

Office of the Independent Police Auditor

MONTHLY REPORT

February 2026



COMPLAINT TRENDS



INVESTIGATIONS



ACCOUNTABILITY

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The February 2026 Monthly Report reflects the Office of the Independent Police Auditor's (OIPA) continued efforts to strengthen its role as an independent oversight body through a renewed focus on meaningful community engagement, investigative efficiency, and data-driven accountability. During this reporting period, OIPA took deliberate steps to engage more meaningfully with the communities it serves, recognizing that effective oversight is grounded not only in investigative outcomes, but also in understanding the lived experiences and concerns of the public.

OIPA has continued to streamline its investigative processes to more efficiently manage its caseload while maintaining thorough, objective, and timely investigations.

This report represents OIPA's initial foray into trend analysis, incorporating both current and historical data to begin assessing performance over time, providing greater transparency and a clearer understanding of how OIPA's work is evolving.

OIPA has also focused on policy review and recommendations, using investigative findings to identify areas for improvement and strengthen accountability.

Finally, this report reflects OIPA's early efforts to expand reporting on the status of appeals, as well as legal claims, lawsuits, and settlements associated with allegations of misconduct. Building on the initial inclusion of this information in the January 2026 report, this month marks the first instance of reporting on a resolved claim and its financial impact. These efforts represent a foundational step toward examining the relationship between complaints, internal investigations, and litigation outcomes, with the goal of identifying trends and better understanding the broader impact of alleged misconduct.

Inez M. Gonzalez
Independent Police Auditor

II. OIPA STAFF ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

BART Police Department (BPD) Swearing-In & Promotion Ceremony

On February 11, 2026, OIPA staff attended the BPD Swearing-In and Promotion Ceremony, which recognized newly sworn officers and the advancement of current personnel within the department. The ceremony highlighted recent hires, leadership growth, and the appointment of Deputy Chief Antwinette Turner to the Progressive Policing and Community Engagement Bureau. OIPA's attendance reflects its ongoing commitment to maintaining awareness of departmental operations and engagement with the department.

UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy Career Panel Presentation



On February 11, 2026, Investigator Patrick J. Caceres participated in the UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy’s 2026 Students of Color in Public Policy (SCIPP) Career Panel. During the panel, he shared insights on his professional experience, the role of civilian oversight in law enforcement, and career pathways in public service. His participation provided an opportunity to engage with students interested in public policy and to highlight the work of OIPA within the broader context of police accountability and civilian police oversight at BART.

Black Panther Museum and Happy Heavenly Birthday Oscar Exhibit



On February 25, 2026, OIPA staff visited the Black Panther Museum and the “Happy Heavenly Birthday Oscar” exhibit, which honors the life and legacy of Oscar Grant. The visit provided a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the historical and community context surrounding police accountability and civil rights. Through powerful artistic expression, the exhibit humanized Oscar Grant, not only as a public figure, but as a son and a father. OIPA’s attendance served as a poignant reminder that we serve a grieving community, and that our work must never lose sight of the real lives and lasting impact behind every investigation.

Oscar Grant Foundation Legacy Gala



On February 28, 2026, OIPA staff attended the Oscar Grant Foundation’s 2026 Legacy Gala, an event celebrating community, empowerment, and impact while honoring the life and legacy of Oscar Grant. The evening featured inspiring speakers, and live performances, while highlighting programs that support and uplift youth, and impacted families. The gala was also attended by members of the BART Police Civilian Review Board (BPCRB), members of the BART Board of Directors, and other BART employees, bringing together community leaders, advocates, and stakeholders in a shared commitment to connection and positive change.

III. OIPA COMPLAINTS BY MONTH

During February 2026, OIPA received one new case and closed three investigations. No appeals were filed with OIPA, and there were no appeals by the BPCRB or the BPD Chief of Police during this reporting period. As part of its oversight responsibilities, OIPA reviewed and approved three BPD cases for Administrative Closure and conducted a review of a total of eight BPD closed cases.

February 2026	
Cases Filed with OIPA	1
OIPA Cases Closed	3
Appeals to OIPA	0
Appeals by BPCRB	0
Appeals by BPD Chief of Police	0
BPD Cases Reviewed by OIPA for Administrative Closure	3
BPD Closed Cases Reviewed	8

IV. OIPA CURRENT TOTAL INVESTIGATIONS

As of the end of February 2026, OIPA had 10 active investigations. There are no complainant-initiated appeals to OIPA and no BPD Internal Affairs investigations being monitored by OIPA at that time.

TOTALS	
OIPA Active Investigations	10
Complainant-Initiated Appeals to OIPA	0
BPD Investigations Being Monitored by OIPA	0

As of the end of February 2026, OIPA has 10 pending investigations, all of which remain in progress. The cases were received between August 2025 and February 2026 and reflect a range of allegations, including improper arrest, improper detention, excessive force, supervision, conduct unbecoming an officer, and policy or procedure violations.

Several investigations are approaching key review milestones. The oldest case, received in August 2025, has exceeded the 180-day mark, while multiple cases initiated in late 2025 are nearing or have recently reached their 90-day deadlines. More recently opened cases, received in January and February 2026, remain within early investigative timelines.

In terms of complexity, the majority of cases are classified as moderate, with complexity levels of 2, while two cases are classified as higher complexity (level 3) and two as lower complexity (level 1). OIPA continues to ensure timely investigations and that the most serious complaints receive appropriate attention and resources.

OIPA PENDING INVESTIGATIONS							
	Case Number	Date Received	Primary Allegation	90 Days	180 Days	Complexity	Status
1	#25-32	08/05/25	Improper Arrest	11/03/25	02/01/26	2	In Progress
2	#25-44	10/07/25	Improper Arrest	01/03/26	04/03/26	1	In Progress
3	#25-52	11/08/25	Policy/Procedure (Officer Response)	02/04/26	05/05/26	2	In Progress
4	#25-56	11/30/25	Excessive Force	02/28/26	05/29/26	2	In Progress
5	#25-60	12/08/25	Excessive Force	03/08/26	06/06/26	2	In Progress
6	#25-61	12/19/25	Improper Detention	03/19/26	06/17/26	2	In Progress
7	#25-62	12/31/25	Supervision	03/31/26	06/29/26	3	In Progress
8	#26-01	01/06/26	Improper Detention	04/06/26	07/05/26	3	In Progress
9	#26-05	01/27/26	Conduct Unbecoming an Officer	04/27/26	07/26/26	2	In Progress
10	#26-08	02/21/26	Policy/Procedure (Fare Evasion Citation)	05/21/26	08/21/26	1	In Progress

V. OIPA NEW COMPLAINTS

During February 2026, OIPA received **1 Community Complaint**.

OIPA Case Number	Allegations	Investigator Assigned	Received Date
1 OIPA #26-08	Officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Policy/Procedure (fare evasion citation)	Patrick J. Caceres	2/21/26

VI. OIPA INVESTIGATIONS CONCLUDED DURING REPORTING PERIOD

During February 2026, OIPA completed **3 Investigations**.

In OIPA #25-23, the complainant alleged unnecessary force, poor de-escalation, threats of arrest, and racially biased conduct during a mutual combat incident; all allegations were exonerated or unfounded based on the evidence of the investigation.

In OIPA #25-35, the complainant alleged improper detention, excessive force, discourtesy, improper search, and discriminatory conduct; the investigation found officers acted within policy and all allegations were exonerated or unfounded.

In OIPA #25-36, the complainant alleged improper detention, unprofessional conduct, and policy violations related to a fare evasion citation; case was administratively closed following review of officer's BWC recordings.

1 OIPA #25-23 IA2025-037	<p>The complainant reported being involved in an incident of mutual combat with another individual on a BART train approaching 19th Street Station. He alleged BPD officers used unnecessary force, displayed poor de-escalation, threatened him with arrest, and treated him unfairly by engaging in racially biased officer conduct.</p>			
	OIPA Investigative Findings	<p>Officer #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detention/Arrest – Exonerated • Unnecessary Use of Force – Exonerated • Conduct Unbecoming an Officer – Exonerated • Bias-Based Policing/Racial Profiling – Unfounded <p>Officer #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detention/Arrest – Exonerated • Unnecessary Use of Force - Exonerated • Bias-Based Policing/Racial Profiling – Unfounded 		
	Date Completed:	2/5/26	Days Taken to Complete Investigation:	262
2 OIPA#25-35 IA2025-059	<p>The complainant alleged that BART Police officers improperly detained her, tried to “find anything” to justify the detention, used excessive force resulting in injuries and caused her belongings, including her wig and alcohol bottle to fall on the ground, acted discourteously, unnecessarily searched her purse, and discriminated against her after they falsely accused her of making threats while she was between train cars making a private phone call.</p>			
	OIPA Investigative Findings	<p>Officer #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper Detention – Exonerated • Excessive Force – Exonerated • Discourteous Conduct – Exonerated • Bias-Based Policing – Unfounded <p>Officer #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper Detention – Exonerated • Excessive Force – Exonerated • Discourteous Conduct – Exonerated • Bias-Based Policing – Unfounded • Improper Search - Exonerated 		
	Date Completed:	1/25/26	Days Taken to Complete Investigation:	153

3 OIPA #25-36 IA2025-063	The complainant alleged that a BPD officer improperly detained and cited him for fare evasion. The complainant also alleged that the officer did not investigate whether he had paid his fare, threatened to place him in handcuffs while he was on the phone with his father, and did not provide his supervisor's contact information upon request. He described the officer's conduct as unprofessional.			
	OIPA Investigative Findings	Officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper Detention – Administratively Closed (BWC Review) • Conduct Unbecoming an Officer – Administratively Closed (BWC Review) • Policy/Procedure – Administratively Closed (BWC Review) 		
	Date Completed:	1/28/26	Days Taken to Complete Investigation:	141

VII. APPEAL CASES

Two investigations conducted by the OIPA were previously appealed by the BPD Chief of Police and are currently pending. A summary and status of those two investigations is listed below:

OIPA #24-45

Date of Complaint: October 11, 2024

Date Closed: August 8, 2025

Date Appealed: September 24, 2025

Hearing Date: November 6, 2025

By Whom: Chief of Police

Status: Pending General Manager

Elapsed Days from Appeal: 158

OIPA #24-46

Date of Complaint: October 28, 2024

Date Closed: September 8, 2025

Date Appealed: October 13, 2025

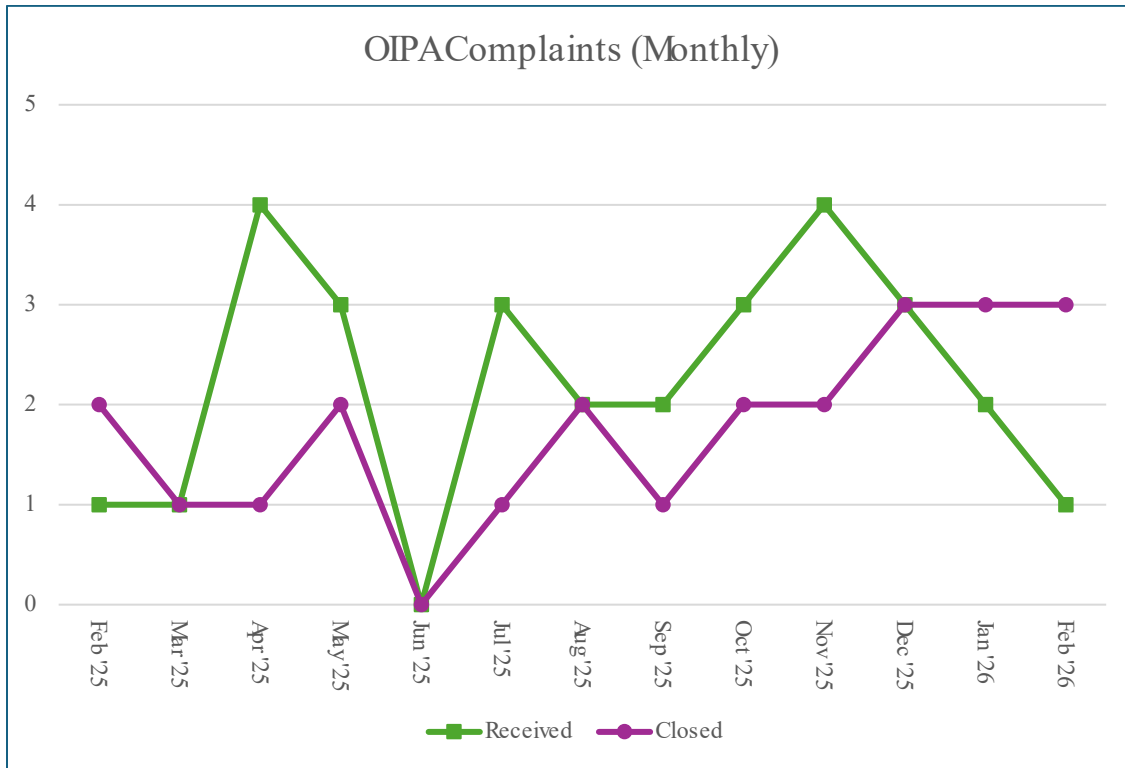
Hearing Date: November 6, 2025

By Whom: Chief of Police

Status: Pending General Manager

Elapsed Days from Appeal: 158

VIII. TREND ANALYSIS



TOTAL OIPA COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND CLOSED

	Feb. 2026	Feb. 2025	Jan. 2026
Cases Filed with OIPA	1	1	2
OIPA Cases Closed	2	2	3

IX. POLICY REVIEW

BODY WORN CAMERA (BWC)

OIPA's recent investigations continue to identify issues related to Body Worn Camera (BWC) compliance, particularly regarding activation timing and camera positioning. BPD Policy 451 requires that cameras be properly mounted to provide an unobstructed view and that officers activate their BWC prior to law enforcement contacts. While BWC footage generally provides a reliable basis for investigative analysis, OIPA identified instances of delayed or non-activation, as well as suboptimal camera placement, such as belt-mounted positioning, that limited the completeness and quality of the evidentiary record.

In response, OIPA has recommended that BPD consider clarifying policy language regarding proper camera positioning to ensure recordings consistently capture usable audio and video. These recommendations are intended to align officer practice with existing policy requirements and strengthen the reliability of BWC evidence for both investigative and accountability purposes.

OIPA has also discussed with BPD the activation of BWC during welfare checks and train car sweeps, as these encounters may evolve into enforcement or investigative actions where documentation is necessary. Consistent with Policy 451, officers are expected to activate their BWC during law enforcement contacts and when recordings may be of future evidentiary value.

Additionally, OIPA coordinated with BPD to provide a presentation to the BPCRB on BWC policy and equipment, with the goal of improving shared understanding of operational practices and strengthening oversight. OIPA will continue to document instances of non-compliance with BWC policy and provide recommendations aimed at improving adherence, reinforcing best practices, and ensuring the collection of complete and reliable evidence for investigative review.

ADMINISTRATIVE CLOSURE (CLOSED BY BWC)

BPD Policy 1020 – Personnel Complaints defines Administrative Closure as the disposition of a complaint following a preliminary review in which further investigation is not warranted. Based on this framework, OIPA has developed its own policy to align with BPD's criteria while maintaining independent oversight standards.

The purpose of Administrative Closure is to efficiently resolve complaints that do not require a full investigation. This process allows Internal Affairs and OIPA to identify matters that can be resolved through preliminary review, where body-worn camera (BWC) evidence clearly addresses all allegations. The use of Administrative Closures helps streamline case processing by eliminating unnecessary investigative steps, such as officer interviews, when the available evidence sufficiently resolves the complaint.

Consistent with BPD Policy 1020, OIPA reviews all cases proposed for Administrative Closure, including those based on BWC evidence, to determine whether closure is appropriate. When the available evidence does not support Administrative Closure, OIPA recommends that the complaint be fully investigated. OIPA's oversight ensures that appropriate safeguards are in place so that all complaints are taken seriously and evaluated to determine the proper outcome.

The increased use of Administrative Closures has contributed to more efficient case management and a reduction in overall complaint caseload.

X. BPD NEW COMPLAINTS*

During February 2026, BPD received **3 Community Complaints (Formal)**.

IA Case #	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken	Received Date
1 IA#2026-004	Officers #1 & #2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance of Duty 	BPD is investigating.	02/13/26
2 IA#2026-005	Officers #1 - #3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Unbecoming an Officer Arrest or Detention Bias-Based Policing Force 	BPD is investigating.	02/16/26
3 IA#2026-006	Officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrest or Detention Search or Seizure 	BPD is investigating.	02/19/26

XI. BPD NEW INTERNALLY INITIATED INVESTIGATIONS*

During February 2026, BPD opened **0 Administrative Investigations (Internally Generated)**:

IA Case #	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken	Days Elapsed Since Complaint Filed
N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	N/A	N/A

XII. BPD INVESTIGATIONS CONCLUDED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD*

A. During February 2026, BPD completed **7 Investigations**:

(IA Case #)	Nature of Complaint	Disposition	Received Date	Days Taken to Complete Investigation
1 IA#2024-046	The complainant alleged an officer was unprofessional and did not properly respond when the complainant was reporting a crime.	Officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of Duty – Not Sustained • Conduct Unbecoming – Sustained 	5/30/24	621 <small>(Investigation was tolled due to the subject officer out on work-related industrial leave.)</small>
2 IA#2024-103	The complainant alleged that an officer failed to advise the San Francisco Police Department of a reported crime.	Officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of Duty – Unfounded 	10/23/24	475 <small>(Investigation was tolled due to the subject officer out on work-related industrial leave.)</small>
3 IA#2025-072	A subordinate officer alleged that their BPD sergeant has various supervisory issues with his work performance.	Sergeant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision – Administratively Closed (mediated) 	2/02/25	375
4 IA#2025-034	The complainant alleged that he reported drug use in the elevator at Civic Center BART Station to a BPD officer and the officer did not provide the complainant with any assistance.	Officer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of Duty - Administratively Closed (Unidentified Officer) 	2/22/25	352
5 IA#2025-018	The complainant alleged that BPD officers improperly detained and handcuffed her son for riding his bike on the station platform.	Officer #1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrest or Detention - Exonerated • Conduct Unbecoming an Officer – Not Sustained • Body Worn Camera – Sustained 	3/06/25	350

		Officer #2:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrest or Detention – Unfounded Body Worn Camera - Sustained 		
6 IA#2025-027	The complainant alleged officers used excessive force during their detention for fare evasion and subsequent arrest for resisting an officer.	Officer #1 - #3:	4/07/25	309
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Force – Administratively Closed (BWC review) 		
7 IA#2025-035	The complainant alleged that an officer ignored her despite her reporting a male chasing her. The complainant further alleges that the officer did not listen to her and twisted her words to not have to take a report.	Officer	4/15/25	308
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance of Duty – Supervisory Referral 		

B. During February 2026, BPD resolved **1 Administrative Investigation (Internally Generated)**:

IA Case #	Nature of Complaint	Disposition	Days Elapsed Since Complaint Filed	Days Taken to Complete Investigation
IA#2025-054	A BPD employee alleged that another employee deliberately shut a door on her causing her injury.	Crisis Intervention Specialist: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Unbecoming – Not Sustained Conduct Unbecoming – Not Sustained Workplace Discrimination/Harassment - Unfounded 	263	195

XII. ALL DISCIPLINE ISSUED DURING REPORTING PERIOD*

During this reporting period, BPD took the following action in **0 cases** where allegations of misconduct were sustained:

Case #	Nature of Sustained Allegation(s) ⁱ	Classification of Sustained Allegation(s)	Action Taken
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

XIV. ISSUES DETECTED

The Model provides that OIPA has the authority to require follow-up investigations into any community complaint or allegation handled by BPD.

For February 2026, OIPA did not identify any issues in BPD's complaint investigations that require additional investigation or corrective action. OIPA's review did not reveal any patterns of concern related to investigative quality, timeliness, or adherence to policy.

XV. LEGAL CLAIMS, LAWSUITS, AND SETTLEMENTS

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT OPEN BPD CLAIMS

The following update serves as a status report for February 2026. Since last month's report, BART Claim Number B240155 has been settled for \$99,999. See table below for details.

BART Claim No.	Plaintiff	Date of Loss	Location	Court Case No.	Plaintiff Attorney	Defense Attorney	Status
B240030	Joseph Banks	9/12/23	Embarcadero Station	CGC-24-619300	In pro per	Edrington, Schirmer & Murphy	Pending; no trial date set
Summary	After getting in an altercation with another patron, Banks alleges that BPD officers who arrived on scene, used force, falsely detained him, and questioned him based on his race.						
B230052	James Robinson	3/08/24	Aboard train at Fruitvale	3:24-cv-08788-TLT	Law Offices of John Vanucci	Allen, Glaessner, Hazelwood & Werth	Trial is set for Sept. 2027
Summary	Plaintiff was using an outlet on a train and refused BPD orders to unplug. He was escorted off the train and out of Fruitvale Station. He alleges excessive force by BPD during detention.						
B240155	Travis Sims	3/25/24	Warm's Spring Station	4:25-cv-03277-DMR	Pointer & Buelna	Castillo Moriarty Robinson	Case was settled for \$99,999

Summary	Plaintiff was intoxicated and showing signs of not being able to care for himself. BPD officers went to detain him, Sims resisted and they fell to the ground. Plaintiff knocked out some crowns in his mouth and suffered facial lacerations.						
B240150	LaToya Henry	5/21/24	Fruitvale Station	3:25-cv-05780-LIC	Pointer & Buelna	Castillo Moriarty Robinson	A Mandatory Settlement Conference is set for 6/03/26
Summary	Plaintiff is the mother of a juvenile who fare evaded out of Fruitvale during fare evasion enforcement. She resisted being detained and was taken to the ground by BPD officers.						
B250079	Roscoe Duncan	8/12/24	Fruitvale Station Alameda Superior	24CV095242	In pro per	Castillo Moriarty Robinson	No court date has been set
Summary	Plaintiff intentionally fare evaded out of the station and claimed he was a sovereign citizen and not subject to our laws. He refused to provide identification and was arrested and taken to jail.						
B250054	Chunwen Chen	12/05/24	Oakland, CA Alameda Superior	25CV137442	Lawrence Wong	Law Offices of Damien Morozumi	Pending
Summary	Plaintiff was involved in a motor vehicle accident with BPD. The accident was an intersection collision where plaintiff attempted to make left turn in front of oncoming BPD vehicle.						
B250063	Johar Johar	12/28/24	Oakland, CA	25CV134991	Venardi Zurada	Law Offices of Damien Morozumi	Pending
Summary	Plaintiff was involved in a major three car motor vehicle accident with BPD. The accident was an intersection collision where two BPD vehicles were responding Code 3 to West Oakland Station and collided with one another.						
B260001	John Murphy	11/02/24	MacArthur Station	-	-	-	Pending
Summary	Claimant is alleging that after he was arrested, BPD lost or destroyed his personal belongings that were secured and placed into holding.						

¹ Some details regarding the nature of sustained allegations may be withheld to avoid unintentionally breaching mandatory confidentiality requirements in violation of the applicable CA Penal Code section (832.7).

* The data contained in this report as it pertains to the BPD was provided by the BPD and was not independently verified by the OIPA. The OIPA assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies in the data.