# Policy

It is the policy of the USF St. Petersburg Police Department to investigate all complaints against the department or its employees. This ensures the integrity of the Department while protecting the rights and interests of both citizens and departmental employees.

We view all complaints against police employees very seriously and actively pursue investigations into misconduct. For this reason, you must ensure that your complaint is based on fact and you have provided us with all of the facts to the best of your ability.

## **Complaint Procedure**

In most cases, the member's supervisor will be charged with investigating the complaint and recommending one of the following dispositions:

- <u>Sustained-</u> there is substantial evidence to prove the allegation.
- <u>Not Sustained-</u> there is insufficient proof to prove or disprove the allegation.

<u>Unfounded-</u> the allegation is false.

Exonerated- the incident occurred but was lawful and proper.

<u>Not Involved</u>-The investigation established that the employee named in the complaint was not involved in the alleged incident.

For allegations of serious misconduct, an internal affairs investigator may be assigned.

If the complaint is sustained, disciplinary action may consist of counseling, oral reprimand, written reprimand, suspension, or termination

If your complaint was not filed anonymously, you may be notified once the investigation is complete. You will be advised of the finding and action taken; however you will not be told specific information that would violate the employee's right to privacy.

# Commendation

If a USFSP PD employee has provided you with a positive experience, we would appreciate hearing from you.

### **Common Questions**

# How do I make a commendation or complaint?

Commendations and Complaints may be made in person, by telephone, electronic mail, or email. Forms can be found at the police department or online at <a href="http://www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/police/about/commendation-and-concern.aspx">www.stpetersburg.usf.edu/police/about/commendation-and-concern.aspx</a>

#### Who can make a complaint?

Any person who witnesses, or has direct knowledge of, police misconduct may file a complaint.

#### Can I make a complaint anonymously?

You may make an anonymous complaint, however it may be difficult to investigate the allegation without being able to contact you.

#### When should I file a complaint?

You should contact the Department as soon as practical whenever you witness behavior by any Department member which is a violation of city, state or federal law, involves excessive use of force, or involves discourteous or abusive treatment.

#### Will my complaint be investigated?

Each complaint is read and assigned by the Chief of Police, and will be completely and thoroughly investigated.



USFS

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Police

Department

530 3<sup>rd</sup> Street South

St. Petersburg, FL 33701



Commendation or Compliant Summary Form

We are a professional state law enforcement agency and are here to serve the campus community as well as protect it. USFSP PD officers and employees are held to the highest standards of their profession and we welcome any compliment or concerns regarding our performance. This completed form will be forwarded to the appropriate supervisor for investigation. If your concern requires immediate attention, please call our office directly at (727) 873-4444. We are available 24 hours a day for assistance.

#### Citizen Contact Information

Name:	Today's I	Today's Date:		_ □ I wish to remain anonymous	
Address:					
	Phone Number:				
USF Student	USF Parent/Guardian	USF Employee	□ Non-US	F Affiliate/Citizen	
Witness Information	on				
Name:	Phone Number:				
Address:					
Name:	Phone Number:				
Address:					
Incident Information	on:				
Reason for Contact	: Commendation/Complime	ent 🛛 Compla	int/Concern	□ Other	
Date of Incident:	Time of Incident:	Location of I	ncident:		
Police Employee's	Name/ID Number:				
Police Employee's	Name/ID Number:				
Brief Summary of Ir	ncident:				

Departmental Use Only				
Received By:	ID Number:	QSA Number:		
Investigator Assigned:	ID Number:	Compliant Number:		