



Police Auditor Processing Dozens of Complaints Following Recent Demonstrations

Mark Gissiner,
Police Auditor

The Police Auditor's Office joins the Eugene community in anger and sadness following the death of George Floyd. We whole-heartedly support the movement for equitable policing across the nation.

Our office has received dozens of individual complaints concerning the Eugene Police Department's (EPD's) response to recent demonstrations. We are reviewing and processing these complaints, and we have opened investigations into the EPD response. These investigations are our top priority, and we will work to keep you updated as to their progress.

Leia Pitcher,
Deputy Police
Auditor

The specific incidents that our office has received the most complaints about are below:

- EPD response to journalists on scene after the curfew
- Apparent throwing of a tear gas canister towards a member of the media
- Use of aerosol deterrents and projectiles (sponge rounds)

Beatriz Otero-
Hernandez,
Community
Engagement
Coordinator

Our office will participate in the investigations of EPD's response to ensure the investigations are thorough, unbiased, and complete. We will bring transparency and accountability to these investigations to the fullest extent permitted under Oregon state law. We are consulting with the Civilian Review Board leadership to determine whether designation as a community impact case is an appropriate step.

Eugene is fortunate to have a robust civilian oversight system, including our office to investigate complaints, the Civilian Review Board's oversight of our office, and the Police Commission's input into EPD policies. We urge the public to utilize the oversight system to address their concerns. We are confident in the ability of our oversight systems to help our community through these difficult times, to a better and more equitable future.

Vicki Cox,
Senior
Program
Coordinator

We encourage the community to continue filing complaints. Our office is still closed to walk-in traffic due to the COVID crisis, but we will continue to take complaints by phone, our website, email, and/or social media. If you have video that you think may be useful, please include a link to it.

Thank you for your assistance in these important matters.