



## OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR

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75 East Santa Clara Street, Lower Level, Suite 93  
San José, CA 95113  
TEL (408) 794-6226 • FAX (408) 977-1053  
[www.sanJoseca.gov/ipa/](http://www.sanJoseca.gov/ipa/)

### News Release

***For Immediate Release:***  
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***Contacts:***  
**Diane Doolan-Diaz**  
**Office (408) 794-6226**  
**Cell (408) 891-7575**

### Report on Audits of SJPD Complaints in 2009 is Released

SAN JOSÉ – The City of San Jose’s Office of the Independent Police Auditor (IPA) has released the *2009 IPA Year End Report* (Report). The Report provides statistical information about IPA oversight and audit of Internal Affairs police misconduct investigations for the 2009 calendar year. Only “external” complaints are discussed within the report -- meaning complaints filed by members of the public. The IPA does not audit internal investigations of police misconduct that are initiated by the SJPD about its own officers.

The Report contains a description of significant developments during calendar year 2009 and also provides information on the legal framework, set by the State of California and the City of San José, within which the office exercises its oversight function. The Report can be viewed on-line at [www.sanjoseca.gov/IPA](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/IPA). It will be presented to the Mayor and City Council on Tuesday, October 19, 2010.

A total of 317 concerns were raised by members of the public in 2009 regarding the conduct of San José Police Department (SJPD) officers. As compared to the trend seen in the last several calendar years, the 2009 number represents a significant decrease. The most common allegations identified in complaints were: Procedure, Force, Arrest/Detention, and Courtesy.

The IPA audited 238 closed investigations in 2009 and determined that 69% were complete, thorough, objective and fair. The IPA agreed with 11% of the closed investigations after Internal Affairs either re-examined its analysis or provided additional supporting documentation. The IPA disagreed with 20% of the closed investigations in 2009, finding the investigations were not thorough, complete or objective.

In April of 2010, the City appointed Judge LaDoris Cordell (Ret.) to the position of IPA. Next year’s *2010 IPA Year End Report* will primarily be reflective of the work of the IPA office under her direction.

The mission of the IPA is to provide independent oversight of and instill confidence in the citizen complaint process through objective review of police misconduct investigations. Complaints of police misconduct can be filed with the IPA in person or by phone, fax, mail, or email. The IPA reports on patterns and trends to the City Council and makes recommendations for improvements to police policies.

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