

Memorandum

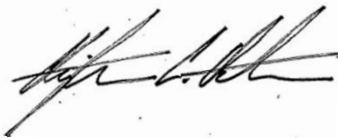
To: Chief Sean Whent
From: Office of Inspector General
Date: May 15, 2015
Subject: Vehicle/Walking Stops, Field Investigation and Detentions – Contracted Audit

In order to meet or exceed quantitative mandates set forth by Department policy, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) secured agreement with Elite Performance Assessment Consultants, LLC (EPAC), a contracted external consulting firm, to assess the Oakland Police Department's adherence to established policies pertaining to field investigations and detentions. Specifically, we asked that EPAC review, audit and assess our compliance with policies requiring that "Stop Data" be appropriately collected and reported.

To conduct the audit, EPAC reviewed sets of data pertaining to all known vehicle and walking stops, field investigation reports and citations occurring from October 2014 through December 2014.

Although this audit resulted in assurance that officers are collecting and entering data as required by policy, it did not review and assess the context and circumstances of each contact. Investigative detentions, traffic stops, arrests, searches and property seizures by officers are required to be based on standards of reasonable suspicion or probable cause in accordance with the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and officers are required to articulate specific facts and circumstances supporting reasonable suspicion or probable cause within appropriate reports.

Recognizing that we lose public trust and diminish our effectiveness whenever public safety practices are - or are perceived to be - arbitrary, future OIG inspection will necessarily include relevant assessments not only pertaining to processes of documentation but to the lawfulness of reviewed contacts as well.



Christopher C. Bolton
Lieutenant of Police
Office of Inspector General