

Manuel Morales  
Chief of Police

January 23, 2024

Internal Affairs Section-2023  
Annual Analysis Complaint Report

Major Antonio Diaz  
Commander  
Internal Affairs Section

CALEA 1.2.9 D, 1.3.13  
35.1.9 A, C, 52.1.3, 5.1.5

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION**  
**ANNUAL ANALYSIS COMPLAINT REPORT**  
**2023**

The Internal Affairs Section is responsible for safeguarding the integrity of the City of Miami, the Miami Police Department, and the rights of all citizens within the area of jurisdictional responsibility of the City of Miami Police Department.

Once a complaint is received, is forwarded to the Internal Affairs Section to be processed and classified. Once classified, the complaint may be forwarded to the appropriate division for investigation. The Internal Affairs Section will monitor all investigations. If a crime has been alleged, the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office will be contacted to determine if criminal charges should be filed. The complainant will be notified via certified letter as to who will be responsible for the investigation.

During the investigation, statements will be taken from the complainant, witnesses and the subject employee(s). All reasonable leads will be investigated. Employee investigations remain confidential until finalized. No participant including complainants, subject employees, investigators, and/or witnesses will disclose any information regarding the investigation until the conclusion of the investigation. The complexity of the case will determine the amount of time needed to complete the investigation.

This report consists of an annual analysis of the complaints for the year of 2023 and is divided into five parts (5) categories, as follows:

**Section I** - *Citizen complaints.*

**Section II** - *A breakdown of allegations.*

**Section III** - *A breakdown of the investigation findings.*

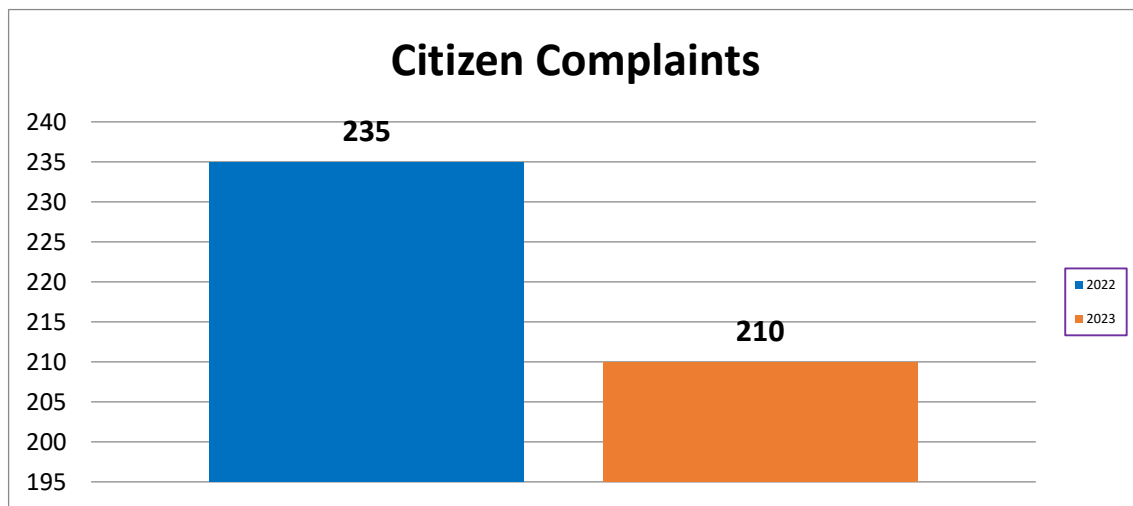
**Section IV** - *A breakdown of complaints by N.E.T areas.*

**Section V** - *Conclusion.*

## Section I

A citizen can file a formal complaint by letter, telephone, GovQA, or in person at any of the District stations. The complaint can be taken by any police supervisor, made directly to the Internal Affairs Section, or made to the Civilian Investigative Panel (CIP). All complaints against employees of the Miami Police Department are investigated or documented.

In 2023, there were **210** citizen complaints received, compared to 235 in 2022, which represents a **11% decrease**.



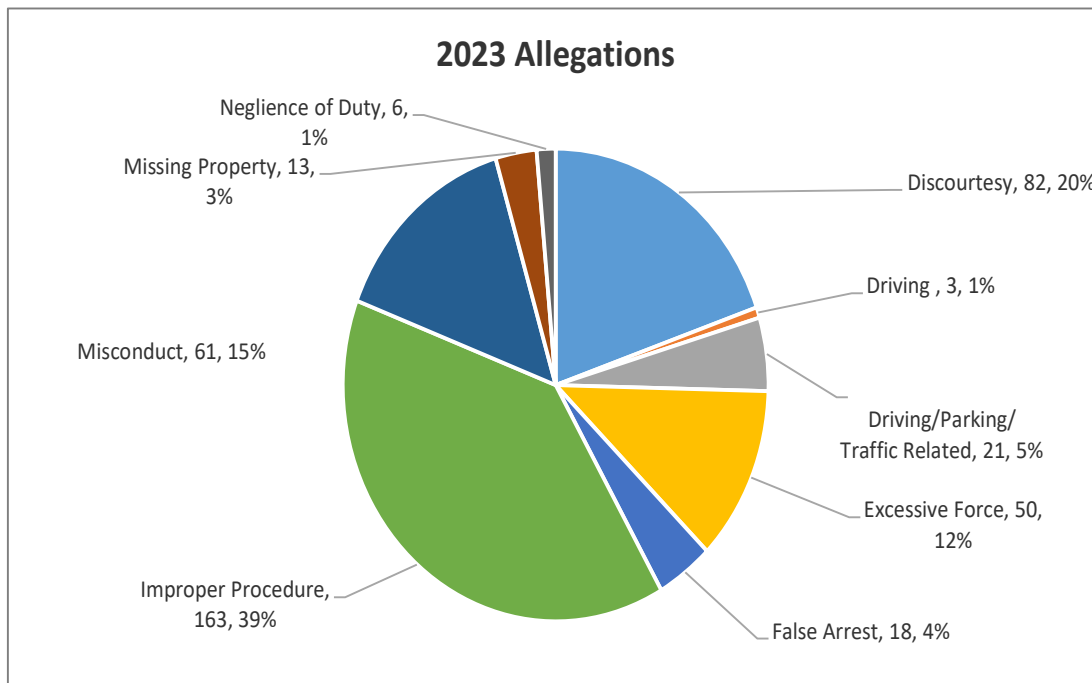
## Section II

**Allegations defined:** A brief synopsis of the relevant facts and the specific acts complained of to include who, what, when and where.

It is the policy of the Miami Police Department to provide police services that are fair, unbiased, judicious, and respectful of the dignity of all individuals. The department's legitimate objective to protect the public by enforcing the law shall be reached through enforcement actions towards individuals, which are not based solely upon that individual's race, ethnicity, gender or national origin. These actions include, but are not limited to, vehicle stops, stop and frisk of an individual, arrests, searches and seizures, the application of force, and the initiation of forfeiture proceedings. Bias based profiling is a violation of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and it is illegal. The Miami Police Department strictly prohibits the use of bias based profiling by its members.

There were no complaints with an allegation of "bias based profiling" against any City of Miami Police Officers during the calendar year 2023.

The number of allegations were **415**. Because a complaint may contain multiple allegations lodged against one (1) or multiple officers, the number of allegations will always be higher than the total number of complaints received in a year. The following charts depict the total number of allegations received in 2023.



\*The numbers represent citizen complaint allegations received during 2023. Once the investigation is completed, the number of allegations may change.

### **Section III**

Once the investigation is completed, the complainant will be notified via certified letter as to the result of the investigation. The results of all complaints are called findings. The possible findings are listed below:

**Exonerated**– The investigation clearly and factually shows that the alleged complaint(s) did not occur;

**Or** the investigation clearly and factually shows that the alleged complaint(s) did not constitute any violation of policy, orders, or laws and the employee(s) are exonerated;

**Or** the investigation clearly and factually shows that the employee(s) used necessary force in accordance with policy, orders, and law and their action(s) are justified.

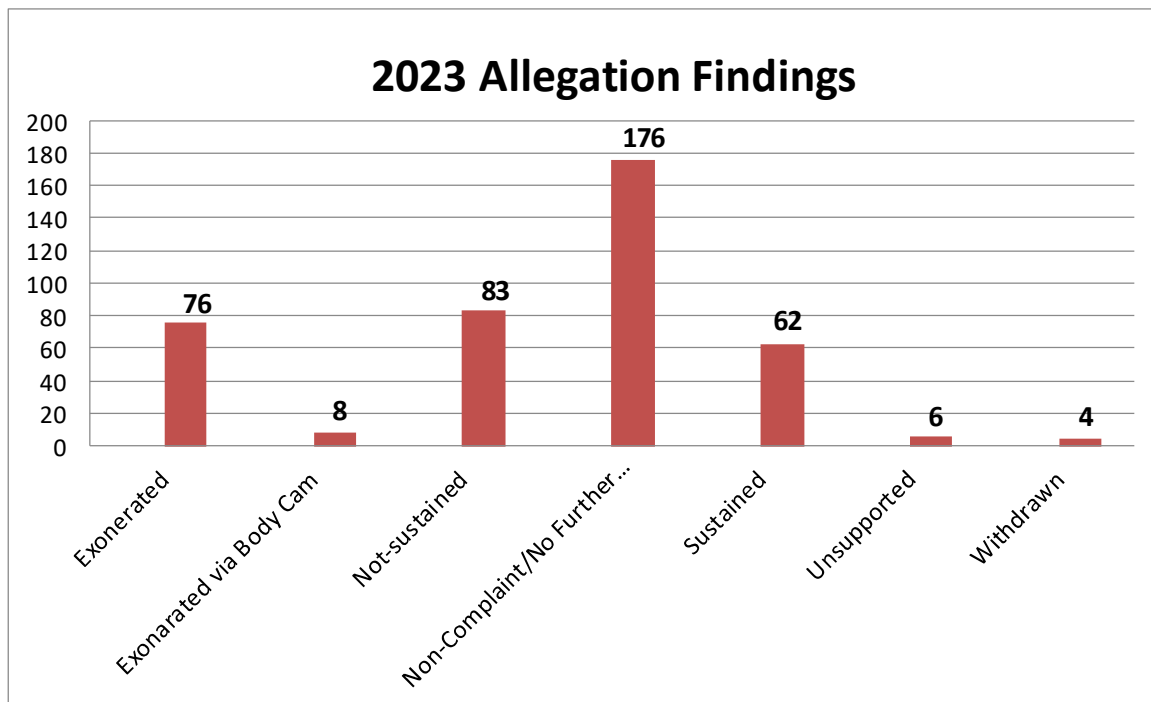
**Not Sustained** – The investigation cannot clearly and factually show that the alleged complaint(s) occurred and the investigation cannot clearly and factually show that the alleged complaint(s) did not occur.

**Sustained** – The investigation clearly and factually shows that the alleged complaint(s) constitute violations of policy, orders and/or law.

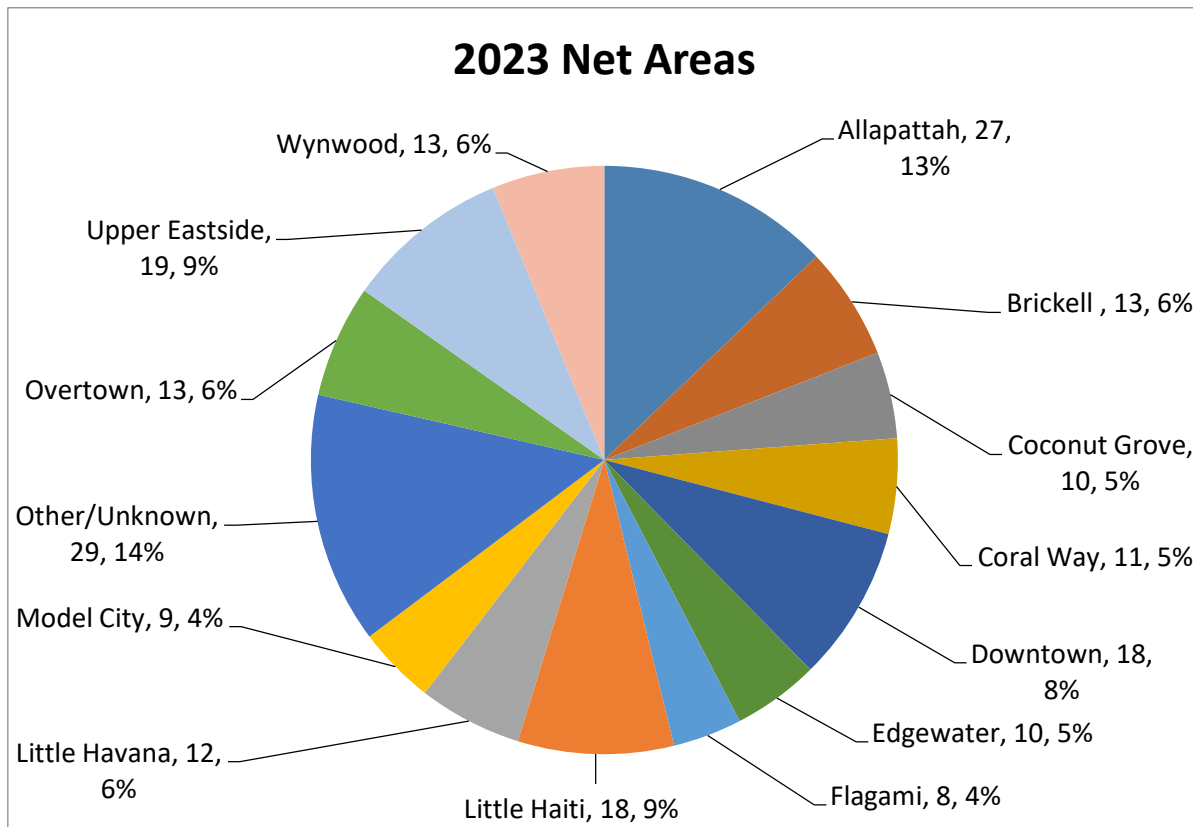
**Unsupported** – A complaint has been filed. An investigation cannot proceed due to insufficient information and/or the complainant cannot be contacted. The case may be reopened at a future date, when new or additional information is received.

**Withdrawn** – Complainant voluntarily elected to withdraw his/her complaint.

Finding may include cases received in prior year(s) and completed in 2023.



**Section IV**



**Section V**

The number of complaints decreased by **11%** from the previous year. There was a 100% decrease in allegations of bias-based profiling, while increases were noted in allegations of excessive force and misconduct (43% and 45%). Although thirty-nine (39) percent of the allegations received in 2023 were for improper procedure, there was a decrease when compared to the same allegation in 2022.

AD:ed