



**Q4 2023 REPORT TO THE  
EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION**



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The following report is submitted for:

- Approval
- Ratification
- Information

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BANCH  
January 18, 2024 - EPC MEETING**

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Approved by:

A blue ink signature of Darren Derko, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by a cursive name.

**Darren Derko  
Acting Chief of Police**

A blue ink signature of Sean Anderson, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' followed by a cursive name.

**Sean Anderson  
Inspector**



January 18, 2024

TO: Dale McFee  
Chief of Police

FROM: Inspector Sean Anderson  
Professional Standards Branch

RE: QUARTERLY REPORT – Q4 of 2023

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This report has been prepared for Edmonton Police Commission meeting on January 18, 2024.

During the fourth quarter of 2023, the Professional Standards Branch received 282 new files:

- 13 Public complaints as defined by Part 5 of the *Police Act*
- 17 Internal complaints as defined by Part 5 of the *Police Act*
- 11 EPS Matter
- 241 Citizen Contacts

During the fourth quarter of 2023, the Professional Standards branch concluded 264 files:

- 22 Public complaints as defined by Part 5 of the *Police Act*
- 9 Internal complaints as defined by Part 5 of the *Police Act*
- 12 EPS Matter
- 221 Citizen Contacts.

The Edmonton Police Service dispatched 43,376<sup>1</sup> calls for service and received/recorded 12 compliments in Q4 of 2023.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "S. Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

Inspector Sean Anderson  
Professional Standards Branch

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<sup>1</sup> Note: the data for Q4 was collected on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



**Professional Standards Branch  
October-December 2023  
Q4 Report  
Edmonton Police Service**

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2023 Q4 STATISTICAL SUMMARY

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**Professional Standards Branch (PSB) 2023 Fourth Quarter Update**

**1. RECEIVED FILES**

The following pie chart illustrates the number and type of files received during the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2023. Blue colors represent complaints and concerns made by members of the public and red colors represent internal complaints and concerns initiated by the Chief of Police. Lighter shades indicate files being handled outside of the *Police Act* and darker shades indicate *Police Act* complaints. As can be seen below, during Q4 of 2023, PSB received **254 public files** and **28 internal files (n=282)**.

\* Please note that the data for the Q4 report was collected on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Figure 1:** Received Files During Q4 of 2023

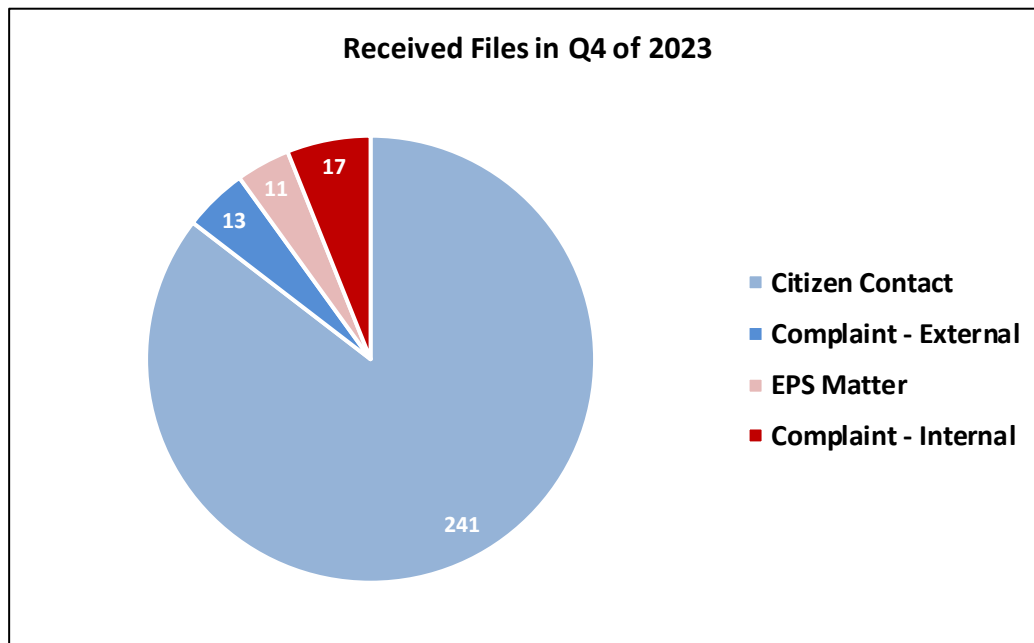
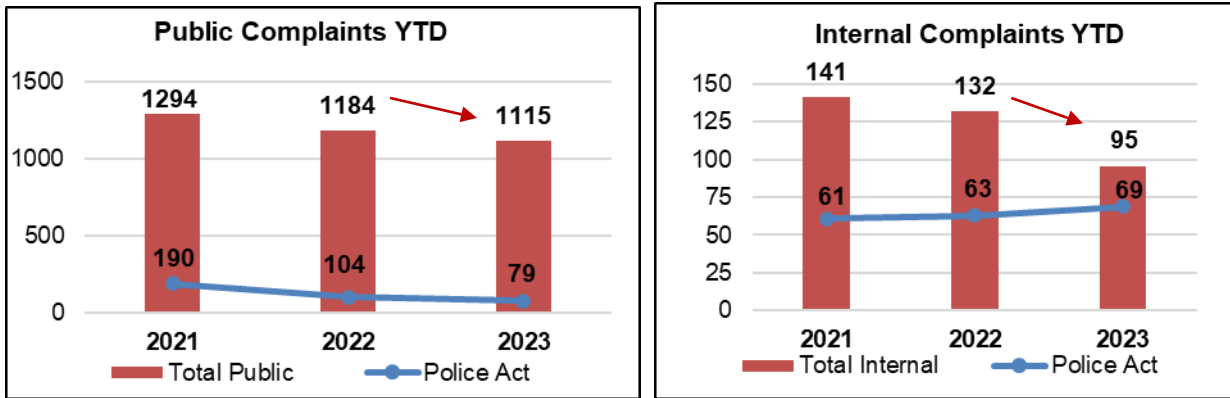


Figure 2 demonstrates the *yearly trends* for public and internal complaints to PSB. The red solid bars are the total complaints to PSB (YTD), and the blue lines indicate the number of complaints meeting the criteria of the *Police Act* and proceeding for formal investigation.

It can be noted in Figure 2 below that the total **public complaints** to PSB year-to-date have **decreased** from 2022 to 2023 by **-6%** and the total **internal complaints** year-to-date have also **decreased** from 2022 to 2023 by **-28%**. There has been a slight increase in internal *Police Act* complaints by 6 files (**+9%**) from 2022 to 2023.

**Figure 2:** Public Complaints to PSB and Internal Matters Over Three Years



## 2. CURRENT WORKLOAD

As of December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, PSB retains **337 open investigations**, broken-down into the following categories:

- 100 Complaints External
- 99 Complaints Internal
- 121 Citizen Contacts
- 17 EPS Matters

There were an additional 89 Statutory Complaints (all 89 Statutory Complaints are associated with open PSB files and therefore are considered duplicate files for tracking purposes only).

Table 1 below shows files that are listed as Active, Suspended, or Forwarded, and the year the file was opened. An investigation is listed as “Suspended” when it is not currently being advanced (e.g., review stages of the investigation, disciplinary hearings, criminal investigation, court proceedings, awaiting further information from complainant etc.). An investigation is listed as “Forwarded” when it is ongoing but not under the control of PSB (e.g., supervisory reviews, obtaining legal opinions, investigation by other areas within the EPS, ASIRT etc.).

**Table 1:** Status of All Open Investigations

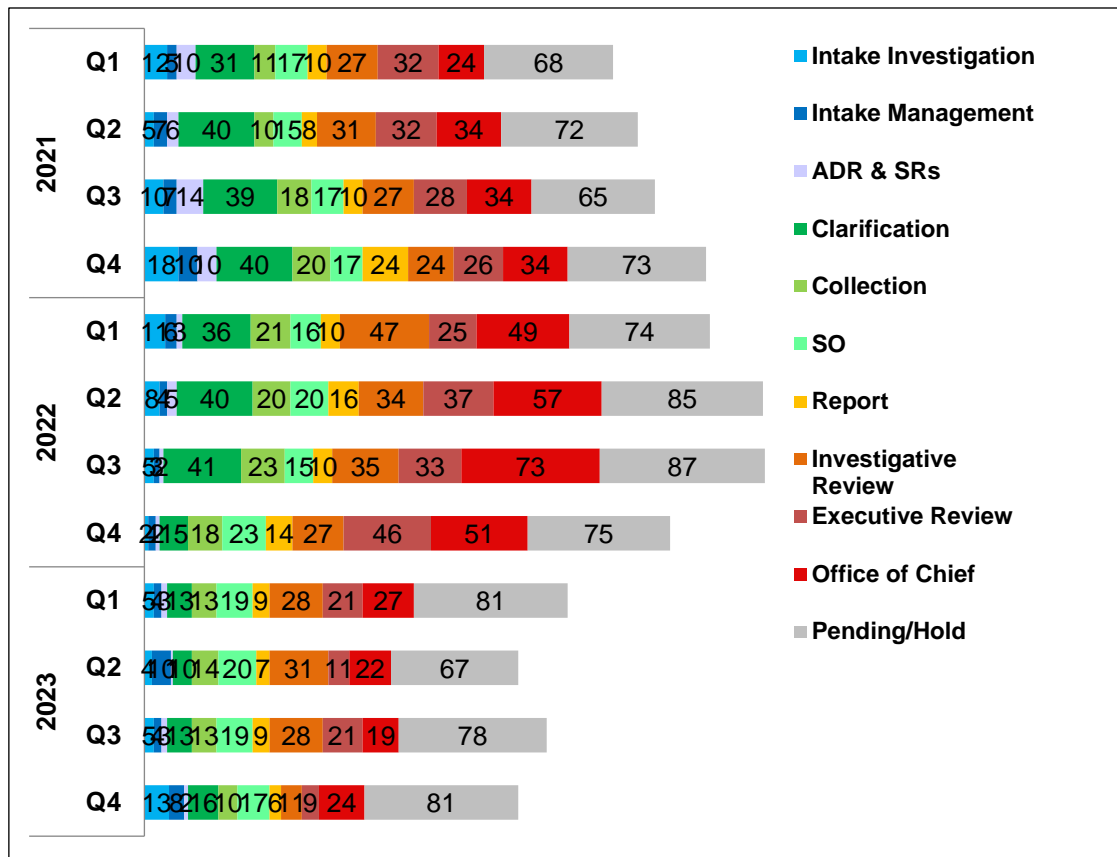
Year	Active	Forwarded	Suspended	Total
2018	0	1	4	5
2019	1	4	4	9
2020	0	5	5	10
2021	14	9	11	34
2022	16	12	16	44
2023	158	30	44	232
<b>Total</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>334</b>

Figure 3 displays the **Investigative Stages** for **formal complaints** by quarter.

- Intake / Intake Management Review / ADR
- Clarification (interviewing the complainant to determine the specific details of the complaint)
- Collection (collection of evidence and witness interviews)
- Subject Officer Interviews (explanatory reports and/or interview of the subject officer)
- Report (compiling the final report)
- Investigative Review (review and recommendations of the Investigative Manager)
- Executive Review (review and recommendations of the Inspector)
- Office of the Chief (review by the Office of the Chief and final concluding processes)

\* Investigations may also be pending other processes (e.g., dispute resolution, legal review, hearing, etc.).

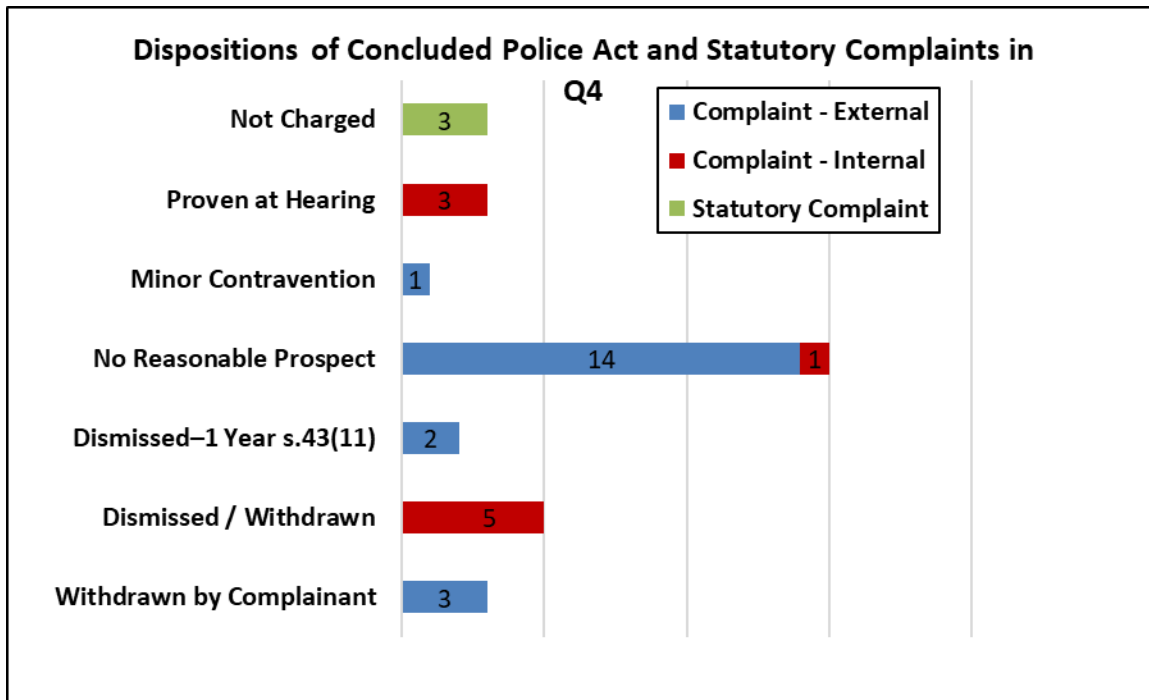
**Figure 3:** Quarterly Comparison of Complaint Stages Over Three Years



### 3. CONCLUDED FILES

Figure 4 displays the disposition of all Police Act Complaints and Statutory Complaints concluded during Q4 of 2023. Table 2 is a file comparison over three years regarding received and concluded files within PSB.

**Figure 4:** Dispositions of Concluded Police Act and Statutory Complaints in Q4



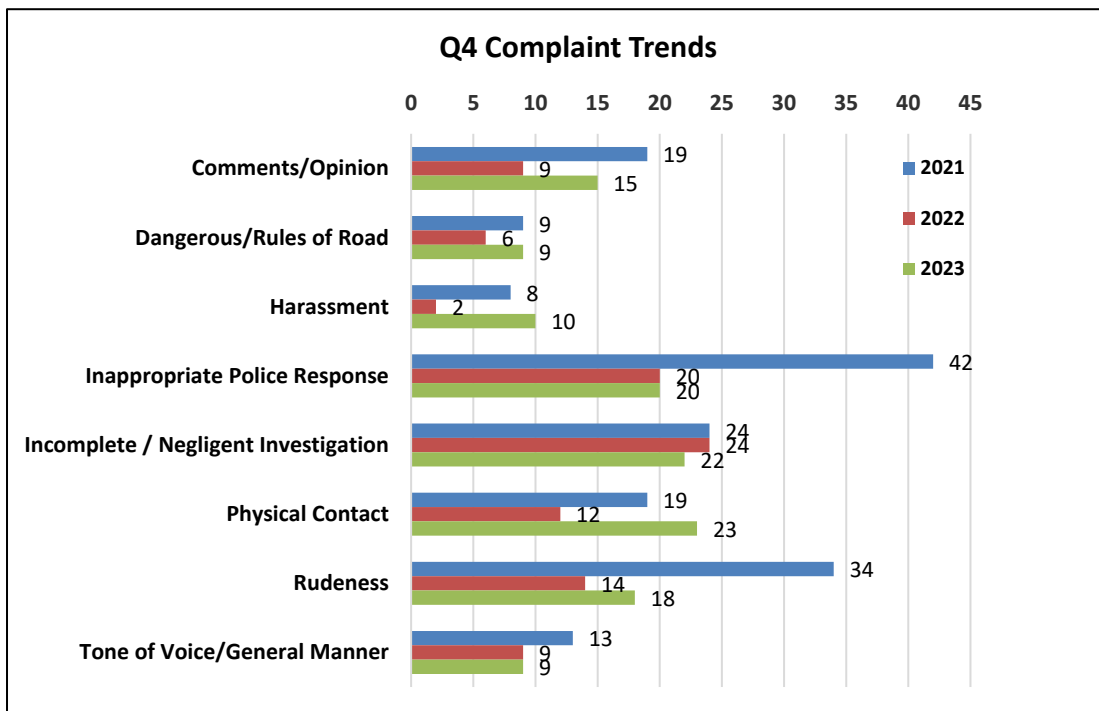
**Table 2:** Q4 File Comparison Over Three Years

	2021		2022		2023	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
<b>Received Files</b>						
<b>Public Complaints/Concerns</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>1,184</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>1,115</b>
Police Act Complaint	50	190	20	104	13	79
Citizen Contact	271	1,104	231	1,080	241	1,036
<b>Internal Matters</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>95</b>
Police Act Complaint	16	61	14	63	17	58
EPS Matter	19	80	14	69	11	37
<b>*Total</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>1,435</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>1,210</b>
<b>Concluded Files</b>						
<b>Public Complaints/Concerns</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>1,218</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>1,146</b>
Police Act Complaint	18	42	44	95	22	158
Citizen Contact	272	989	274	1,123	221	988
<b>Internal Matters</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>87</b>
Police Act Complaint	3	14	19	34	9	49
EPS Matter	14	60	16	70	12	38
<b>*Total</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>1,233</b>

**\*\*The total numbers do not include Statutory Complaints in Table 2\*\***

## 4. TRENDS

**Table 3:** Q4 Complaint Trends Over Three Years



## 5. LEGAL

**Table 4:** Disciplinary Hearings and Appeals in Q4 of 2023

<b>DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>File Number</b>
Directed	3	PSB2019-0530 PSB2021-1072 PSB2023-0715
Concluded	3	PSB2021-1072 PSB2022-0275 PSB2022-0734
<b>LERB</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>File Number</b>
Appeals Received	4	PSB2021-0974 PSB2022-0104 PSB2023-0162 PSB2023-0181
Decisions Rendered	1	PSB2021-0084
Appeals Withdrawn	0	N/A
<b>EPC APPEALS</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>File Number</b>
Appeals Received	0	N/A
Decisions Rendered	2	PCA2021-0231 PCA2023-0435
EPC Matters Ongoing	0	N/A



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## CONCLUDED DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

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1. File Number: PSB2022-0275  
Date of Complaint: March 07, 2022  
Subject Officer: Cst. Natasha Green
- Discreditable Conduct x 2

On November 03, 2023, Cst. Green plead guilty to one count of Discreditable Conduct and received a reprimand in consideration of all of the treatment the member sought to rehabilitate herself.

2. File Number: PSB2022-0734  
Date of Complaint: July 13, 2022  
Subject Officer: Cst. Dennis Rix
- Discreditable Conduct x 2

On November 03, 2023, Cst. Rix plead guilty to two counts of Discreditable Conduct and received a reprimand in consideration of the 77hr of volunteer work the member completed.

3. File Number: PSB2021-1072  
Date of Complaint: September 25, 2021  
Subject Officer: Cst. Adam Donnelly
- Discreditable Conduct x 2

On November 03, 2023, Cst. Donnelly plead guilty to one count of Discreditable Conduct and received a 40hr suspension without pay.

4. File Number: PSB2017-1148  
Date of Complaint: December 12, 2017  
Subject Officer: Cst. O'Mara
- Discreditable Conduct x 3
  - Unlawful or Unnecessary Exercise of Authority x 2
  - Insubordination x 9
- Presenting Officer: D. Cranna, Field Law LLP  
Presiding Officer: F. Kamins, Chief Supt (Rtd.)

On December 04, 2023, by way of a joint submission on penalty to the misconduct Cst. O'Mara had previously plead guilty to, including two counts of Unlawful or Unnecessary Exercise of Authority, seven counts of Insubordination and two counts of Discreditable Conduct; the member received a penalty (to commence upon the member's return to work from disability leave) a demotion in rank from 5<sup>th</sup> year Constable (Step 5) to a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Constable (Step 3) for a period of two years. During this two-year period, the member will not be eligible to enter the promotion process or take any temporary acting assignments.

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**PENDING DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS**

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1. File Number: PSB2017-1148  
Date of Complaint: December 12, 2017  
Subject Officer: Cst. C.D.
- Insubordination x 4
  - Unlawful or Unnecessary Exercise of Authority x 1
  - Discreditable Conduct x 1
  - Deceit x 2
- Presenting Officer: D. Cranna, Field Law LLP  
Presiding Officer: F. Kamins, Chief Supt (Rtd.)

Open Disciplinary Hearing is scheduled for February 06, 2024.

2. File Number: PSB2021-1073  
Date of Complaint: September 22, 2021  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.
- Discreditable Conduct x 2
- Presenting Officer: D. Cranna, Field LLP  
Presiding Officer: F. Kamins, Chief Supt (Rtd.)

Open Disciplinary Hearing is scheduled for February 06 and 07, 2024.

3. File Number: PSB2022-0920  
Date of Complaint: August 25, 2022  
Subject Officer: Sgt. A.B.
- Insubordination x 1
  - Deceit x 1

Open Disciplinary Hearing is scheduled for the weeks of April 08 and April 15, 2024.

4. File Number: PSB2018-0514  
Date of Complaint: June 11, 2018  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.
- Neglect of Duty x 3

New matter not yet scheduled.

5. File Number: PSB2021-0654  
Date of Complaint: June 10, 2021  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.
- Breach of Confidence x 1
  - Deceit x 1

New matter not yet scheduled.

6. File Number: PSB2021-0385  
Date of Complaint: March 29, 2021

Subject Officer: Sgt. A.B.  
• Insubordination x 1

New matter not yet scheduled.

7. File Number: PSB2022-0591  
Date of Complaint: June 08, 2022  
Subject Officer: Sgt. A.B.  
• Discreditable Conduct x 2

New matter not yet scheduled.

8. File Number: PSB2021-1387/PSB2020-0113  
Date of Complaint: December 20, 2021/February 07, 2020  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.  
• Neglect of Duty x 1  
• Deceit x 1

New matter not yet scheduled.

9. File Number: PSB2022-1261  
Date of Complaint: December 20, 2022  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.  
• Discreditable Conduct x 4  
• Neglect of Duty x 3  
• Deceit x 1

New matter not yet scheduled.

10. File Number: PSB2017-0777  
Date of Complaint: June 17, 2018  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.  
• Unlawful or Unnecessary Exercise of Authority x 1

New matter not yet scheduled.

11. File Number: PSB2022-0603  
Date of Complaint: June 23, 2022  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.  
• Insubordination x 2  
• Breach of Confidence x 1  
• Discreditable Conduct x 1  
• Deceit x 1

New matter not yet scheduled.

12. File Number: PSB2023-0715  
Date of Complaint: July 31, 2023  
Subject Officer: Cst. A.B.

- Discreditable Conduct x 2

New matter not yet scheduled.

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**COMPLETED COMPLAINTS OF SERVICE**  
(Section 44 *Police Act*)

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There was three (3) Complaint of Service under Section 44 of the *Police Act* that were resolved or concluded during the fourth quarter from October 01, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

1. Concluded by the Chief  
File Number: PSB2020-1054  
Date of Complaint: December 04, 2020  
Investigator: Detective Derek Onysko

Summary

On December 04, 2020, Professional Standards Branch received a written letter of complaint alleging that the EPS should not have allowed a Cst to be working a special event where a member of the public was arrested, due to discipline of the member that happened two years prior. It was determined that the Cst had no duty restrictions on December 04, 2020, that would not allow them to be working the special event as per an evaluation of the officer by EPS Human Resources Division.

On November 03, 2023, the Chief concluded this file with no requirement for the EPS to create or amend current policy and procedures.

2. Concluded by the Chief  
File Number: PSB2021-0908  
Date of Complaint: August 12, 2021  
Investigator: Detective Colin Simpson

Summary

On August 12, 2021, Professional Standards Branch received a written letter of complaint regarding an incident on November 24, 2020, where tactical Section used force to arrest a suspect, the summary of the complaint of service is that because the officers knew they were going to use force for the planned arrest of the suspect, the arrest should have been recorded on video. At the time and currently there is no policy requiring Tactical section or any other member to video record an arrest if there is a potential for use of force. That being said, the EPS is cognizant of the value of video recording interactions the police have with the public. In March 2023, the provincial government directed the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police to work with police services on implementing body-worn cameras (BWC). In July 2023, the EPS started the trial implementation of BWC systems with select units. The trial will allow EPS to assess the operational impacts of the cameras and to help identify gaps and improvements in policy and process before rolling them out to the rest of the service. As this project is currently ongoing with policies and procedures being drafted, On December 04, 2023, the Chief concluded this file with no requirement for the EPS to create or amend current policy and procedures.

3. Concluded by the Chief  
File Number: PSB2021-0914  
Date of Complaint: November 16, 2021  
Investigator: Detective Colin Simpson

Summary

On November 16, 2021, Professional Standards Branch received a written letter of complaint alleging that the complainant was not provided with a mask while in Downtown holding cells as per COVID protocols. It was determined that the complainant did not request a mask, at the time of arrest the recommendation was that in public reception areas the public will not be required to wear face coverings, but masks will be encouraged and should be available for those that prefer to wear one. While members may not have offered the complainant a face mask to wear there was no evidence that he was denied a face mask upon request.

On December 04, 2023, the Chief concluded this file with no requirement for the EPS to create or amend current policy and procedures.

## COMPLIMENTS

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During Q4 of 2023, twelve (12) letter of appreciation were officially entered by the Edmonton Police Service. Professional Standards Branch would like to present four (4) letters.

**SUBJECT:** Compliments to Constable [Redacted]

**MESSAGE:** Good Afternoon

I just wanted to commend Constable [Redacted] for his thoroughness and professionalism as he supported out school in dealing with a community issue this afternoon. Constable [Redacted] demonstrated integrity, respect and a caring commitment to our community members throughout the process. The constable who was him (I don't recall his name) was also a pleasure to work with.

Sending my compliments to a terrific representative of EPS's values.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

Michael Strembitsky School

**SUBJECT:** EPS Personnel

**MESSAGE:** To whom it may concern,

I thought I would take the time and send a compliment out to the officers that helped me out with this file. People take the time to complain and not send out compliments.

It all started when I made the first call to the reporting line, The person (I apologize I did not catch the name) I talked to was very polite and professional and explained what would happen after I finished the report. This made it clear on what to expect next in the process.

A few hours later I received a call from Constable [Redacted], again very polite and professional. He wanted to get my statement at that time unfortunately I was tied up and couldn't complete this at that time. He said he would give it to the shift that started in the morning of November 1, 2023.

This morning I received a call from Cst [Redacted] at approximately 6:15 am as discussed with Cst [Redacted] the day before. Cst [Redacted] was again very polite and professional when I met up with him to give my statement. Cst [Redacted] told me he would follow up with me after he investigated the information I provided. I received a call from him in about an hour with an update and explained what would likely happen next. I know a follow up call is a small piece to the puzzle however it was important to me.

I completely understand the crime was preventable on my end, however I was never made to feel that way. This is a condensed version of what transpired; however, I believe it gets my point across. Again, I just wanted to share the positive feed back and I am truly grateful on how I was treated throughout this process.

Regards

[Redacted]

OperationsManager

**SUBJECT:** Thank you from the [Redacted] Family

**MESSAGE:** To: Edmonton Police Service

We Extend our deepest gratitude for your unwavering commitment to ensuring [Redacted] safe return. Your prompt and dedicated efforts in this harrowing situation are truly invaluable. Our family is also profoundly thankful for your role in notifying the public via amber alert and for their unwavering support and vigilance in helping locate the van and [Redacted]

Sincerely,  
[Redacted] Family

P.S. we would also like to express our appreciation and compliment the two officers (one of them is Constable [Redacted]) for their professionalism and being support to our family during the crisis.

**SUBJECT:** Compliments

**MESSAGE:** Hi I had 2 officers come to my home last night to a call out. They were from a different station as southeast was very busy and I had waited almost 2 days already. The one officer took my information and helped me write out the forms. The other noticed my door lock was broken and I had a new one out but was having trouble installing it. He offered to do it while his partner helped me. As a single lady I was so very grateful that he did that for me. Complaint done a new lock installed. They were very happy and helpful. I only have the one officers name but Im sure youll know his partner lol. Cst [Redacted].  
Wanted to let you know they went above and beyond.

Thank you,  
[Redacted]



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# Edmonton Police Service Professional Standards Branch

## **Location**

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