - 2. The complaint can be reclassified as a formal investigation to be investigated at the station level. IAB will send all documentation to the concerned officer's commanding officer for follow-up, or
 - 3. The complaint can be reclassified as a formal investigation to be investigated by IAB.
- b. Formal Investigations: Allegations of general, pattern, or serious misconduct (including conduct prohibited by law) will result in a Formal Investigation.
- 1. If the complaint intake performed by the supervisor of a bureau or district indicates that a Formal Investigation is warranted, the supervisor shall notify the IAB, which shall assign an IAB case number regardless of whether IAB or the district/bureau conducts the investigation.
 - 2. The supervisor or command officer of a bureau or district handling a general misconduct allegation shall contact the IAB for a case number. The supervisor or command officer of the district or bureau shall prepare or cause to have prepared the Statement Form, DPD 366, and Commendation/Complaint Intake Form, DPD 687. The statement should address all allegations and complaints. Should clarification be necessary, questions and answers should supplement the statement. When a complaint is taken by telephone, the supervisor taking the complaint shall complete the Commendation/Complaint Intake form and write a narrative summary of the complaint on a Statement Form. The IAB investigator assigned to the case, if the IAB is investigating the matter, should use these same forms.
 - 3. At the commencement of a Formal Investigation, the investigating officer shall confer with his or her commanding officer in order to determine whether:
 - a. The subject officer should be allowed to remain in his or her usual assignment;
 - b. The subject officer should be allowed to remain on duty but in another assignment; or
 - c. The subject officer should be relieved of duty.
 - 4. The IAB shall immediately be notified when action is taken under 503.01(5)(b)(3)(b) or 503.01(5)(b)(3)(c) and the IAB shall, in turn, notify the Chief of Police.
 - 5. If the officer is charged with a felony, the Chief of Police shall indefinitely suspend the officer pursuant to Denver City Charter Section 9.4.17.

6. An Officer Notice of Investigation (NOI), DPD 627, shall be generated and provided to an officer who is the subject of a Formal Investigation when that investigation is commenced, unless such notification may jeopardize the ongoing investigation. The NOI shall outline the general nature of the Formal Investigation and include a summary of the allegations subject to the Formal Investigation. The NOI shall be generated by the IAB or district/bureau command conducting the investigation.
7. When directed by an investigator, every officer who has knowledge, whether direct or indirect, of the alleged misconduct shall prepare and submit an individual, written statement before the end of the shift when he or she is directed to provide the report. Reports should be supplemented by questions and answers if necessary for clarification. The statement form is to be provided to the supervisor or command officer conducting the investigation. A copy of the written statement shall be sent to the commander of the reporting officer. The written statement must be accurate and complete.
8. Prior to making any statement or answering any questions as a part of an Informal or Formal Investigation, the subject or witness officer shall be provided a copy of the Advisement Pursuant to Internal Investigation, DPD 455, (also known as the *Garrity* Advisement) by the supervisor, command officer, or IAB investigator conducting the investigation. The officer shall be provided a reasonable amount of time to review DPD 455 and to sign the same. If the officer declines to sign DPD 455, the investigator shall write "declined" in the officer's signature space. Although an officer may refuse to sign DPD 455 in a disciplinary investigation, the officer must still give a statement. An officer's refusal to give a statement may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the DPD Disciplinary Handbook.
9. Statements shall be taken from witnesses and complainants whenever possible and should be supplemented by questions and answers if necessary for purposes of clarification.
10. If the Formal Investigation concerns an allegation of a law violation, the Miranda Advisement form, DPD 369, shall be given to the subject officer in lieu of the Advisement Pursuant to Internal Investigation, DPD 455, before questioning. The statement should be supplemented by questions and answers if necessary for purposes of clarification.
11. The administrative investigation of any incident requiring mandatory monitoring shall be completed within thirty (30) calendar days of its initiation. For all other investigations under the jurisdiction of the Monitor, the thirty-day (30) time limit shall not apply unless the Manager of Safety directs that the investigation and/or any related disciplinary actions be subject to the time limits set forth in this policy or to other time limits set by the Manager. Failure to comply with any time limits set forth in this policy shall not serve as a basis for sworn personnel to challenge the jurisdiction of any entity referenced in this policy, nor shall such failure serve as a basis to challenge any administrative action, including discipline, which may be taken against such sworn personnel nor shall it constitute misconduct by any member of the Department.
12. If IAB is not able to complete within thirty (30) calendar days any investigation of any incident requiring mandatory monitoring or the time limits set by the Manager of Safety, the head of IAB may request in writing that the Chief of Police grant a specified, reasonable amount of time in which to complete the investigation. IAB's request must identify the specific reasons that it has not been able to complete the investigation within thirty (30) calendar days and must explain why it believes the investigation can be completed within the requested extension of time.

Requests for extensions and responses thereto shall be copied to the Monitor, Citizen Oversight Board, and the Manager of Safety.
13. When an investigation is complete, the subject officer's chain of command from lieutenant to division chief shall then review the facts gathered during the Formal Investigation and make a determination for each specification charged whether it has been proven to have occurred by a preponderance of the evidence following procedures and protocols outlined in the Discipline Handbook. Each specification charged will then be categorized according to one of the following categories:

- a. Unfounded – The investigation indicates that the subject officer's alleged actions relating to the Department policy, procedure, rule, regulation or directive in question did not occur.
 - b. Exonerated – The investigation indicates that the alleged actions of the subject officer were within the policies, procedures, rules, regulations and directives of the Department.
 - c. Not Sustained – There was insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.
 - d. Sustained – The subject officer's actions were found, by a preponderance of the evidence, to have been in violation of the Department policy, procedure, rule, regulation, or directive in question.
14. The review of an IAB investigation for the purpose of making determinations and recommendations shall be accomplished by an officer holding the rank of lieutenant or above unless approved by the subject officer's division chief.
15. After the subject officer's captain or commander has made disciplinary recommendations, the subject officer shall be afforded the opportunity to review the recommendations of his or her superiors. The officer shall then be given the opportunity to sign at the bottom of the report indicating that he/she was allowed to review the recommendation.
16. At the conclusion of the review and recommendations, a letter will be prepared notifying the complainant of the outcome of the investigation.
- a. The person initiating the disposition of the case shall ensure that a letter is prepared.
 - b. Should the disposition change at any further level of review, it is the responsibility of the person making the change to modify the notification letter to reflect the new disposition.
 - c. The completed letter shall be forwarded to the IAB through the chain of command along with the IAB case. IAB will ensure that the letter is sent to the complainant.

The letter shall include the complaint number, the date of the incident, the date the complaint was made, the name of the involved officers, a description of the allegations, the specific findings made by the Department and, with respect to only allegations that have not been sustained, a brief summary of the evidence that led the Department to conclude that the allegations could not be sustained. The letter should also contain the name and phone number of the responsible person who can be contacted for further information.

17. After the division chief has reviewed and taken action on the report, it shall be returned to the IAB for final processing. IAB shall notify the officer of the division chief's recommendation.
18. IAB investigations are internal personnel matters and, as such, all investigative reports, command officer's conclusions, and recommendations shall be secured in a manner that prevents unauthorized review and disclosure of findings.
19. The subject officer's chain of command shall be that of the officer's current, permanent assignment at the time the case is submitted for review unless specified otherwise by the Chief of Police.
20. The subject officer's captain or commander and then his or her division chief shall make a specific penalty recommendation in writing on each sustained specification in accordance with the ranges and limits established in the Discipline Matrix and following all procedures and protocols contained in the Discipline Handbook, unless directed otherwise by the Chief of Police.
- a. For matters in which a Use of Force Review Board is not impaneled, the review and accompanying recommendations by the subject officer's chain of command shall be completed within thirty (30) calendar days of the later of IAB's completing its investigation or the Monitor's completing its investigation, if any.

- b. If the chain of command is not able to complete its review and recommendations within thirty (30) calendar days, the subject officer's captain, commander, or division chief may request in writing that the Chief of Police grant a specified, reasonable amount of time in which to complete the investigation. That request must identify the specific reasons that the chain of command has not been able to complete its review and recommendations within fifteen (15) calendar days and must explain why it believes the review and recommendations can be completed within the requested extension of time. Requests for extensions and responses thereto shall be copied to the Monitor and the Manager of Safety.
 - 21. After the final decision has been made by the Chief of Police and any case results in disciplinary action (either a written reprimand, an oral reprimand, suspension, or dismissal), IAB shall forward the Final Case Summary sheet to both the officer and the officer's commander.
 - a. When the discipline is an oral reprimand, defined in OMS 503.02(2)a, the commander shall issue the reprimand to the officer, then forward to IAB documentation of the reprimand, including the date and time that it was administered.
 - b. The Chief of Police issues all other disciplinary action. The paperwork required for such actions is the responsibility of IAB.
- (6) Resolution of Sustained Specifications:
- a. An IRP shall be commenced and a Chief's pre-disciplinary conference held when directed the Chief of Police or requested by the subject officer.
 - b. The subject officer may elect to accept the penalty recommendation made by the Division Chief and voluntarily waive any further disciplinary proceedings pending the approval of the recommendations by the Chief of Police and the Manager of Safety.
 - c. Either before or after the IRP, if the subject officer chooses to accept that penalty, he or she may write a letter to the Chief of Police through the commander of the IAB outlining mitigating or exonerating circumstances. The commander of the IAB must receive such letter within seven (7) calendar days of the date that the subject officer is served with the division chief's recommendations or within seven (7) days following the IRP. The subject officer may meet with the Chief of Police to outline mitigating or exonerating circumstances. If a meeting is scheduled with the Chief of Police, the Chief of Police may waive the seven-day (7) time limit and meet with the subject officer as scheduling permits.
 - d. If the subject officer accepts the penalty recommendation, the Chief of Police shall review the case and may:
 - 1. Accept the recommended penalty and then forward it to the Manager of Safety for his or her approval; or
 - 2. Not accept the recommended penalty which shall result in the case being returned to the IAB for initiation of the IRP process (if not already completed), and possibly a Chief's Pre-Disciplinary Conference.
 - e. If the Chief of Police, with the approval of the Manager of Safety, agrees to allow the subject officer to accept the total recommended penalty, the IRP shall not be commenced and a Chief's Pre-Disciplinary Conference shall not be held.
 - f. Investigative Review Process (IRP)
 - 1. Phase I: The IAB shall contact the subject officer within five (5) business days (excluding weekends and City holidays) of receipt of a sustained case to notify the subject officer that the case has been completed and that the investigative report and recommendations are available for review. The subject officer shall have five (5) business days (excluding weekends and City holidays) to review the investigative report and to make note of any issues in dispute.
 - a. If the subject officer is on vacation, accrued sick leave, or other approved leave, the five-day (5) period shall begin upon the subject officer's return to active duty unless otherwise ordered earlier by the Chief of Police.
 - b. If the subject officer is serving a suspension, the IRP process shall begin when the officer returns to active duty or at the direction of the Chief of Police.

- c. The review period may be extended at the discretion of the IAB commander for as many as ten (10) additional business days (excluding weekends and City holidays).
 - d. Subject officers may select one (1) member of the classified service to represent them during the IRP and DRB process. No officer shall serve as a representative if he or she has been identified as a witness or as another subject officer in the same IAB case being reviewed or if he or she is in the subject officer's chain of command. The officer or representative may review the investigative file at the same time the subject officer reviews the file. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, as determined by the commander of the IAB, the same officer shall represent the subject officer during the IRP process.
 - e. Prior to commencement of the IRP, all persons who shall review the investigative file shall sign a Confidentiality Declaration, DPD 628a. Failure to sign the Confidentiality Declaration shall preclude review of any files.
 - f. A subject officer and his or her representative shall be allowed to review the entire investigative file regarding the subject officer's sustained violations.
 - g. A subject officer shall not remove the draft report from the IAB offices at any time during his or her review. A subject officer shall not be allowed to copy any portion of the investigative file. A subject officer may, however, make and retain notes regarding the review. A copy of those notes shall be retained with the IAB case file.
 - h. Officers are prohibited from retaliating in any manner against any officer, other employee, or citizen who has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an Investigation, IRP, Chief's Pre-Disciplinary Conference, or Civil Service hearing.
2. Phase II: The second phase of the IRP consists of the meeting between the subject officer, one (1) officer-representative, the investigator, and the IAB commander or designee. Phase II shall be conducted within five (5) business days of the completion of Phase I of the IRP. The focus of the IRP is to attempt to reach agreement on the material facts of the case. Subjective, disputed facts such as the intent or opinions of the subject officer, complainants, and witnesses shall not be addressed at the IRP.
- a. Disputed factual issues shall be discussed during Phase II of the IRP in an attempt to reach an agreement or understanding as to the content of the report. If the parties are not able to agree on all of the facts, the subject officer may within seven (7) calendar days of the Phase II IRP meeting submit a memorandum of dispute not to exceed ten (10) pages, to be included with the investigative file. The content of the memorandum of dispute shall be limited to specific factual issues mentioned in the IAB report.
 - b. During Phase II of the IRP, the subject officer may petition, in writing, the IAB commander to conduct further investigation into the case. The subject officer must articulate specific reasons why he or she believes further investigation is needed. The commander shall make the final decision as to whether further investigation is necessary. If the IAB commander determines that further investigation is needed, the original investigation shall be re-opened and further investigation conducted at the IAB commander's direction. The subject officer shall be provided an opportunity to review the supplemental report, which shall be included in the original investigative report after the case, is returned to the division chief for consideration.
 - c. A supplement to the original investigative report shall be prepared and transmitted to the subject officer's division chief, who, upon review of the supplemental information, may set aside any previously sustained specification or adjust any of his or her original penalty recommendations at his or her discretion.
 - d. In cases involving multiple subject officers, there shall be a separate IRP for each subject officer unless a joint IRP is agreed to by the IAB commander and each subject officer.

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(7) Chief's Pre-Disciplinary Conference:

- a. The Chief of Police or his or her designee shall conduct a "Chief's Pre-Disciplinary Conference".
 - 1. For each matter for which a pre-disciplinary meeting will be held, a pre-disciplinary letter shall be prepared and provided to the subject officer within ten (10) business days of the Division Chief's recommendations.
 - 2. For each investigation that it monitors, the Monitor may review the pre-disciplinary letter and may discuss it with the Chief of Police and/or the Manager of Safety prior to the letter's being sent to the subject officer.
 - 3. A pre-disciplinary meeting shall be held no less than seven (7) and no more than ten (10) business days after the issuance of the pre-disciplinary letter.
The Monitor may attend the pre-disciplinary meeting (a/k/a "Chief's hearing").
- b. As to each specification, the Chief of Police or his or her designee shall have the option of accepting the Division Chief's penalty recommendation or of increasing or decreasing the recommended penalty. The Chief of Police may add additional specifications provided that the subject officer is given notice of, and a reasonable opportunity to respond to, the additional specifications.
- c. Prior to the Police Chief's making a recommendation as to whether any rule violations should be sustained and as to the level of discipline, if any, to be imposed upon the officer, the Police Chief shall confer with the Monitor regarding such recommendation
- d. After holding a Chief's Pre-Disciplinary Conference, the Chief or his designee may initiate disciplinary action by a written command ordering the specific disciplinary action, which written command shall be submitted pursuant to Denver City Charter section 9.4.14-(a) to the Manager of Safety for approval.
- e. Within five (5) business days of the Police Chief's recommendation of discipline, the Monitor shall advise the Manager of Safety whether he or she agrees with the Police Chief's recommendation as to whether any rule violation should be sustained and the level of discipline, if any. If the Monitor disagrees with the Police Chief's recommendation, the Monitor shall state specific reasons for disagreeing with the recommendation.
- f. In accordance with Denver Charter section 9.4.14(b), the Manager of Safety shall approve, modify, or disapprove the written order of discipline and shall issue a written departmental order. As to each specification, the Manager of Safety shall have the option of accepting the penalty recommendation of the Chief of Police or of increasing or decreasing the recommended penalty.
 - 1. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of the Police Chief's recommendation, the Manager of Safety shall impose discipline, if any, by issuing a disciplinary order.
 - 2. Prior to imposing discipline, if any, the Manager of Safety shall confer with the Monitor regarding the Monitor's disciplinary recommendation and the Monitor's evaluation of the investigation.
 - 3. The Monitor shall be allowed to review, but shall not become the custodian of, the Manager of Safety's disciplinary order.

(8) Appeals Process

- a. If a subject officer does not agree with a departmental order of discipline (other than a reprimand) issued by the Manager of Safety, the subject officer may appeal such discipline to the Denver Civil Service Commission pursuant to the Denver City Charter and Civil Service Rules then in effect. (See Denver City Charter sections 9.4.15 regarding departmental disciplinary procedure and review of disciplinary actions).

Deleted: Section b. Recommendations of the DRB

- b. A subject officer is entitled to a de novo hearing before a hearing officer of the Civil Service Commission pursuant to the Denver City Charter and Civil Service Rules then in effect.
- c. No subject officer may appeal to the Civil Service Commission or the hearing officer the manner in which the IRP hearing was conducted.

(9) Duty Time and Overtime Compensation

- a. All officers who participate in an IRP hearing or who serve as the subject officer's representative at the IRP hearing shall have that time counted as duty time.
- b. Officers up to and including the rank of captain who participate in the IRP hearing or who serve as the subject officer's representative at the IRP hearing and who are off duty shall be paid overtime in accordance with the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(10) Executive Order 94 Policies for Alcohol and Drug Testing

- a. Training on Executive Order 94
 - 1. All new supervisors and command officers should be trained on Executive Order 94 and Memorandum A during the first six months following their promotion. This training, at a minimum, should include the study of Executive Order 94 and Memorandum A, instruction on the recognition of drug and alcohol impairment and use, the proper documentation of the supervisor's reasonable suspicion, and the supervisor's responsibility for escorting employees to the testing sites and through the testing process. Additionally, a copy of Executive Order 94 and Memorandum A should be given to each supervisor and command officer with each supervisor and command officer acknowledging, in writing, receipt of the policy and the training.
 - 2. All employees without supervisory or command officer duties should be trained on Executive Order 94 and Memorandum A during their first year of employment. Training, at a minimum, should include the study of Executive Order 94 and Memorandum A, and instruction on the recognition of drug and alcohol impairment and use. Additionally, a copy of Executive Order 94 and Memorandum A should be given to each employee with each employee acknowledging, in writing, receipt of the policy and the training.
- b. Prohibitions for all city employees including classified members of the police and fire departments
 - 1. Alcohol
 - a. Employees are prohibited from consuming, being under the influence of, or impaired by alcohol while performing City business, while driving a City vehicle or while on City property.
 - 1. There are three exceptions to this prohibition.
 - a. An employee is not on duty and attending an officially sanctioned private function, e.g., an invitation only library reception.
 - b. An employee is not on duty and at a City location as a customer, e.g., playing golf on a City course.
 - c. An employee is a member of the Police Department and as a part of the employee's official duties consumes alcohol in accordance with Police Department procedures as described in OMS 304.10.
 - 2. As part of official duties, members of the Police Department according to established department procedures may consume alcohol. However, it is grounds for discipline, up to including immediate dismissal, if members of the Police Department consume alcohol in violation of their department procedures.

- a. The alcohol levels defined by the state legislature that may be amended from time to time for defining “under the influence of alcohol” and “impaired by alcohol” are adopted here for purposes of this Operations Manual.
 1. These current alcohol level definitions are contained in the Addendum to Executive Order 94. If there is a conflict between the state legislature and the DOT regulation, alcohol level definitions and the ones contained in the Addendum to Executive Order 94, the state legislature and DOT regulation definitions will take precedence.
 2. Employees holding Commercial Driver’s licenses (CDL) are also subject to the alcohol levels defined by the Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations that may be amended from time to time for “under the influence” which are adopted here for purposes of Executive Order 94.

2. Illegal Drugs

- a. Employees are prohibited from consuming, being under the influence of, or impaired by illegal drugs while performing City business, while driving a City vehicle or while on City property.
- b. Employees are also prohibited from selling, purchasing, transferring or possessing an illegal drug.
 1. There is one exception to this rule. As a part of official duties, illegal drugs may be handled, controlled and disposed of according to established department contraband procedures by employees. However, it is grounds for discipline, up to and including immediate dismissal if employees sell, purchase, transfer or possess illegal drugs at any time other than as a part of their official duties.
- c. Legal drugs
 1. It is the responsibility of the employees who work in positions operating vehicles or dangerous equipment or positions affecting the health or safety of co-workers or the public to advise their supervisors that they are taking prescription medication that may affect their performance.
 2. Employees who work in positions operating vehicles or dangerous equipment or positions affecting the health or safety of co-workers or the public are prohibited from consuming, being under the influence of, or impaired by legally obtained prescription drugs while performing City business, unless the following two determinations have been made:
 - a. It is determined by both the employee’s supervisor and either the employee’s Human Resource Specialist or Safety Officer, after consulting with the Occupational Health and Safety Clinic (OHSC) personnel, that the employee’s job performance will not be affected and that the employee does not pose a threat to his/her own safety.
 - b. It is determined by both the employee’s supervisor and either the employee’s Human Resource Specialist or Safety Officer after consulting with the OHSC personnel that the employee will not pose a threat to the safety of co-workers or the public, and the employee will not disrupt the efficient operation of the agency.

1. If appropriate, the OHSC personnel may contact the employee's personal physician. Prior to making contact with the employee's personal physician, the OHSC personnel should obtain a medical release from the employee.
 2. The OHSC shall keep the medical records that disclose the identity of the legal drug confidential in accordance with state and federal laws.
 3. Employees may be required to use sick leave, take a leave of absence or comply with other appropriate non-disciplinary actions determined by the appointing authority until the above determinations can be made.
3. The DOT regulations prohibit employees with CDLs from using marijuana, even for approved medical reasons. If the federal and Colorado laws are in conflict on this issue, the federal law will take precedence. Therefore, a positive marijuana drug test will be treated as an illegal drug use for employees with CDLs, subjecting them to all rules contained herein for illegal drug use even if a physician has prescribed the marijuana for medical reasons.
- d. Drug and alcohol testing
1. Pre-Employment
 - a. The Civil Service Commission or interviewing agency shall perform pre-employment drug screening of all applicants in accordance with their policies and procedures.
 - b. Employees who will be filling jobs defined as safety-sensitive or requiring a CDL, prior to the first time the employee performs a safety-sensitive function, shall be tested for controlled substances and may be tested for alcohol.
 - c. Refusal by an applicant to submit to a pre-employment test shall result in denial of employment.
 2. Reasonable Suspicion Testing
 - a. When a supervisor or command officer has reasonable suspicion that any employee is consuming, under the influence of, or impaired by alcohol or illegal drugs after taking appropriate safety measures, i.e., removing the employee from any situation which may pose a safety risk to the employee, co-workers or the public, the supervisor or command officer shall immediately consult with the Internal Affairs on-duty/on-call command officer to determine further actions. However, if immediate consultation is not possible, it is the responsibility of the supervisor or command officer to promptly initiate alcohol and/or drug testing. The supervisor or command officer shall initiate testing as follows:
 1. Alcohol
 - a. Document in writing on Drug and Alcohol Testing, DPD 667, the specific reasons for the decision to initiate testing based on specific, contemporaneous, articulable observations of the employee's appearance, behavior, and speech or body odors.]
 - b. When possible, have a second supervisor or command officer, confirm the specific contemporaneous, articulable observations of the employee's appearance, behavior, speech or body odors.
 - c. Advise the employee that the supervisor or command officer is ordering the employee to go to the testing site for testing.

- d. Escort the employee to the testing site as soon as possible. However, if the supervisor or command officer is unable to escort the employee, the supervisor or command officer should have another individual escort the employee for testing. The individual selected to escort the employee shall be of a higher grade/rank than the employee being tested.
 - e. Require the employee to bring a picture identification card and proof of the employee's Social Security or employee/badge number to the testing site.
 - f. If the employee refuses to go to the testing site, or refuses to participate in the testing process, the supervisor or command officer should tell the employee that the testing request is a direct order and that refusal to comply with a direct order of an authorized supervisor or command officer might subject the employee to discipline, up to and including dismissal.
 - g. After the initial test results are known, the supervisor, command officer or escort shall contact the Internal Affairs on-duty/on-call command officer for further guidance. If the Internal Affairs on-duty/on-call command officer is unavailable and the supervisor, command officer or escort has a reasonable doubt about the employee's ability to satisfactorily and safely meet job requirements, the supervisor, command officer or escort shall place the employee on investigatory leave pending results of testing or other administrative determinations.
 - h. No supervisor, command officer or escort should allow an employee to drive to or away from the testing site or the work site. However, if the employee does drive off, follow OMS 204.02.
 - 1. During regular OHSC hours, the testing shall be conducted at one of the OHSC testing sites. These testing sites are located at Denver Medical Health Center, 605 Bannock Street, 4th floor, and the Denver International Airport, Main Terminal, 6th level. After regular hours, the supervisor or command officer shall page the OHSC alcohol and drug testing personnel at (303) 851-2877 to arrange for immediate testing.
 - 2. Testing should be administered within two (2) hours of making a reasonable suspicion determination. If this **two-hour** (2) time frame is exceeded, the supervisor or command officer should document the reason the test was not promptly administered on Drug and Alcohol Testing, DPD 667. Supervisors or command officers who do not test employees within this established time frame may be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal.
 - 3. Supervisors, command officers and escorts shall keep the employee's name and identifying information restricted to persons who "need to know."
2. Illegal drugs
- a. Follow the steps listed above in Section 16.d.2.(1).a. (1 through 8).

- b. However, testing for illegal drugs should be administered within eight (8) hours of making a reasonable suspicion determination. If this eight-hour (8) time frame is exceeded, the supervisor or command officer must document the reasons the test was not promptly administered on Drug and Alcohol Testing, DPD 667. Supervisors or command officers who do not test employees within the established time frame may be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal.
- c. If a supervisor or command officer has reasonable suspicion that an employee appears to be in possession of, selling or transferring illegal drugs not within the employee's official duties, the Internal Affairs on-duty/on-call command officer shall be notified.

3. Post-accident testing

- a. As soon as practicable following a driving or other workplace accident, the supervisor or command officer shall ensure that driver-employee is tested for alcohol and drugs when the accident:
 - 1. May have been the fault of the employee and the accident involves a fatality; or
 - 2. May have been the fault of the employee and any individual was injured severely enough to receive medical treatment immediately away from the scene of the accident; or
 - 3. May have been the fault of the employee and the accident resulted in disabling damage to any vehicle or any equipment; or,
 - 4. There is reasonable suspicion to test the employee.
- b. Post-accident alcohol and drug testing should be administered within two (2) hours following the accident. Supervisors or command officers who do not test employees within the established time frames may be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal.
- c. When one of the post-accident criteria for testing applies and the incident involved a death, serious injury or an allegation that a serious crime has been committed, the District Attorney's Office shall be contacted prior to ordering drug and/or alcohol testing.

4. Random Testing

- a. The Department may implement, with the City Attorney's approval, random alcohol and drug testing for employees deemed to perform safety-sensitive functions for the Department.
- b. Pursuant to the DOT regulations, random alcohol testing shall be conducted annually on 25% of the average number of City commercial driver's license positions in existence. This percentage may be amended from time to time by the DOT. Alcohol testing shall be conducted on a random, unannounced basis just before, during or just after the employee performed safety-sensitive functions.

- c. Pursuant to the DOT regulations, random drug testing shall be conducted annually on 50% of the average number of City commercial driver's license positions in existence. This percentage may be amended from time to time by the DOT. Drug testing shall be conducted on a random, unannounced basis. There is no requirement that this testing be conducted in immediate time proximity to performing safety-sensitive functions.
 - 5. Return to Duty Testing
 - a. If an employee has violated the prohibited conduct listed in Section 15 b. of this provision, the employee shall not return to perform Department duties unless the employee has completed a successful return to duty alcohol and drug tests and any other requirements imposed by Executive Order 94.
- e. Testing and Documentation
 - 1. When a Denver Police Department employee is taken for an Executive Order 94 related test, whether Post Accident, Reasonable suspicion or other test, both a drug and alcohol test are required. Testing will be done at the Occupational Health and Safety Clinic or Denver Health Medical Center under most circumstances.
 - 2. Escorting Supervisors will complete Drug and Alcohol Testing, DPD 667, briefing outlining the reason for the test and follow the distribution at the bottom of the form.
- f. Injured Employees
 - 1. When a Denver Police Department employee is transported to a medical treatment facility, the supervisor shall determine the following:
 - a. If the employee will be released within two (2) hours of the incident the supervisor will escort the employee to the Occupational Health and Safety Clinic (OHSC) for testing.
 - b. If the employee is not going to be released within two (2) hours, the OHSC Lab Technician will be contacted and respond to DHMC to administer the tests. If the employee is hospitalized at another treatment facility, the OHSC Lab Technician will not respond. The escorting supervisor must ask the treatment staff to perform the tests.
 - c. If the employee is initially unconscious and regains consciousness within the two-hour (2) period, both drug and alcohol tests will be administered.
 - d. If the employee regains consciousness after the two-hour (2) period but before eight (8) hours, the alcohol test will not be administered, but the drug test will be completed.
 - e. If the employee remains unconscious for more than eight (8) hours, contact the Professional Standards Unit who will in turn contact the City/District Attorney's office to proceed.
 - f. If the event of a change in shift, it is the responsibility of the original supervisor to inform the on-coming supervisor of the situation. The on-coming supervisor shall then ensure that the tests are completed within the time constraints.
- g. Positive Tests

When an employee is tested for drugs and alcohol, the requesting Supervisor will receive the test results immediately. Should the results indicate positive for drugs and/or alcohol, the supervisor will immediately notify the on-duty or on-call Internal Affairs Bureau representative.
- h. Evening/Weekend Tests

In the event a test is needed during other than normal duty hours (0700-1500) and a call-out is necessary, employees shall contact Denver 911 personnel who will then page the OHSC on-call Technician.

(12) Discipline Advisory Group Standing Committee

- a. The Discipline Advisory Group (DAG) Standing Committee shall consist of: (i) the Manager of Safety and/or Deputy Manager of Safety; (ii) the Chief of Police and/or his or her designee; (iii) two officers from each command officer rank starting at Lieutenant and up to and including Commanders; (iv) one Deputy Chief or Division Chief selected by the Chief of Police; (v) one officer from each employee organization that is designated by the Manager of Safety for representation on the DAG Standing Committee; (vi) two officers of any rank from the bargaining agent and one legal representative from the bargaining agent; (vii) the Executive Director of the Denver Civil Service Commission; (viii) a representative from the Denver City Attorney's Office; (ix) a representative from the Office of Independent Monitor; (x) a representative from the Citizen Oversight Board; and (xi) a specified number of representatives from the community as determined by the Manager of Safety and the Chief of Police. The Manager of Safety or his or her designee shall be the Chairperson. The Chief of Police or his or her designee shall be the acting Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.
 1. All sworn members of the Standing Committee shall serve, at the discretion of the Manager of Safety, for no more than three (3) years with the exception of the initial committee. See OMS 503.01(12)(a)(3).
 2. Members shall be selected by a process to be established by the Manager of Safety.
 3. After the initial Standing Committee has been established and has functioned for three (3) years, one third of the sworn members of the committee shall be replaced through the process established by the Manager of Safety for each successive year until the entire original sworn committee members have been replaced.
 4. The command officers selected for the committee shall include at least two (2) but no more than four (4) representatives from the Patrol Division.
 5. Non-sworn committee members shall be selected, serve and be replaced at the discretion of and through a process to be established by the Manager of Safety and the Chief of Police.
- b. DAG Standing Committee Responsibilities
 1. The Standing Committee shall review and suggest changes, where appropriate, to the Conduct Principles and Disciplinary Guidelines, as contained in the Discipline Handbook, and other Departmental policies and procedures regarding discipline.
 2. The implementation of any changes suggested by the DAG Standing Committee shall be within the sound discretion of the Manager of Safety and Chief of Police.

503.02 Supervisor's Situation Record, DPD 127

- (1) The Supervisor's Situation Record, or Incident Book, shall be used by supervisors to record incidents of minor misconduct or exceptional attention to duty. Disciplinary matters and commendations will also be noted. See OMS 109.02(2) #127.
- (2) Oral Reprimands
 - a. Oral Reprimands are an approved police department disciplinary action administered as the result of a sustained disciplinary action.
 - b. Oral Counseling or admonishment may be administered for failures of standard policy or procedural guidelines, such as tardiness, failure to wear the uniform hat, incomplete report, etc. This activity should be recorded in the Supervisor's Situation Record, DPD 127, and will not be termed an Oral Reprimand.
- (3) No officer shall have any comment adverse to his interest entered in the Situation Record or personnel file without having the opportunity to read and sign the instrument containing the comment. The officer may, within thirty days of learning of the adverse comment, file a written response to be attached to the adverse comment.

503.03 Commendations

(1) Policy:

The Denver Police Department recognizes that its employees perform their duties at a consistently high level on a daily basis and that the actions of some of its employees rise above the standard expected meriting special recognition. The Department further acknowledges that the total police mission could not be accomplished without the efforts of all of its employees, both sworn and non-sworn. Lastly, the Department sees the vital and beneficial contribution made by its volunteers and citizens.

Therefore, it is the policy of the Denver Police Department to award, in an official manner, meritorious conduct by its employees, volunteers, and citizens who exemplify and embody the standards as set forth in the following policy and which bring honor upon themselves, the Department, and the City and County of Denver.

(2) Types of Police Department commendations are as follows:

- a. Medal of Honor
- b. Medal of Valor
- c. Distinguished Service Cross
- d. Purple Heart
- e. STAR (Superior Tactics and Response) Award
- f. Police Merit Award
- g. Leadership Award
- h. Lifesaving Award
- i. Department Service Award
- j. Community Service Award
- k. Official Commendation
- l. Chief's Unit Citation
- m. Citizens Appreciate Police Award (C.A.P.)
- n. Commendatory Letter
- o. Outstanding Volunteer Award
- p. Officer of the year Awards
 1. Officer of the Year - all officers of any grade are eligible.
 2. Technician of the year - all officers serving in the assignment of Technician are eligible.
 3. Corporal of the Year - all officers serving in the assignment of Corporal are eligible.
 4. Detective of the Year - all officers serving in the assignment of Detective are eligible.
 5. Sergeant of the Year - all officers serving in the rank of Sergeant are eligible.
 6. Command Officer of the Year - all officers serving in the rank or assignment of Lieutenant and above are eligible.
- q. Family/Survivor Award
- r. Family Member Award - Chief's Citation
- s. Family Member Award - Officer's Citation

(3) Procedures

- a. All commendations shall be prepared using the Inter-Department Correspondence, DPD 200, the Commendatory Letter, DPD 139D, or if being submitted by an outside law enforcement agency on the agency's letterhead. All commendations will include thorough documentation of the incident.

1. All commendations prepared on the Inter-Department Correspondence, DPD 200, shall be signed by the commending individual and forwarded through his/her chain of command for approval. After approval, all Commendations shall be forwarded to the Deputy Chief of Administration via email to the Commendations Board's email-box at DPDCommend@Denvergov.org for review.
 2. All commendations prepared on the Commendatory Letter, shall be signed by the commending individual and forwarded through his/her chain of command to the Division Chief of the officer receiving the letter.
 3. All commendations prepared by outside law enforcement agencies shall be forwarded to the Commendations Board via email at DPDCommend@Denvergov.org.
 4. All letters of compliment and commendation from all other sources are to be sent to the Office of the Chief of Police for action.
- b. Commendations shall be written in a clear and concise fashion, omitting police jargon and detailed information about suspects in the incident (example: race, age, D.O.B., direction of flight), etc. Additional documents such as Supplementary Reports, After Action Reports, Commendatory Action Report, or correspondence should be submitted as well to assist the Board in determining the appropriate award.
- c. When more than one (1) officer is involved in a commendable incident, the narrative of the commendation shall specify the actions of each individual officer. Individual specifics will aid the Commendations Board to recommend the most appropriate award. The only exception to this requirement is when writing the Chief's Unit Citation. See OMS 503.03(5)l.
- d. Unless otherwise waived by the Chief of Police or the Chair or the Commendations Board, all recommendations for commendations are required to be submitted to the Commendations Board within six (6) months of the incident.
- e. Any person wishing to appeal the decision of the Commendations Board must do so within ninety (90) days of the Board's original decision.
- f. All commendable actions resulting from involvement in a major event, such as an officer-involved shooting, shall be considered by the Commendations Board at the same time.
1. Any officer involved shooting must receive a letter of clearance from the District Attorney's Office and the department's Use of Force Review Board before the incident can be reviewed.
 2. If deemed necessary, a special meeting of the Board may be called, dedicated solely to the major event in question.
 3. The investigator assigned to the incident may be required to attend the meeting and make available the entire case file, including all video and audio tapes.
 4. The commendations Board member will, at this meeting, review the case with the investigator, view all video tapes, and listen to any audio tapes. All aspects of the incident and all proposed commendations will be discussed, but no final determination will be made concerning any awards at this time. The Board will reconvene within 48 hours to vote on the awards.
 5. A conference call meeting will be acceptable at the discretion of the Chair of the Commendations Board.
- g. A quarterly awards ceremony may be held to present the member with a certificate, ribbon and medal for the Purple Heart, Medal of Honor, Medal of Valor, Distinguished Service Cross, and Life Saving Award. Officers being awarded will be in full uniform. Career Service Employees and Public Safety Cadets being awarded the Live Saving Award will be in appropriate business attire. Award recipients may be granted S/A time for the quarterly awards ceremony only at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

1. The PIO shall prepare a press release synopsisizing the meritorious acts of bravery and inviting the media to the ceremony.
 2. The District, Bureau, Unit, or Section Commander will present the recipient with the lapel pin prior to the quarterly awards ceremony.
- h. An awards ceremony may be held to present citizens (non-employees) with the Commendatory Letter and the Outstanding Volunteer award.
1. A member from the Public Information Officer (PIO) shall arrange a time and place for the awards ceremony.
 2. The PIO shall prepare a press release synopsisizing the meritorious acts of bravery and inviting the media to the ceremony.
- (4) The Commendations Board
- a. The Commendations Board will consist of the Deputy Chief of Administration as chairperson in a non-voting capacity (except to break a tie), a Public Information Officer (PIO) in a non-voting capacity, three (3) members from the rank of sergeant, and three (3) members from the rank of patrol officers, detective or technician (one (1) each from Special Operations, Criminal Investigation Division, and Patrol). The selection of board members will be made by the Chief of Police.
 1. Each sergeant, detective, technician, and patrol officer board member will serve for a period of three (3) years.
 2. A PIO will be present to gather positive press pieces and research information that furthers the department's mission, vision, and values.
 - b. The Board will review and evaluate each commendation based on the information received. During the consideration of awards, the Board is empowered to call any officer witness or invite civilian witnesses to appear.
 - c. After the review and evaluation, the Board will determine by majority vote the appropriate award to be presented as defined by OMS 503.03(5) a through s. The Board will prepare the corresponding certificate, which will include the rank or classification, first and last name, serial number if applicable, date, commending officer or superior and signature of the Chief of Police. The Board will endeavor to maintain a high standard of consistency in its decision-making process in order to make each award more meaningful to its recipient.
 - d. The commending individual may appeal the decision of the Commendations Board by presenting any additional facts in writing to the Board. The individual making the appeal will be given the opportunity to appear in person at a future Board meeting. Any further appeal is to be made to the Chief of Police whose decision will be final.
 - e. Eligibility
 1. The following awards are limited to Active Duty and Reserve Police Officers of the Denver Police Department:
 - a. Medal of Honor
 - b. Medal of Valor
 - c. Distinguished Service Cross
 - d. Purple Heart
 - e. STAR (Superior Tactics and Response) Award
 2. The following awards are limited to Active Duty and Reserve Police Officers, Career Service Employees, and Public Safety Cadets of the Denver Police Department:
 - a. Police Merit Award
 - b. Leadership Award
 - c. Lifesaving Award
 - d. Department Service Award
 - e. Community Service Award

- f. Official Commendation
 - g. Chief's Unit Citation
 - h. Citizens Appreciate Police Awards
3. All Department employees and citizens are eligible for the following awards:
- a. Outstanding Volunteer Award
 - b. Commendatory Letter
 - c. Family/Survivor Award
 - d. Family Member Award – Chief's Citation
 - e. Family Member Award – Officer's Citation
4. Specific Awards:
- a. Officer of the Year Award
 - b. CSA Employee of the Year Award
 - c. Volunteer of the Year Award
- (5) Award Standards – Active Duty and Reserve Police Officer Awards
- a. Medal of Honor
 - 1. Awarded by the Chief of Police to an individual for an act of outstanding bravery or heroism by which the individual has demonstrated in great degree the characteristics of selflessness, personal courage, and devotion to duty at the risk of their own life.
 - 2. This is the highest and most prestigious Department award and there must be no margin of doubt or possibility of error in awarding this honor. To justify the decoration, the actions must clearly render the individual conspicuous by an act so outstanding that it clearly distinguishes heroism beyond the call of duty from lesser forms of bravery. It must be the type of deed that, if not done, would not subject the individual to any justified criticism.
 - 3. A posthumous award may be made to an individual who has lost their life under conditions where they endangered themselves in circumstances consistent with good police practices.
 - 4. The award will consist of a Medal of Honor, a Medal replica, and a certificate.
 - b. Medal of Valor
 - 1. Awarded by the Chief of Police to an individual for an act, in the face of great danger, wherein valor, courage, and bravery are demonstrated over and above that normally demanded and expected.
 - 2. This is the second highest Department award and to warrant this distinctive decoration, the act must be performed in the presence of great danger or at great personal risk and must be performed in such a manner as to render the individual highly conspicuous.
 - 3. The award will consist of a Medal of Valor, a Medal replica, and a certificate.
 - c. Distinguished Service Cross
 - 1. Awarded by the Chief of Police to an individual who performs an act of heroism involving an unusual situation or sudden occurrence of a serious and urgent nature that demands immediate action and demonstrates good judgment, zeal, or ingenuity over and above what is normally demanded and expected.
 - 2. The award will consist of a Distinguished Service Cross, a Medal replica, and a certificate.

- d. Purple Heart Award
 - 1. Awarded by the Chief of Police to an individual who is seriously or critically injured while performing a police action. This award will be limited to those cases resulting from attack by an assailant, personal combat, or the performance of an act of valor.
 - 2. This award can be awarded in conjunction with other awards.
 - 3. The award will consist of a Purple Heart Medal, an enamel bar, and a certificate.
 - e. STAR (Superior Tactics and Response) Award
 - 1. Awarded to an individual who, through exceptional tactics, acts to successfully resolve a critical incident, thereby promoting a culture of safety and professionalism to which all officers should aspire.
 - a. For purposes of this award, a "critical incident" shall refer to any rapidly unfolding and dynamic incident where the suspect is armed and the ability or intent to use lethal force is present. The tactics displayed or performed must be conspicuously effective and above the standard expected.
 - b. "Exceptional tactics" shall include utilization of proper tactics and appropriate force which mitigated the level of danger to the officer and which were directly responsible for preventing the incident from escalating to a deadly force situation.
 - 2. The award will consist of an enamel bar and a certificate.
- (6) Award Standards - Active Duty and Reserve Police Officers, Career Service Employees, and Public Safety Cadets of the Denver Police Department
- a. Police Merit Award
 - 1. Awarded to an individual who is distinguished by exceptional meritorious service:
 - a. By conducting an investigation and solving a serious criminal case when it is shown that the case resolution was made possible by diligent and painstaking research on the part of the individual, and it clearly appears that the individual correctly weighed and evaluated all the clues and circumstances at his/her disposal.
 - b. This award does not consider arrests made solely on the information of an informant.
 - 2. This award will consist of an enamel bar and a certificate.
 - b. Leadership Award
 - 1. Awarded to an individual in a position of command or supervisory authority for a single or a series of incident(s)/event(s)/initiative(s) where the leadership and management actions of the individual were such that the successful outcome of the incident/event/initiative was greatly influenced by the timely, accurate, and decisive nature of the individual's actions and which contributed significantly to the department's mission, vision and values.
 - 2. This award will consist of an enamel bar or lapel pin and a certificate.
 - c. Lifesaving Award
 - 1. Awarded by the Chief of Police to an individual who, through exceptional knowledge and behavior, performs a physical act which saves the life of another person and there is no danger to the individual's life.
 - 2. This award will consist of an enamel bar and a certificate.
 - d. Department Service Award
 - 1. Awarded to an individual who, through personal initiative and ingenuity, develops a program or plan (for non-leadership type of actions) which contributes significantly to the Department's objectives and goals.
 - 2. This award will consist of an enamel bar and a certificate.

- e. Community Service Award
 1. Awarded to an individual who, by virtue of sacrifice and expense of his or her time, fosters or contributes to a valuable and successful program in the area of community affairs, or who acts to substantially improve police/community relations through contribution of time and effort when not involved in an official capacity.
 2. This award will consist of an enamel bar and a certificate.
- f. Official Commendation
 1. Awarded to an individual who, by exemplary conduct and demeanor, performs his or her assigned functions in an unusually effective manner.
 2. The award will consist of a certificate.
- g. Chief's Unit Citation
 1. Awarded by the Chief of Police to an entire unit of the Department whose members perform their assigned function in an unusually effective manner. The size of the commended segment of the department may range from divisional to unit size.
 2. The award will consist of a written account of the exemplary conduct prepared on an appropriate certificate.
 3. When the commending individual's purpose is to commend an entire unit, the narrative should make reference to the actions of the entire unit.
- h. Citizens Appreciate Police Award (C.A.P.)
 1. Awarded by Citizens Appreciate Police, Inc., to members who distinguish themselves by performing a service which significantly displays an interest in the citizens we serve, in a manner which is beyond the call of duty and shows a real concern for the welfare and well-being of his/her fellow citizen.
 2. This award is a special award, not intended to duplicate existing department medals, but is strictly intended for commending a "community service" action.
 3. This award will consist of a medal bar to be worn on the uniform and the Citizens Certificate of Commendation.

(7) Award Standards - All Department Employees and Citizens

- a. Commendatory Letter
 1. Awarded to an individual via the chain of command, including the commended member's Division Chief, to a member who, through alertness and attention to duty, performs assigned functions in a commendable manner.
 2. Awarded to a citizen whose action furthers the police mission.
 3. The award will consist of a written account of the commendable conduct prepared on the Commendatory Letterhead. When an employee is being recognized, a copy of the letter shall be forwarded to the Internal Affairs Bureau and the Human Resource Management Bureau, where it will be filed in the individual employee's file. A copy will also be forwarded to the recipient's commander who will file it in the employee's station file.
 4. When recognizing a member from an outside law enforcement agency, a copy of the commendatory letter will be forwarded to their agency's department head.
- b. Outstanding Volunteer Award
 1. Awarded by the Chief of Police to an individual who, by virtue of sacrifice and expense of his or her time, fosters or contributes to a valuable and successful program in the area of the department's mission, vision and values, or who acts to substantially improve police/community relations through contribution of time and effort when not involved in an official capacity.
 2. This award will consist of a lapel pin and a certificate.

- c. Family/Survivor Award
 1. This small medallion is made available to the spouse/partner, children or parents of an officer killed in the line of duty. It is limited to the immediate family members of such officers. The purpose is to identify them as a family member who lost a loved one in the daily war against crime.
 2. The recognition will consist of a small medallion presented at the yearly Memorial Service held in May of each year with the permission of the family member.
 3. The responsibility of tracking the award and notifying the chief will be included with the duties of the Department Liaison Officer according to the Denver Police Department's Line-of-Duty Death Protocol.
- d. Family Member Award - Chief's Citation
 1. This award is made available to acknowledge the important role played by a family member of a sworn or non-sworn department employee who has encountered either a personal or job related hardship or other significant event.
 2. The department employee may request the award by preparing a synopsis of the justification on an Inter-Department Correspondence, DPD 200, directly to the Chief of Police for review.
 3. The award will consist of a small medallion and certificate signed by the requesting department employee and the Chief of Police.
- e. Family Member Award - Officer's Citation
 1. This award is made available to acknowledge the role played by the family member of a sworn or non-sworn department employee in support of, or as an integral part of, the employee's personal life, which enables the employee to be a successful public servant.
 2. The department employee may request the award by preparing a brief synopsis of the request on an Inter-Department Correspondence, DPD 200, directly to the Chief of Police.
 3. The award will consist of a certificate signed by the requesting department employee and the Chief of Police.

(8) Award Standards – Specific Awards

- a. Officer of the Year Award
 1. This award will be made available to an officer who has represented the department in all facets of law enforcement with a commitment to excellence, in support of the values of the organization, and a desire to represent the department in the manner or in which they were sworn.
 2. This award may be awarded annually to an individual officer, technician, corporal, detective, sergeant, and command officer or as determined by the Chief of Police.
 3. Any sworn officer of the department can make nominations, for an Officer of the Year Award, directly to the Chief of Police. The nomination must be submitted by January 31st of the year following the calendar year for which the officer is being nominated.
 4. The Officer of the Year Awards will consist of a plaque, certificate of recognition, and a name tag including the year in which the officer received the award. The recipient's name will also be included on a plaque displayed in a prominent location in Police Headquarters.
- b. Career Service Authority Employee of the Year Award
 1. This award will be made available to a CSA employee who has represented the department in all facets of service with a commitment to excellence, in support of the values of the organization, and a desire to represent the department in the manor in which they were hired.

2. This award may be awarded annually to an individual CSA employee and will be selected from one (1) of the twelve (12) individuals who have received the CSA Employee of the Month Award during the preceding calendar year.
3. Any employee of the department can make nominations, for a CSA Employee of the Year Award, directly to the Employee Incentive Program. The nomination must be submitted by January 31st of the year following the calendar year for which the employee is being nominated.
4. The CSA Employee of the Year Awards will consist of a plaque, a certificate of recognition and a pin. The recipient's name and picture will also be posted in the display board on the first floor in Police Headquarters.

c. Volunteer of the Year Award

1. This award will be made available to any employee of the department or citizen who has represented the department in all facets of service with a commitment to excellence, in support of the values of the organization as a volunteer.
2. This award may be awarded annually to an individual employee or citizen and will be selected by the Chief of Police.
3. Any employee of the department or citizen can make nominations for a Volunteer of the Year Award directly to the Chief of Police. The nomination must be submitted by January 31st of the year following the calendar year for which the individual is being nominated.
4. The Volunteer of the Year Awards will consist of a plaque, a certificate of recognition and a pin. The recipient's name and picture will also be prominently displayed in location of the volunteer's area of service in the department.

(9) Multiple awards of any bar award will be designated by a Roman numeral displayed on the bar.

503.04 Performance Evaluation Reports

- (1) The officer performance evaluation report (OPER) will be completed annually on each officer up to and including the rank of captain. Evaluations will document an officer's performance for the time from January 1st through December 31st each year. The evaluations will be due to the Human Resource Management Bureau March 1st.
 - a. Officer's immediate supervisors will make a minimum of one Supervisor's Situation Record (SSR) entry per officer, during each work period. The officer's chain of command is responsible for insuring the entry is made. Supervisors should refer to the annual Evaluation Training Bulletin for specific instructions regarding these entries.
 - b. In those instances where a period in excess of three months has expired since their last performance evaluation, an officer will receive an officer performance evaluation report completed by the officer's immediate supervisor upon any transfer from an assignment, including transfers due to promotion. Performance evaluations are not mandated when an officer transfers to the medical unit or specialized training lasting up to three months (detective training for example).
 - c. All evaluations require documentation for the rater to assign a numeric value above or below a '3'. No rated task will be assigned a '4' unless the rater can provide specific documented incidents primarily in the form of SSR entries
 1. To support the rating, copies of the Supervisor Situation Record entries made within the time frame of the evaluation must be attached to the evaluation prior to the evaluation being sent through the chain of command to The Human Resource Management Bureau.
 2. Command officers will not approve an evaluation that does not include the attached SSR copies.

- d. The Human Resource Management Bureau will not send out evaluation forms for completion. Each bureau or district commander is responsible for insuring that every officer under their command is evaluated as described above, and that the evaluations are sent to the Human Resource Management Bureau by March 1 of each year. The evaluations will be produced on the computer using the evaluation form template.
- (2) Probationary officer's performance reports shall be completed as follows:
 - a. While assigned to the Police Academy, a Recruit Officer will be evaluated at the end of each work period. The Recruit will be evaluated on the Training Bureau End of Period Evaluation, DPD 292D. The Academy staff or Field Training Officers assigned to the Academy shall prepare these reports.
 - b. After leaving the Academy and while receiving field training, each probationary officer shall be evaluated by a Field Training Officer. The evaluation will be documented on the Daily Observation Report, DPD 292, and End of Phase Report, DPD 292B.
 1. Each completed Daily Observation Report shall be reviewed by a F.T.O. Coordinator and filed in the station personnel files.
 2. Every End of Phase Evaluation report shall be approved by a F.T.O. coordinator and District Commander before the original copy is sent to the Program Coordinator. A copy shall also be placed in the station personnel files.
 - c. After successfully completing the F.T.O. Training Program, the probationary officer shall be rated at the end of each work period by his/her immediate supervisor on the Officer's Performance Evaluation Report.
 - (3) All raters should refer to the Officer Performance Evaluation Report Training Manual.
 - (4) In making performance evaluation, supervisors should consider the available information on the Supervisor's Situation Record, DPD 127, and any other information about the officer being rated that would indicate work habits, work performance and work product.
 - (5) Each officer shall be rated by his immediate supervisor. The rating form shall then be forwarded to the next level of command for approval or rating change.
 - (6) The rater will then hold the mandatory performance evaluation meeting with the officer. At this time, the officer must sign the first page of the OPER. This does not indicate agreement with the rating, just that the OPER has been reviewed with the officer.
 - (7) Any rating changes recommended by a second level supervisor or any rating changes made by a unit commander shall be brought to the attention of the individual officer being rated as well as to the attention of the immediate supervisor who prepared the original rating.
 - (8) The ranking officer in the chain of command shall, after approval of and/or changes in rating, forward the original to the Human Resource Management Bureau.
 - (9) Any employee who appeals his or her performance evaluation must file the appeal in writing within fifteen (15) days of the date they sign for their evaluation. The appeal shall only be made through the chain of supervisors responsible for the original rating, regardless of where the supervisors may currently be assigned. No supervisor outside the original supervisory chain is allowed to change an employee's performance evaluation. The final decision for any appeal rests with the respective Division Chief. Evaluations are not eligible for appeal beyond the Division Chief.
 - (10) The appeal must be processed through the entire chain of command no later than 30 days from the date the employee signed the evaluation. At the conclusion of the thirty-day (30-day) appeal period, which begins the day the employee originally signed for his/her performance evaluation, all rating scores will be final.

