

Annual Major Discipline Reporting Form
Internal Affairs Policy & Procedures | Appendix L

Pursuant to Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2023-14, every state, county, and local law enforcement agency in New Jersey is required to submit to the Attorney General and the County Prosecutor, and publish on the agency's public website, a brief synopsis of all complaints where a termination, reduction in rank or grade, and/or suspension of more than five days, as well as sustained findings listed in the above directive, regardless of the type or severity of discipline imposed, was assessed to an agency member. For the purposes of this report, please include all major disciplines in which a plea agreement was reached or final sanction was imposed during the time period listed below. In addition, include all discipline from earlier years which has been on appeal, the final appeal was resolved during 2023, and the discipline remains in one of the enumerated categories. Instructions for completing this form can be found on the "Instructions" tab of the Excel version of this document.

Time period
County
Agency

January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023
Ocean
Ocean Co Prosecutors Office

← Select County from dropdown menu here
← Select Agency from dropdown menu here

No.	Disciplined Officer			Sanction				Resigned, retired, transferred, or separated while IA Pending	Synopsis	
	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Terminated?	Demoted?	Suspended?	# Days Susp.		Sustained Charge	Description
1	Detective	Michael	Proto	No	No	Yes	180	No	Conduct Unbecoming - The commission of any specific act or acts of immoral, improper, disorderly or intemperate personal conduct which reflects discredit upon the employee themselves, their fellow employees, or upon the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office.	On July 29, 2022, a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) was issued against Det. Michael Proto. Detective Proto violated that order by contacting the victim and was subsequently charged with contempt of the judge's order. Subsequently, the criminal charge for violating the order was dismissed however, an administrative charge for violating the OCPO policy for Conduct Unbecoming was sustained.
2	Sergeant	Melissa	Rose	No	No	Yes	8	No	Conduct Unbecoming - The commission of any specific act or acts of immoral, improper, disorderly or intemperate personal conduct which reflects discredit upon the employee themselves, their fellow employees, or upon the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office.	"On July 4, 2023, Sgt. Melissa Rose was involved in a dispute in Lacey Township, NJ. LTPD Officers responded to the scene and identified Sgt. Rose as an involved person. During LTPD's investigation, it was determined that she was not at-fault in the matter but her behavior toward the officers was unprofessional in that she was uncooperative, dismissive and behaved inconsistent with the officers' lawful requests. As a result, an administrative charge for violating the OCPO policy for Conduct Unbecoming was sustained."
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For Sustained Charge(s), regardless of the type or severity of discipline imposed, please use A SHORT HAND description like the below, rather than a statute or ordinance:

-Discrimination or bias: Discrimination or Bias against any person b/c of the individual's actual or perceived race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, sex, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, familial status, or any other protected characteristic under N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq.

-Excessive Force: Officer utilized excessive force

-Untruthful/Candor: Officer was untruthful or has demonstrated a lack of candor

-False Report: Officer has filed a false report or submitted a false certification in any criminal, administrative, employment, financial, or insurance matter in their professional or personal life

-Improper Search, Seizure, Arrest: Officer intentionally conducted an improper search, seizure or arrest

-Evidence Mishandling: Officer intentionally mishandled or destroyed evidence

-Domestic Violence: Domestic violence, as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:25-19

-Indictable Offense: Officer was charged with any indictable crime under New Jersey or an equivalent offense under federal law or the law of another jurisdiction related to the complaint

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