

INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION
ANNUAL ANALYSIS COMPLAINT REPORT
2019

The Internal Affairs Section is responsible for safeguarding the integrity of the City of Miami, the Miami Police Department, and the rights of all citizens within the area of jurisdictional responsibility of the City of Miami Police Department.

Once a complaint is received, is forwarded to the Internal Affairs Section to be processed and classified. Once classified, the complaint may be forwarded to the appropriate division for investigation. The Internal Affairs Section will monitor all investigations. If a crime has been alleged, the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office will be contacted to determine if criminal charges should be filed. The complainant will be notified via certified letter as to who will be responsible for the investigation.

During the investigation, statements will be taken from the complainant, witnesses and the subject employee(s). All reasonable leads will be investigated. Employee investigations remain confidential until finalized. No participant including complainants, subject employees, investigators, and/or witnesses will disclose any information regarding the investigation until the conclusion of the investigation. The complexity of the case will determine the amount of time needed to complete the investigation.

This report consists of an annual analysis of the complaints for the year of 2019 and is divided into five parts (5) categories, as follows:

Section I - *Citizen complaints.*

Section II - *A breakdown of allegations.*

Section III - *A breakdown of the investigation findings.*

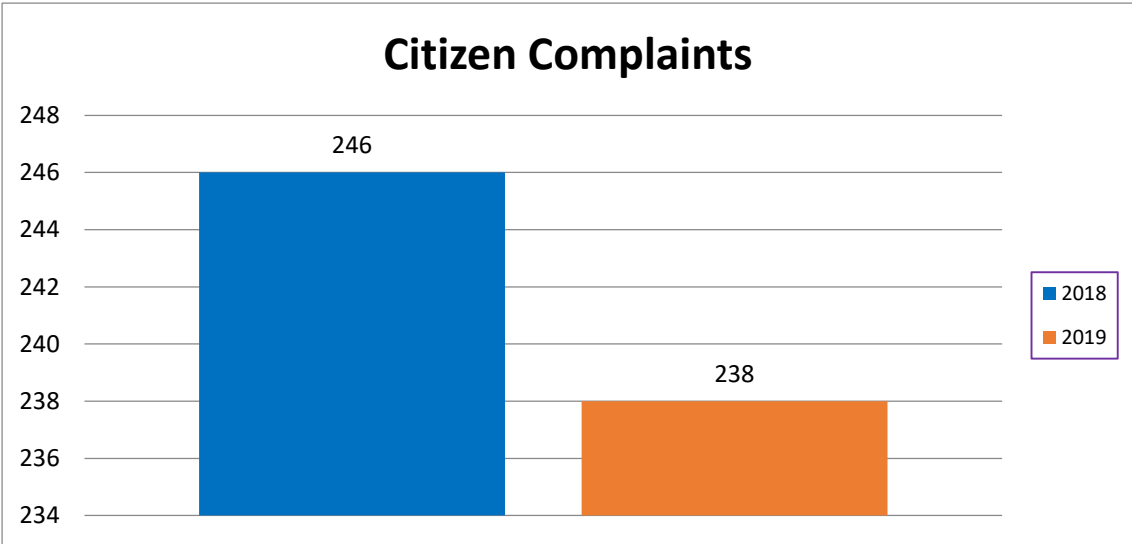
Section IV - *A breakdown of complaints by N.E.T areas.*

Section V - *Conclusion.*

Section I

A citizen can file a formal complaint by letter, telephone, GovQA, or in person at any of the District stations. The complaint can be taken by any police supervisor, made directly to the Internal Affairs Section, or made to the Civilian Investigative Panel (CIP). All complaints against employees of the Miami Police Department are investigated or documented.

In 2019, there were 238 citizen complaints, compared to 2018, which represents a 3% decrease.

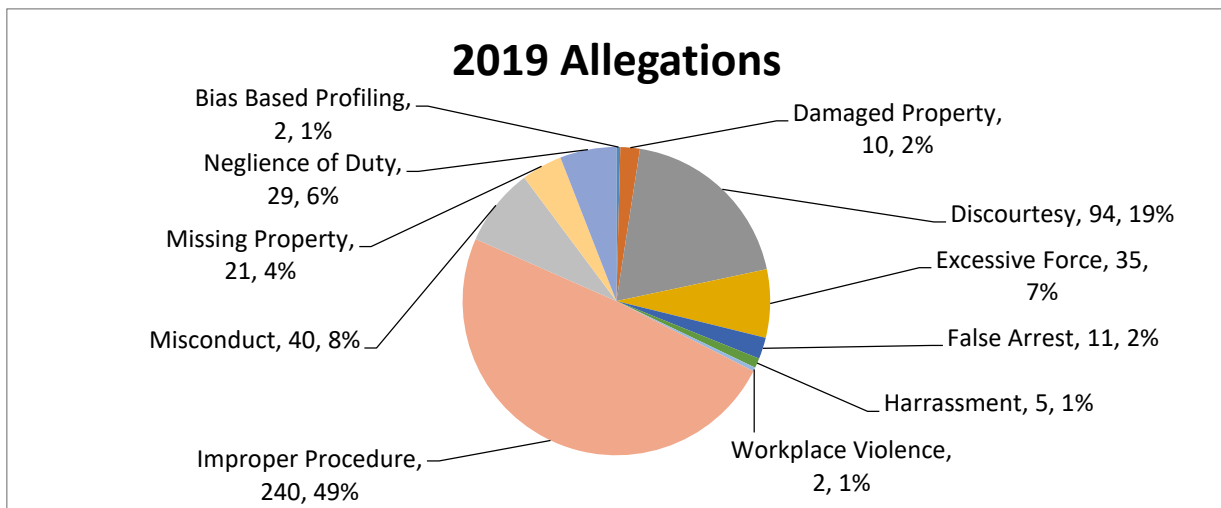


Section II

Allegations defined: A brief synopsis of the relevant facts and the specific acts complained of to include who, what, when and where.

The number of allegations were 489. Because a complaint may contain multiple allegations lodged against one (1) or multiple officers, the number of allegations will always be higher than the total number of complaints received in a year. The following charts depict the total number of allegations received in 2019.

There were two (2) complaints of “bias based profiling” against City of Miami Police officers during the calendar year 2019.



*Once the investigation is completed, the number of allegations may change.

Section III

Once the investigation is completed, the complainant will be notified via certified letter as to the result of the investigation. The results of all complaints are called findings. In June 2017, the classification of results/findings was changed to be in line with the standardized language. The possible findings are listed below:

Exonerated– The investigation clearly and factually shows that the alleged complaint(s) did not occur;

Or the investigation clearly and factually shows that the alleged complaint(s) did not constitute any violation of policy, orders, or laws and the employee(s) are exonerated;

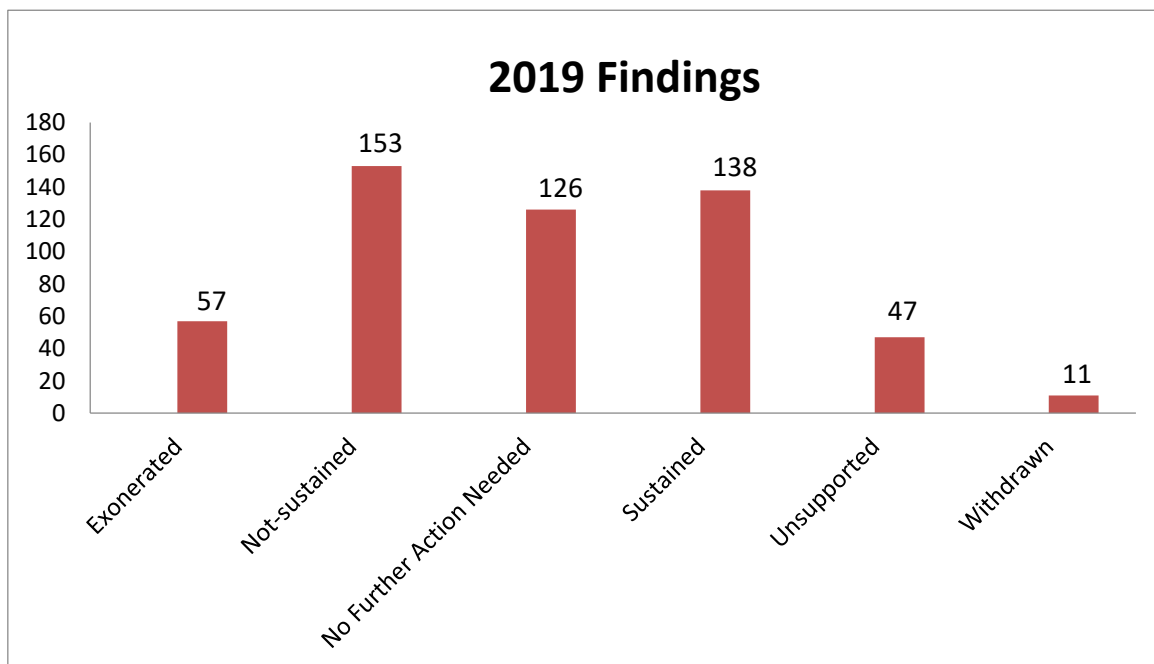
Or the investigation clearly and factually shows that the employee(s) used necessary force in accordance with policy, orders, and law and their action(s) are justified.

Not Sustained – The investigation cannot clearly and factually show that the alleged complaint(s) occurred and the investigation cannot clearly and factually show that the alleged complaint(s) did not occur.

Sustained – The investigation clearly and factually shows that the alleged complaint(s) constitute violations of policy, orders and/or law.

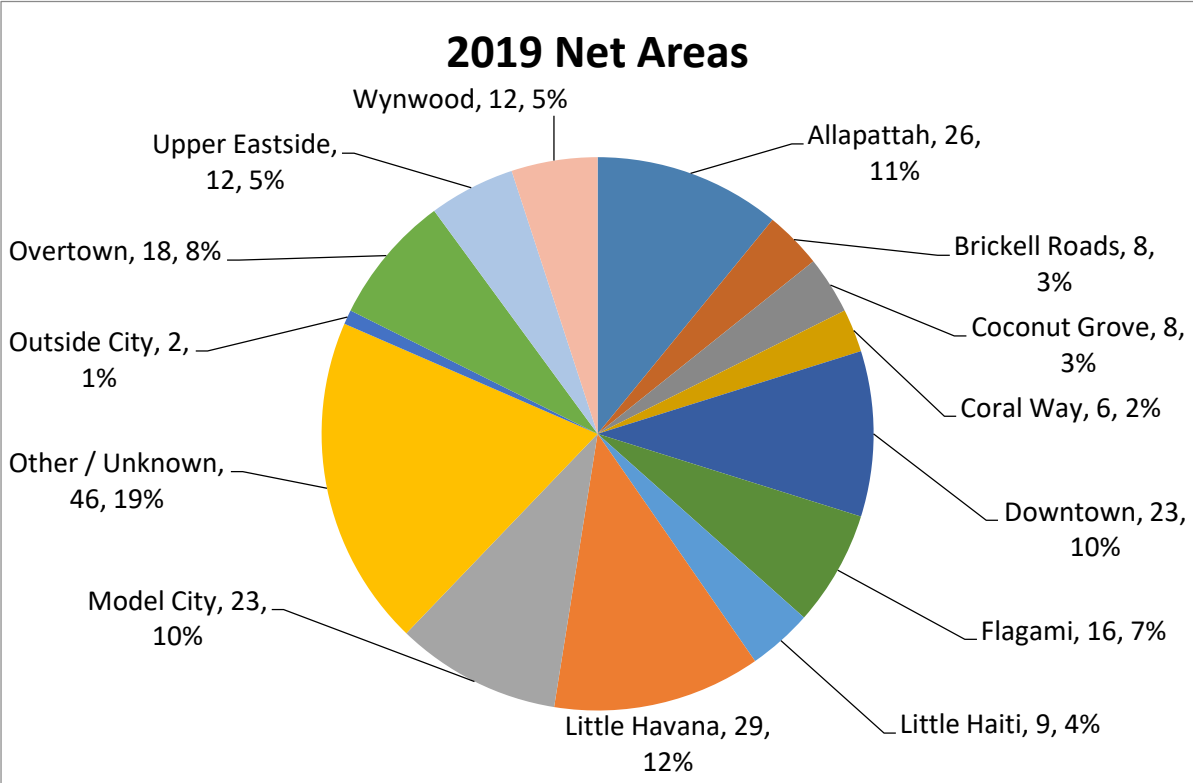
Unsupported – A complaint has been filed. An investigation cannot proceed due to insufficient information and/or the complainant cannot be contacted. The case may be reopened at a future date, when new or additional information is received.

Withdrawn – Complainant voluntarily elected to withdraw his/her complaint.



*Once the investigation is completed, the number of findings may change.

Section IV



Section V

Conclusion

The number of complaints decreased by 3% from the previous year. Although the number of complaints have decreased, allegations of Discourtesy, Improper Procedure and Misconduct account for the highest number of complaints. The IAS is continuing with its efforts to educate officers on the importance of properly documenting their interactions with the public. The IAS has conducted roll call training on all shifts and districts, and continues to stress to the officers that the BWC is a valuable tool to capture and preserve data. The BWC also aides in exonerating them in the event a complaint arises from an interaction with the public.

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