

Oakland School Police Department

Memorandum

TO: Board of Education Directors
FROM: Chief James Williams
DATE: 14 Aug 2013
RE: Summary of Internal Affairs Complaints January-June 2013

From January to June of 2013 the Police Department conducted three (3) Internal Affairs Investigations. The Department initiated one of the investigations, and two were complaints by citizens. The following is a brief summary of the Internal Affairs Complaints investigated:

1. OSPD IAD # 13-001

Complainant:

OSPD
Claremont Middle School Parent

Subject:

School Security Officer

Background:

On February 22, 2013, at about 1115 hrs, a SSO was on duty and called to the playground area on a report of two female students involved in a fight. Once the SSO reached the area the fight had initially stopped, but then started again. The two students were separated again and the SSO tried various de-escalation methods to calm one of the female students down, but she kept attempting to break free and get to the other girl. The SSO then handcuffed the student and escorted her to the office.

The student's parent filed a complaint that her daughter was handcuffed by the SSO and treated unfairly for defending herself. An investigation was conducted by the department and the complaint against the School Security Officer was **UNFOUNDED**.

2. OSPD IAD # 13-002

Complainant:

OSPD

Castlemont HS Parent

Subject:

School Security Officer

Background:

On March 4, 2013 the District received a complaint regarding an incident that took place on December 13, 2012, at the Castlemont campus involving a SSO breaking up a fight. During the fight a SSO was assaulted by one of the combatants and another student. The police were summoned and both students were arrested and charged with battery on a school employee. During the incident the SSO was alleged to have grabbed the student by the clothing, displayed a hostile manner, and was verbally abusive.

An investigation was conducted by the department and the School Security Officer was found **NOT SUSTAINED**.

3. OSPD IAD # 13-003

Complainant:

OSPD

Subject(s):

School Security Officer

Background:

On March 12, 2013, a School Security Officer at Hillside Academy observed a student pick up a large tree root and swing it in a hostile manner. The SSO attempted to use verbal persuasion to get the student to drop the root to no avail. The SSO then used physical force to grab the root and remove it from the student. It was alleged that during the struggle to obtain the tree root, that the SSO used offensive and abusive conduct and may have intentionally struck the student with the tree root.

An investigation was conducted by the department and the School Security Officer was found **SUSTAINED** for offensive or abusive conduct, and was **NOT SUSTAINED** for intentionally striking the student.

In an effort to increase the training and professionalism of our School Security Officers the School Security Officers II's were sent to an 8 hour training class called "How to Communicate with Tact and Skill" in June.