



# DENVER

THE MILE HIGH CITY

## Denver Police and Sheriff Departments

Police Headquarters - 1331 Cherokee St.  
District 1 Station - 1311 W. 46th Ave.  
District 2 Station - 3921 N. Holly St.  
District 3 Station - 1625 S. University Blvd.  
District 4 Station - 2100 S. Clay St  
District 5 Station - 4685 Peoria St.  
District 6 Station - 1566 Washington St.  
City Jail- (PADF) - 1351 Cherokee St.  
County Jail - 10500 E. Smith Road

## Courts, City & County Building, 1437 Bannock St.

District Court- Criminal - Civil & Domestic Rm. 256  
Denver Municipal Court - Traffic Division, Rm. 109  
Denver Municipal Court - General Sessions Rm. 140

## Other sites:

Safe City Kids Office - 303 W. Colfax Ave., 10th Floor

# APPENDIX A

## COMPLAINT/COMMENDATION FORM DISTRIBUTION SITES

### City Council Offices

City Council Office  
City and County Building, Rm. 451

City Councilman Rick Garcia  
2727 Bryant St., Ste. 200

City Councilwoman Jeanne Faatz  
3100 S. Sheridan Blvd., Unit D

City Councilman Paul D. López  
4200 Morrison Rd., Unit 7

City Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann  
3540 S. Poplar St., Ste. 102

City Councilwoman Marcia Johnson  
6740 E. Colfax Ave.

City Councilman Charlie Brown  
2324 E. Exposition Ave.

City Councilwoman Carla Madison  
2713 Welton St.

City Councilwoman Judy Montero  
3457 Ringsby Court, #215

City Councilwoman Jeanne Robb  
1232 E. Colfax Ave.

City Councilman Michael Hancock  
4760 Oakland St., Suite 175



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## **APPENDIX B**

# CITIZEN OVERSIGHT BOARD AND MEETINGS

## CITIZEN OVERSIGHT BOARD (COB)

The COB will assess the effectiveness of the Monitor's Office; make policy level recommendations regarding discipline, use of force, and other policies; rules; hiring; training; community relations; and the complaint process; address any other issues of concern to the community; members of the board, the monitor, the Manager of Safety, the Chief of Police, the Undersheriff, or the Fire Chief.

2008 members:

Rev. Paul Burleson  
Rabbi Steven Foster  
Sam Freeman  
Henry "Hank" Knoche  
David Montez  
Anthony Navarro  
Cathy Reynolds

The Citizen Oversight Board holds its regularly scheduled twice-monthly meetings on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Webb Building on the 12th floor. The meetings are open meetings with the possibility that certain matters will involve an executive session.

### 2008 COB quarterly meetings

The dates for meeting with the Manager of Safety, Chief of Police, Undersheriff and Fire Chief in 2008 were:

January 24, 2008  
College View Recreation Center - (Police District 4)

April 24, 2008  
Temple Sinai - (Police District 3)

July 24, 2008  
Stapleton Recreation Center - (Police District 2)

October 23, 2008  
Community Room, Councilman Garcia's office - (Police District 1)

All Citizen Oversight Board Meetings are Thursday evenings from 7-9 p.m.



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## APPENDIX C

2008 BUDGET

### OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT MONITOR 2008 BUDGET

|                           |           |                |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| PERSONNEL COSTS           | \$        | 584,149        |
| INTERNAL COSTS            | \$        | 21,999         |
| EXTERNAL COSTS            | \$        | 48,352         |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>654,500</b> |



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## **APPENDIX D**

# COMPLAINT HANDLING AND DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

## PROCESS APPENDIX

### **Findings for Investigations**

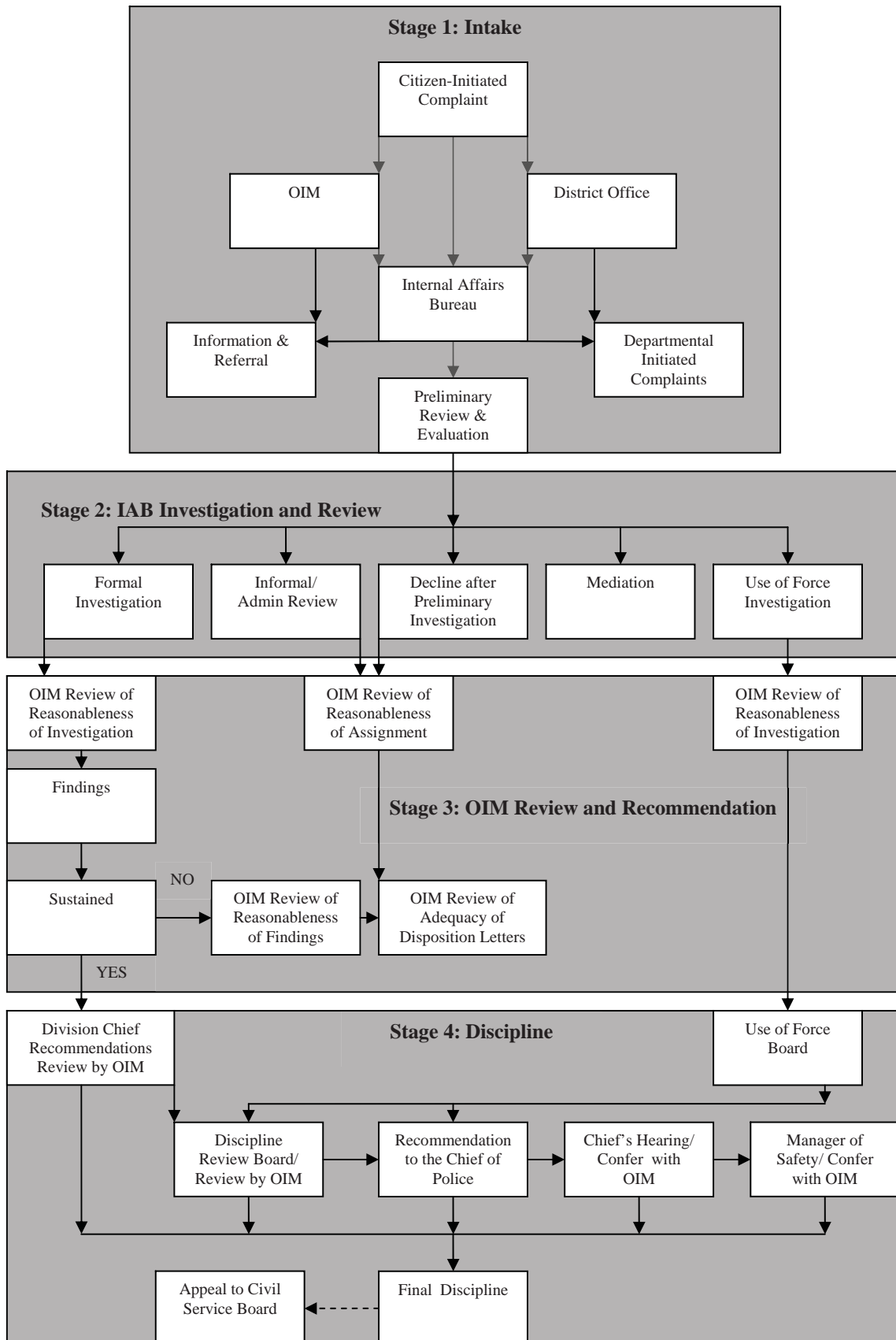
**Unfounded** — The investigation indicates that the subject officer's alleged actions relating to Police Department policy, procedure, rule, regulation or directive in question did not occur.

**Exonerated** — The investigation indicates that the alleged actions of the subject officer were within the policies, procedures, rules, regulations and directives of the Police Department.

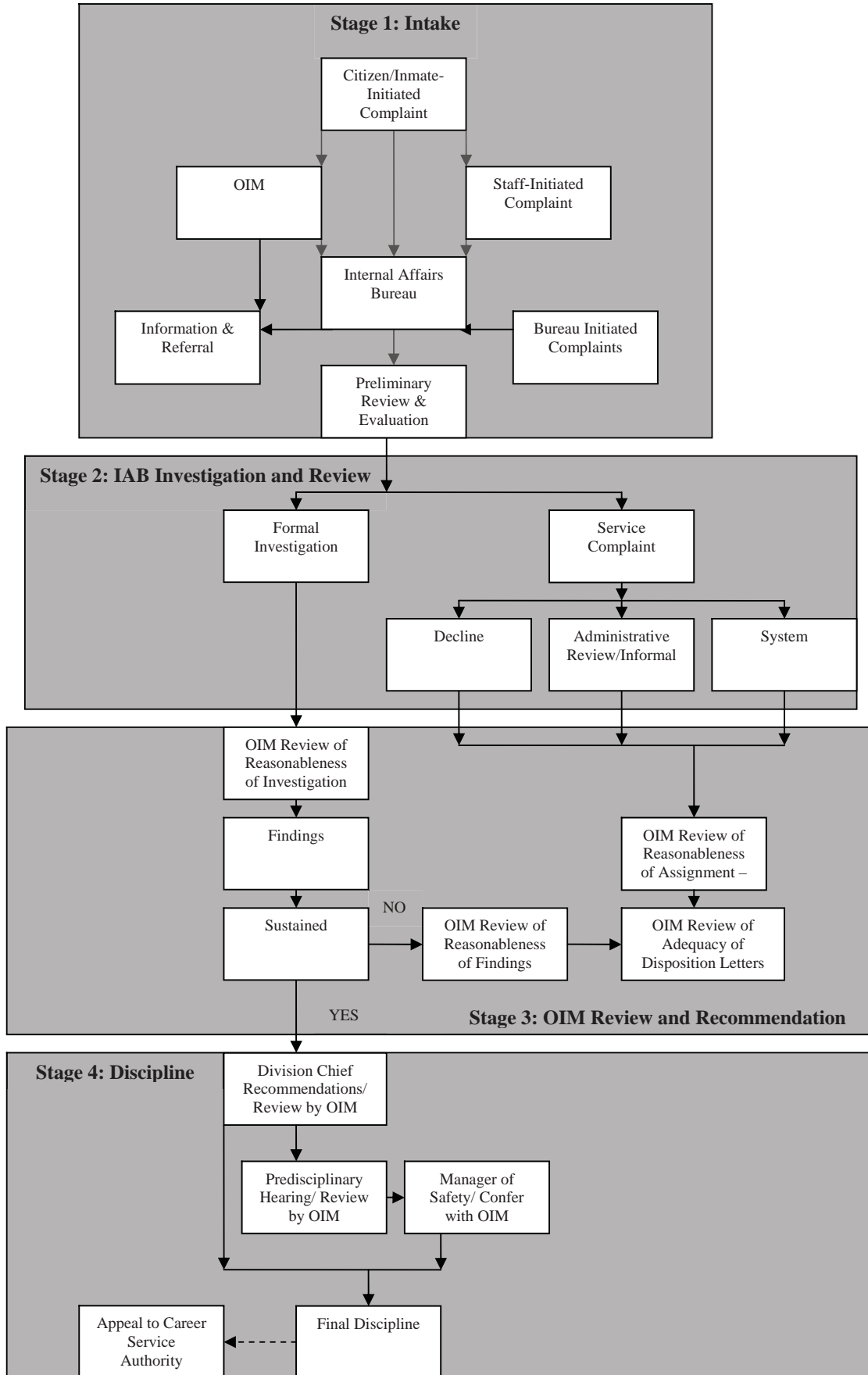
**Not Sustained** — There was insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.

**Sustained** — The subject officer's actions were found, by a preponderance of the evidence, to have been in violation of Police Department policy, procedure, rule, regulation, or directive in question.

# DPD - OIM Process



# DSD - OIM Process





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# APPENDIX E

## TIMELINESS DPD

## APPENDIX E

### Performance Measures—Police Department

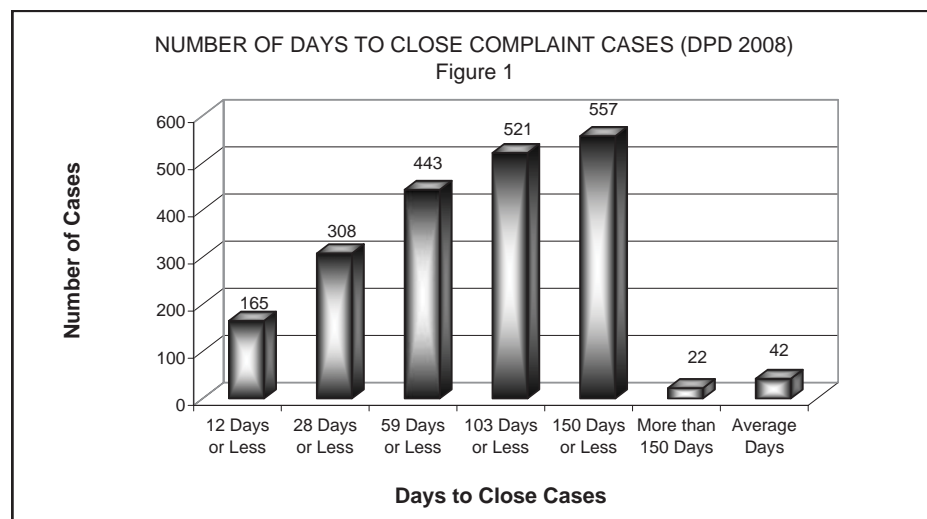
Timeliness of complaint investigations is one of the most critical elements of an effective complaint system. Delays can reduce the quality of investigations, discourage complainants, and frustrate officers with cases pending. Therefore, in an effort to monitor and reduce the amount of time that it takes to resolve citizen complaints, OIM has established a set of timeliness performance goals for each stage of the complaint process. This section reports on the timeliness of the individual stages of the complaint handling process.

#### Performance Goal for Closing All Complaints

Goal: Complete all complaints within 150 days of the complaint being received.

Parameters: All Citizen/Internal cases received and closed in 2008. This goal is only for citizen and internal complaint cases, not scheduled discipline cases. Additionally, citizen complaints that were scheduled for mediation were excluded from the analysis, as were cases involving law violations. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and case closed date.

Approximately 96% of the cases were closed in 150 days or less. On average, cases were closed in 43 days. However, 22 cases (roughly 4%) took over 150 days to close.

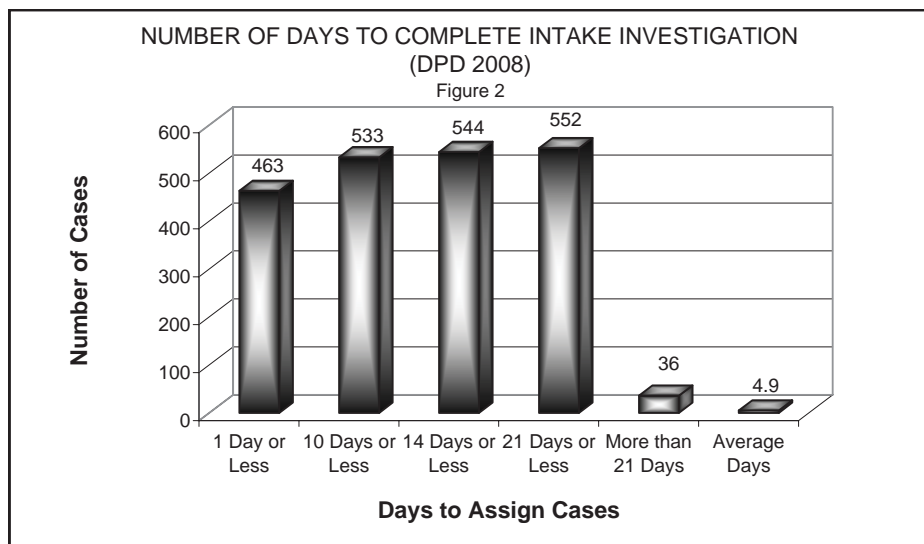


#### Performance Goal for Intake Investigation

Goal: Complete 60% of intake investigations within 14 calendar days of the complaint being received and 90% within 21 calendar days.

Parameters: All cases received in 2008 and had a valid IAB case assignment date. This analysis only includes those cases that were assigned as formal, informal, or service complaint cases. Declines were excluded from the analysis due to data collection limitations. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and case assigned date.

As shown in Figure 2, DPD met the intake investigation goal. Specifically, 79% of intake investigations were completed in one day or less. Ninety-four percent of cases were assigned within 21 days. There were 36 cases that took longer than 21 days to assign which accounts for only 6% of the total intake investigations completed in 2008.



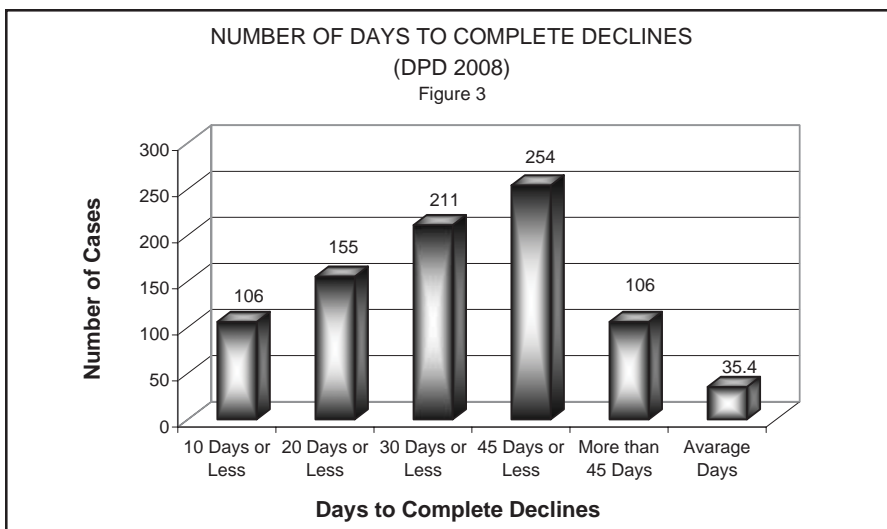
**Performance Goal for Declines**

Goal: Complete 75% of all declines within 30 calendar days of receiving the complaint and 95% within 45 days.

Parameters: All cases received and closed in 2008 that were assigned as declines excluding cases assigned to mediation. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and case closed date.

Over 200 cases were closed in 30 days or less; however, this only represents 59% of the total cases that were declined. The percent of cases closed in 45 days or less was 71% with 29% of the cases taking longer than 45 days to close.

Neither of DPD’s goals at the 75<sup>th</sup> or 95<sup>th</sup> percentile were achieved.



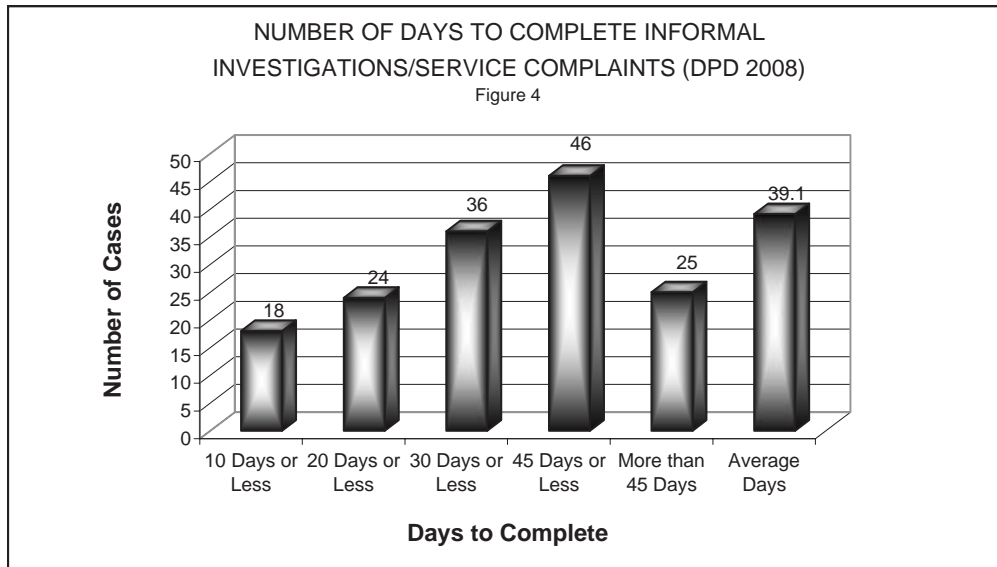
## Performance Goals for Completion of Informal Investigations / Service Complaints

Goal: Complete 75% of all informal investigations/service complaints within 30 calendar days from receiving the complaint and 100% within 45 days.

Parameters: All Informal and Service Complaint cases received and closed in 2008. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and case closed date.

Approximately 51% of these cases were closed in 30 days or less and 65% were closed in 45 days or less. Twenty-five cases (35%) took longer than 45 days to close.

DPD did not achieve their goals at either the 75<sup>th</sup> or 100<sup>th</sup> percentile.



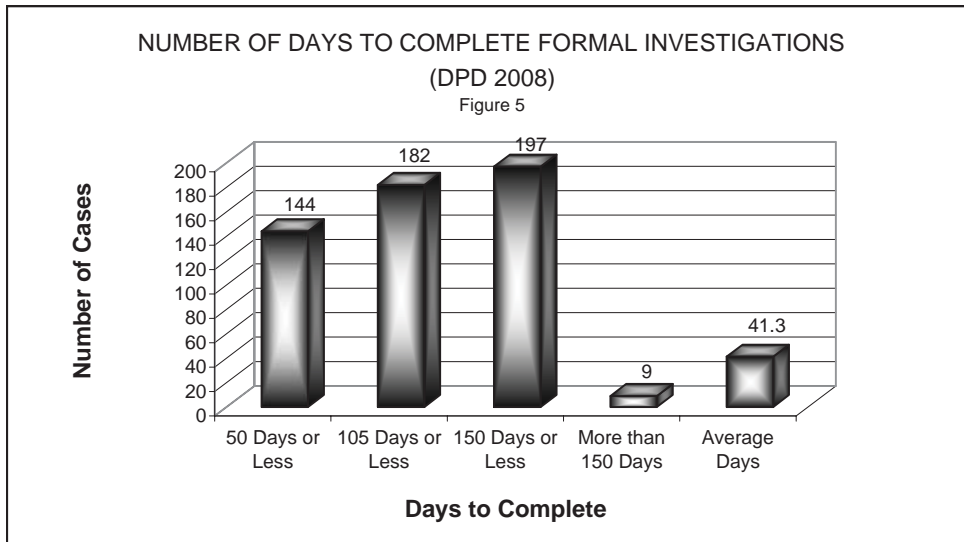
## Performance Goal for Completion of Full Investigations

Goal: Complete 80% of full investigations within 105 calendar days from receiving the complaint and 95% within 150 calendar days.

Parameters: All Formal cases received in 2008 and had valid 2008 IAB investigation completion date. This includes cases with more than one officer and different IAB investigation completion dates. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and IAB investigation completion date.

Eighty-eight percent of the formal investigations were completed within 105 days and 96% were completed in 150 days or less. On average, formal investigations were completed in 41 days.

DPD achieved their goals at both the 80<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> percentiles.



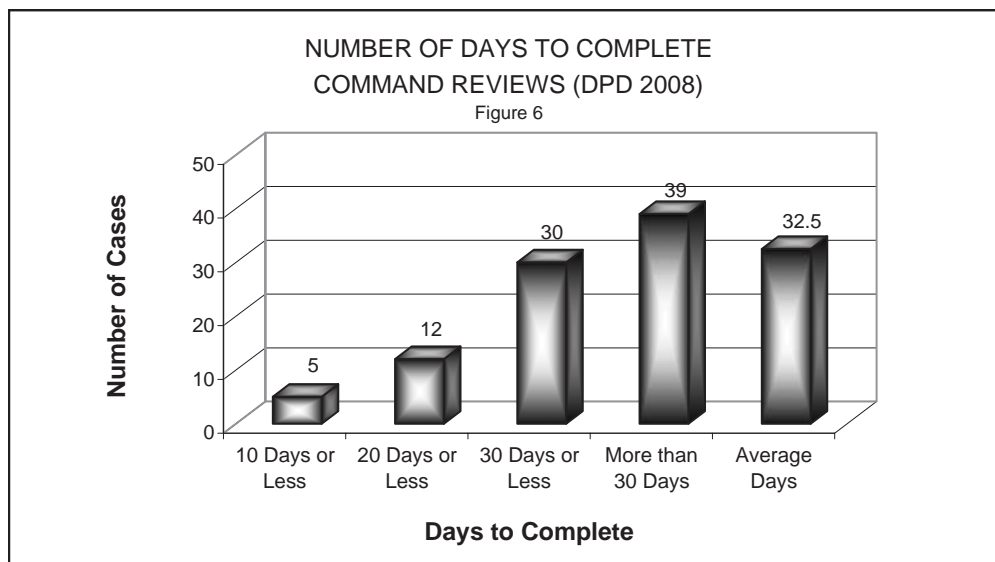
**Performance Goal for Command Review Process**

Goal: Complete 100% of Command Reviews within 30 days of the case being received from internal affairs.

Parameters: All cases that were received in 2008, assigned to IAB, and had a 2008 IAB investigation completion date. The calculation was based on the number of days between the pick-up date and date back from the division chief.

Only 26% of the command reviews completed in 2008 were done in 30 days or less. Thirty-nine of the 69 cases (57%) took longer than 30 days to complete.

DPD did not achieve their goal for command reviews.



## Performance Goal for Disciplinary Review Boards (DRB) and Chief's Hearings

Goal: Complete 100% of all Disciplinary Review Boards within 120 days from the day sustained findings were made by the District/Bureau Commander.

Parameters: All cases that completed a DRB in 2008. The calculation was based on the number of days between the date back from division chief and the DRB hearing date.

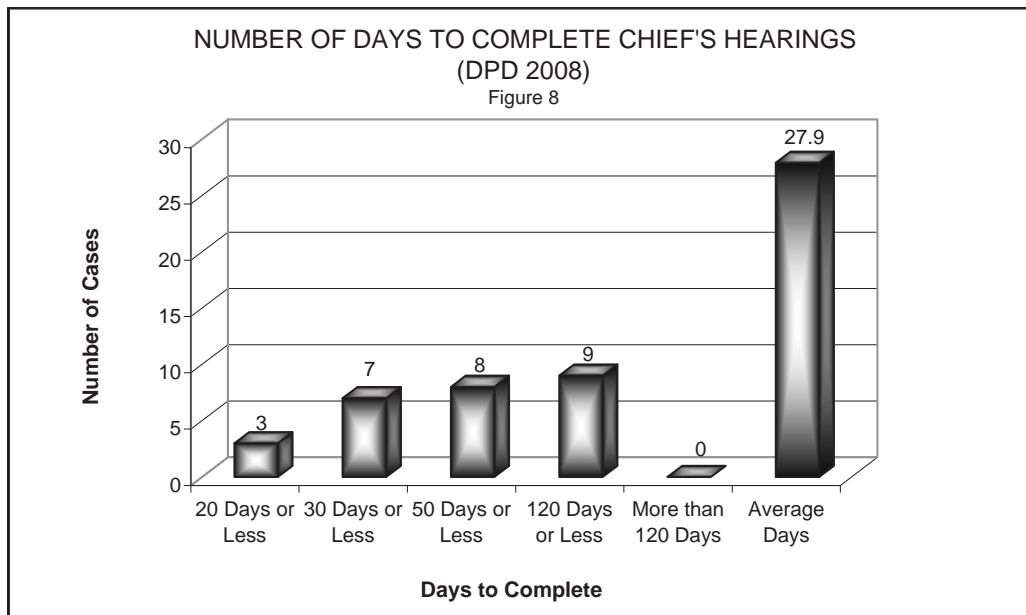
Seventy percent of the DRB hearings completed in 2008 were done in 75 days or less. There were three cases however, that took longer than 120 days to complete.

DPD did not achieve their goal for DRB hearings.

Parameters: All cases that completed a DRB in 2008 and had a valid date in the Chief's Hearing date field. The calculation was based on the number of days between the DRB date and Chief's hearing date.

One-hundred percent of the Chief's hearings were completed within 120 days or less from the DRB hearing. Nearly 80% of the hearings were completed within 30 days of the DRB date.

DPD does appear to be achieving this goal.





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# APPENDIX F

## TIMELINESS DSD

## Performance Measures—Sheriff Department (DSD)

### Performance Measures

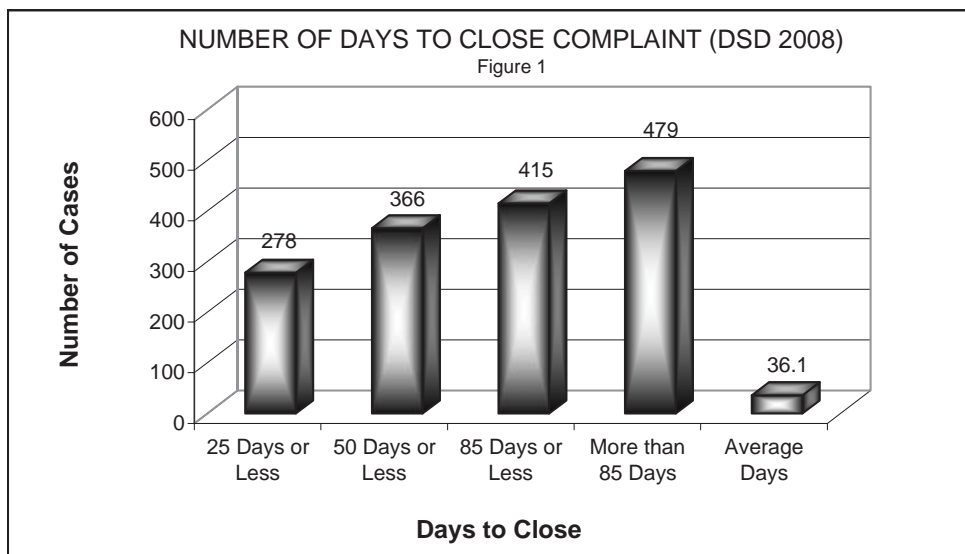
Timeliness of complaint investigations is one of the most critical elements of an effective complaint system. Delays can reduce the quality of investigations, discourage complainants, and frustrate officers with cases pending. Therefore, in an effort to monitor and reduce the amount of time that it takes to resolve citizen complaints, the OIM has established a set of timeliness performance goals for each stage of the complaint process. This section reports on the timeliness of the individual stages of the complaint handling process.

### Performance Goal for Closing All Complaints

Goal: Complete all complaints within 85 days of the complaint being received.

Parameters: All cases that were received and closed between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008. Cases involving law violations were excluded from this analysis. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and case closed date.

DSD was successful at closing 87% of the complaint cases within 85 days of receiving the complaint. However, they did not achieve the goal of closing 100% of the complaints within this time frame.



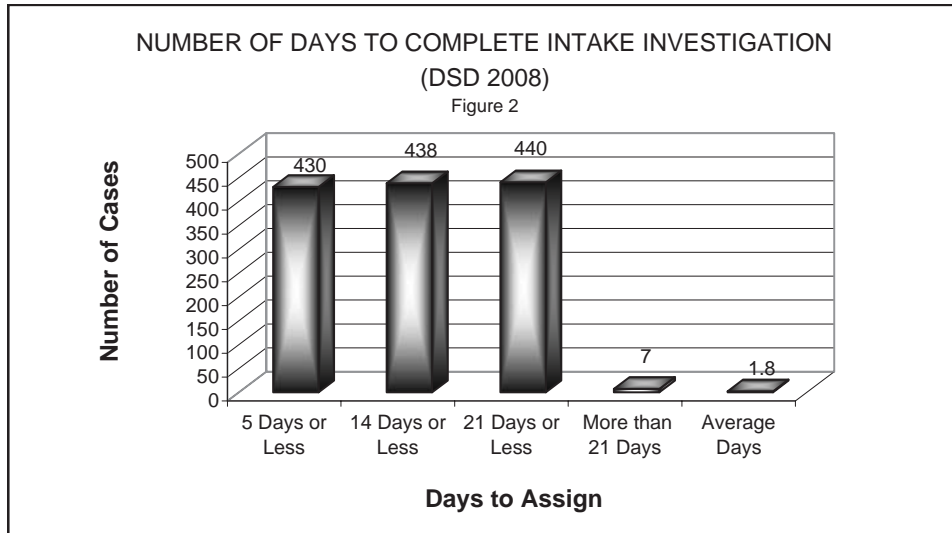
### Performance Goal for Intake Investigations

Goal: Complete 60% of intake investigations within 14 calendar days of the complaint being received and 90% within 21 calendar days.

Parameters: All cases that were received in 2008 and were assigned in 2008. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and assigned date.

Approximately 98% of cases were assigned in 21 days or less and only 7 of the 447 cases took longer than 21 days to assign.

DSD met their goal at both the 60<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles.



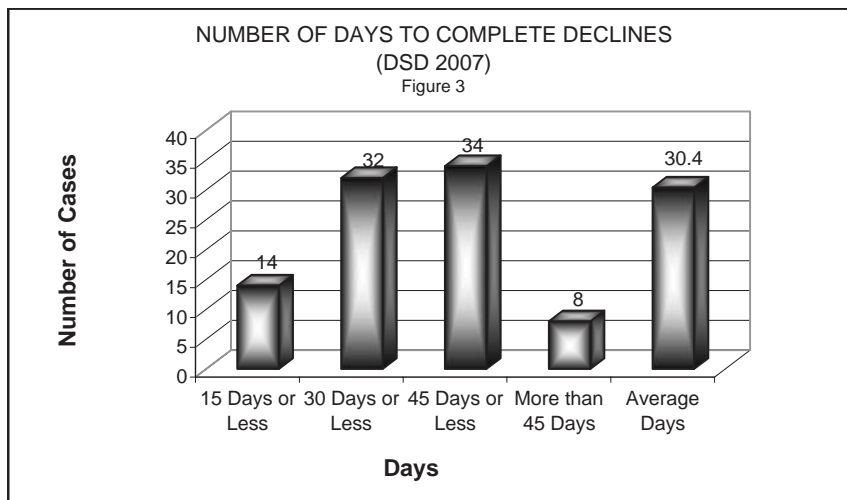
**Performance Goal for Declines**

Goal: Complete 75% of all declines within 30 calendar days of receiving the complaint and 95% within 45 days.

Parameters: All cases received and closed in 2008 that were declined for investigation. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and the case closed date.

Seventy-six percent of declines were completed within 30 days while 81% were completed in 45 days or less.

Based on this analysis, DSD did not achieve their goal at either the 75<sup>th</sup> or 95<sup>th</sup> percentiles.



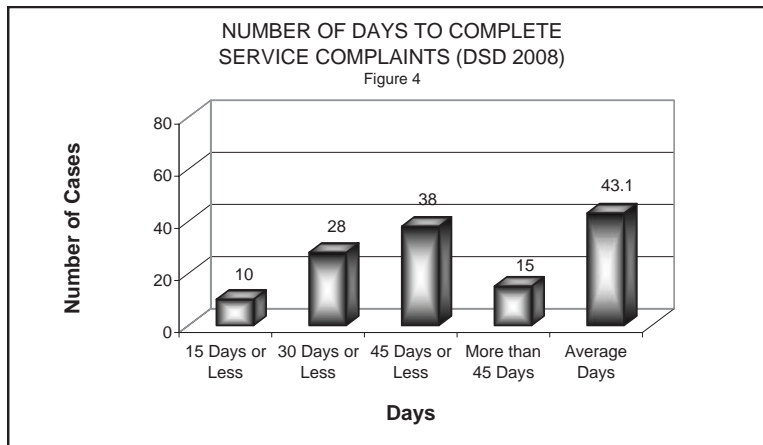
## Performance Goals for Completion of Service Complaints

Goal: Complete 75% of all service complaints within 30 calendar days from receiving the complaint and 100% within 45 days.

Parameters: All cases received and closed in 2008 that were assigned as service complaints. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received date and the case closed date.

Approximately 53% of the service complaints were completed within 30 days and 72% were completed within 45 days.

DSD's goals were not achieved at either the 75<sup>th</sup> or 100<sup>th</sup> percentiles.



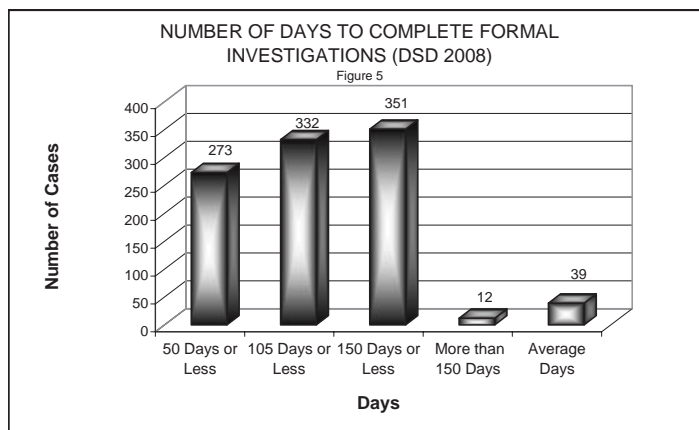
## Performance Goal for Completion of Full Investigations

Goal: Complete 80% of full investigations within 105 calendar days from receiving the complaint and 95% within 150 calendar days.

Parameters: All cases received in 2008 and were reviewed by a captain in 2008. The calculation was based on the number of days between the case received data and the captain review date.

Ninety-two percent of full investigations were completed within 105 days and 97% were completed within 150 days. There were 12 cases (3%) that took longer than 150 days to complete.

Based on this analysis DSD did achieve their goals at both the 80<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> percentiles.





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## **APPENDIX G**

### DPD AWARDS

## DPD Commendations and Awards Granted in 2008

### **Distinguished Service Cross**

Officers responded to a welfare call. The occupant was not taking his medications and exhibiting bizarre behavior. After repeatedly trying to talk to the man, the officers gained entry only to find him waving a knife. Refusing to put the weapon down, one of the officers deployed his taser, but it had no effect on the man. The suspect then moved toward the other officer, forcing him to make a split-second decision to fire and protect himself and other officers. The officers are commended for their heroism in this rapid, volatile, and hostile incident with an armed suspect.

Officers assisted the Denver Health Medical Center on a mental health evaluation call. The subject had threatened to kill himself and his family. During the evaluation, the man grabbed a large knife from the kitchen, prompting his brother to struggle for control of the knife. To protect the unarmed brother, officers were forced to go hands on instead of deploying a taser. In the struggle, the subject stabbed himself, but survived.

Officers responded to a disturbance call. A man, high on cocaine, had armed himself with two knives and was destroying the lobby of the building. When officers confronted him, he fled to the parking lot. He threatened the officers with his knives, but after a six minute struggle with the 5'11" and 245 pound man, the officers disarmed him and took him into custody. The man posed a great danger to the public and the officers' actions are best described as heroic.

Two Officers made a routine traffic stop. After the man lied about his name, he tried to pull out a .357 handgun. One of the Officers pinned the suspect's hands while the other used his baton until the suspect let go of the weapon. Thanks to their quick thinking and actions, an extremely dangerous person was subdued without harm.

Officers responded to a call on a robbery attempt with shots fired. The suspect was armed with a handgun and was in the process of robbing a female victim of her purse and keys. They confronted the suspect who ran to victim's vehicle and drove out of the lot. They initiated a vehicle pursuit that ended when the suspect disabled the stolen vehicle by striking a curb. The suspect was then taken into custody.

A Corporal observed an intoxicated party illegally crossing 20 feet south of the crosswalk. He contacted the party instructing him to wait while he ran clearances but the suspect took off running. The Corporal pursued the suspect on foot, grabbed him and both of them fell to the ground. A violent struggle ensued and the suspect tried to disarm the officer. Cover officers arrived and continued to struggle with the combative suspect but were able to detain him without further incident.

Officers responded to assist other officers pursuing an armed suspect on foot. One drove his police vehicle in front of the suspect forcing him to stop. They exited their vehicle, positioning themselves so they and other officers were not in harms way and held the suspect at gunpoint. They ordered the suspect to drop the gun and after a few tense moments, he complied and was arrested without further incident.

Officers responded to a call to arrest a suspect who was wanted on a felony warrant. The suspect armed himself with a knife and vowed not to be arrested without a fight. The officers forced entry into the residence where a woman and three children were trying to hide from the suspect. The officers placed

themselves between the innocent citizens and the armed suspect. He refused several orders to drop the knife and due to the fact that the officers had sufficient lethal force cover, they deployed a taser, neutralizing the suspect.

Officers observed two suspects rob a street vendor and fire several shots at him. The suspects fled in a waiting vehicle, leading officers on a high-speed chase before crashing and fleeing on foot into a dark, wooded gulch. As the officers pursued, one of the suspects turned and fired at the officers. Despite the hostile gunfire, the officers continued the foot pursuit and caught two of the vehicle's occupants. Two handguns were recovered along with stolen property.

A Sergeant responded to the scene of an accident involving a vehicle that had run into the side of a Recreation Center which had caused a main industrial natural gas line to rupture sending a "jet like" blast of gas into the surrounding area. The driver was still in the vehicle and against the Sergeant's orders, was attempting to start the vehicle. The Sergeant, at his own great personal risk, ran to the vehicle and dragged the driver to safety. A Denver Fire Chief commended the Sergeant, noting that the scene was very hazardous.

### **Medal of Honor**

A Sergeant and a Detective were on duty in plain clothes eating lunch at a restaurant. A masked gunman entered from the rear of the building and began pointing a shotgun at several patrons. They positioned themselves as tactically sound as circumstances would allow in preparation of engaging the suspect. The suspect turned toward them and fired a round. Both the Sergeant and Detective returned fire, striking the suspect several times and stopping the threat.

Two Technicians went to serve an immediate entry search warrant. The suspect was wanted for selling "crack" cocaine to an undercover police officer and was believed to be armed with a handgun. They located the suspect standing in his bedroom. One of the Technicians ordered the suspect to show his hands. The suspect responded by turning toward him, pointing a handgun at him. One Technician fired one shot from his handgun and the other Technician fired one shot from his rifle.

### **Medal of Valor**

A Technician was working off duty at a bank when a party came in holding what appeared to be a bomb and demanded money. The Technician, seeing what was occurring, engaged the party. The suspect ran from the bank with the device in his hands. With disregard for his own safety, the Technician tackled the suspect, physically removed the device and arrested him. The Technician distinguished himself by gallantry and great courage.

Officers responded to a domestic violence and felony menacing call. Upon arrival, the suspect pulled up in front of the residence, exited her car, and sprinted towards the victim with 2 large kitchen knives. Without regard for their own safety, the Officers pursued the suspect. After repeated refusals to drop the weapons, one of the Officers, who had a clear line of fire, was forced to use his sidearm in order to protect the victim's life. The Officers are commended for their heroism and quick thinking during this rapidly unfolding, volatile incident with an armed suspect.

Two Officers responded to a disturbance call. A man, high on cocaine, had armed himself with two knives and was destroying the lobby of the building. When officers confronted him, he fled to the parking lot. He threatened the officers with his knives, but after a six minute struggle with the 5' 11" and 245 pound man, officers disarmed him and took him into custody. The man posed a great danger to the public and the officers' actions are best described as heroic.

Two Sergeants and two Officers confronted an armed car thief as he ran from a stolen vehicle. The man was ordered to drop his weapon but did not comply. After pointing the gun at the officer, one of the Sergeants had no choice but to fire at the suspect. With no thought for his own safety, another Sergeant approached the wounded man to kick his weapon away. Both Sergeants are commended for their bravery, courage, and valor in this life or death situation. The Detective and Officer are commended for their bravery, courage, and valor by ensuring their fellow officers were not harmed.

The Denver Police Department, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Department, Wheat Ridge Police Department, and the Colorado State Patrol were involved in a multi-agency DUI Task Force in Denver. They arrested a driver at a convenience store on an outstanding warrant. When an Officer instructed a passenger to exit the vehicle, the passenger did so with a gun drawn. As the Officer grabbed the suspect's arm, he was immediately joined by a Deputy, a Lieutenant and a Trooper. During the struggle the suspect managed to fire several rounds from his weapon injuring the Officer, the Trooper and the Lieutenant. The Deputy was able to shoot and kill the suspect, ending the deadly threat. All of the officers involved are commended for their quick actions during this life threatening encounter.

A suspect in an armed robbery was observed in a car. An Officer, using an authorized tactical maneuver, neutralized the situation while other Officers challenged the suspect as he exited his vehicle holding a weapon. The suspect was taken into custody. Despite the fact that the officers would have been justified to use deadly force, they refrained and succeeded in safely making the arrest. All involved Officers demonstrated courage and dedication to duty, and exhibited exceptional decision making skills.

Two Officers and a Sergeant responded to detectives pinned down by gunfire. Once on scene, the Officers located one of the detectives. The suspect began shooting at the Officers. Debris from the shots ricocheted off the wall, hitting one of the Officers. Fearing for their safety, the same Officer returned fire, temporarily halting the suspect's actions, thus, helping the detective to safety. The Officer displayed exceptional skill and bravery in helping his fellow officers.

An Officer responded to a robbery call and saw a masked man holding the clerk at gunpoint. The suspect fled the scene with the Officer pursuing on foot. He caught the suspect in an alley several blocks away. The gun was recovered and the suspect was positively identified. The Officer showed initiative, presence of mind and bravery, at great personal risk, coupled with good communication and officer safety, in pursuing and arresting an armed and dangerous suspect.

A Corporal was patrolling an alley, contacted a suspect, began to place him in custody after observing suspected crack cocaine and the suspect attempted to flee. The Corporal was able to grab suspect and both fell to the ground. Even though the suspect began to slam the back of the Corporal's head on the pavement, the Corporal was able to discharge his service weapon before losing consciousness; he later gave chase and apprehended the suspect. This Officer also received a Purple Heart.

## **Life Saving**

Officers were flagged down and notified of a male attempting to commit suicide on an overpass. When the Officers arrived, they found a man about to jump. Using “Crisis Intervention Techniques,” the Officers quickly developed a rapport with the man, while slowly nearing him. They reached a point in their dialogue and distance where they could safely grab the man. Once the man was convinced that the Officers would not let him fall or jump, he complied with their requests and climbed back to safety.

An Officer was driving to work in his personal vehicle and not in uniform when he observed a party standing in the middle of train tracks, facing an oncoming train. The Officer quickly pulled his vehicle to the side of the road and contacted the party, who was not responsive. As the train neared to within 100 yards, the Officer was forced to physically pull the struggling party from the path of the oncoming train. He is commended for taking action to save the life of this party, despite not being in uniform and being off-duty.

A Corporal aided in the rescue of another Officer during flood conditions in the Denver area. While affecting the rescue of another person, the Officer had been swept up by the floodwaters and left clinging to a railing, perilously close to being carried away. As a rescue was being organized by the DFD, the Officer was rapidly succumbing to the combined efforts of fatigue and hypothermia. At great risk to themselves, a Sergeant and a Corporal waded into the flood and brought the Officer to safety.

Three Officers and a Sergeant covered on a suicidal party who had broken out a window of the home where his estranged wife and 3 children lived. The suspect was armed with a knife. As the Officers arrived at the home, the wife and children were able to flee the residence but the suspect remained in the home and in possession of the knife. The Officers secured the home. One of the Officers was able to peer through a gap in the blinds and witnessed the suspect plunging the knife into his chest. The Sergeant established an entry team and staged the ambulance in front of the home. All involved officers entered and secured the suspect for medical treatment. According to the medical personnel, the immediate actions taken by these officers saved this person’s life.

A Technician, along with other emergency personnel, responded to a location where a mother with her toddler in a stroller had been caught in a drainage ditch during a flash flood. Learning her child was missing, the woman let go of the DFD rescue swimmer and was quickly swept away. As a second swimmer entered the water, the Technician went to a culvert where the ditch empties into the Platte River. Though the woman was rescued, the Technician found another firefighter struggling to assist one of the swimmers out of the water. Balancing on the edge of the ditch which was filled with 15 feet of fast moving water, he reached down, grabbed the man’s life jacket and hauled him up to safety. His quick thinking and decisive action prevented the firefighter from being swept through the culvert and into the flooded river.

Two Officers observed a male standing on the edge of the bridge acting suspicious. As the Officers approached the man, they noticed he had a rope tied around his neck with the other end tied to the bridge railing. Realizing that the man was intent upon killing himself, one of the Officers utilized his C.I.T. training to engage the man in a dialogue in an attempt to diffuse the situation. When it became apparent the man was not going to be deterred from his course of action, the other Officer was able get close enough to physically restrain him from jumping. Both Officers were able to pull the man to safety. They are commended for being alert to the suspicious incident and acting so as to save the life of this distraught individual.

Two Corporals and two Officers responded on a report of a suicidal party. When the officers arrived, the distraught female was standing on the outside ledge of a third story balcony; moments later she lost her footing and was hanging from the handrail. These heroic Officers urgently rushed to her location, took hold of her and pulled her back up onto the terrace saving her life.

Two Officers arrived on the scene of a motel where they saw a subject in the bathroom holding a gun to his head. The Officers talked with the man until the arrival of two Crisis Negotiator Detectives, who then began the crisis intervention process. Initially, when the subject began to verbally respond to one of the Detectives, he had the barrels of the loaded shotgun in his mouth. The Detectives persuaded the subject to remove the shotgun from his mouth and eventually to peacefully surrender to METRO SWAT Officers. All four officers are commended for their outstanding life saving skills.

Three Officers were on patrol and observed an open door leading to the basement of a vacant church. Shortly after entering the basement, the Officers noticed an uncontained fire burning beneath the stairs they had just descended. At great risk to themselves, they began a search of the structure for possible victims or suspects of the fire and found an individual sleeping behind a locked door that they had to force open. They escorted the individual safely outside as the Denver Fire Department were arriving on scene. The individual was treated for smoke inhalation and released. Arson investigators determined the fire had been deliberately set and contributed the officers' quick actions with saving the sleeping man's life.

While dining, an off-duty Officer observed an elderly gentleman at a table who was in obvious distress. He approached him and asked him if he was choking. The man used the universal sign of raising both hands to his throat. The Officer successfully applied the Heimlich maneuver and cleared a blockage in the man's throat. He took action when other people did not know what to do or chose not to get involved. His commitment to public service while off-duty saved the life of this grateful citizen.

Officers responded to an assault-in-progress. Upon arrival, witnesses reported that a male suspect had violently attacked two victims, while appearing to have either a severe mental disability or under the influence of an unknown substance. The Officers began searching for the suspect and eventually spotted him along a riverbank and attempted to contact him. He eluded them and ran toward the water where he quickly disappeared. The Officers searched the vegetation near the river's edge and then saw him bobbing in the water while being swept downstream. They raced downstream about ¼ mile to a shallow point, then entered the river and snared the suspect as he was being pulled by the strong current. Their decisive actions saved this suspect from sure death in the river.

Officers responded to a radio call of shots being fired. Another radio call came out regarding an 8-year-old female suffering from a gunshot wound to the upper chest area. Officers responded immediately to the scene and began performing life saving CPR on the victim. The Officers stabilized the victim until Paramedics arrived. The child was transported to Denver Health Medical Center and later made a full recovery.

Officers responded to a call on a large fight in progress. Upon arrival, Officers discovered multiple stabbing victims as well as two stabbing suspects. Unaware of the current location of the armed suspects, one Corporal immediately focused his full attention towards the stabilization and treatment of a seriously injured victim. Due to his medical background, the Corporal was able to assess the victim's medical needs and assist the responding paramedics. The victim was taken to DHMC where he was rushed into surgery. ER doctors credited the Corporal's quick actions in saving the gravely injured victim's life.

Two Corporals and five Officers responded to a scene of a fully involved structure fire. They observed that the fire suppression and evacuation effort was concentrated in the front of the building. All Officers immediately proceeded to the rear and discovered numerous residents standing on the balcony unable to escape the flames through the front door. They found a ladder on the premises and began evacuating the residents, which involved one of the Corporals and one of the Officers climbing onto balconies and physically assisting or carrying residents down the ladder to safety.

## **Purple Heart**

Officers responded to a call involving an assault in progress. As the Officers proceeded to the rear of this location, the suspect gave his dog verbal commands to attack and intentionally released the dog. The dog bit one of the Officers while the Officer was involved in a brief struggle with the suspect, (resulting in a ruptured disc). During this scuffle, the suspect punched the other Officer causing misalignment of his jaw and injury to his teeth.

An Officer was responding to assist a fellow Officer calling for help on a domestic violence call. The Officer was traveling with emergency lights and siren activated when a vehicle entered his lane, hitting him, and causing it to roll numerous times. The Officer was pinned upside down causing serious bodily injury.

An Officer was involved in a foot pursuit and a violent struggle with a suspect wanted on numerous felony warrants including attempted murder. During this struggle, the Officer suffered serious injuries to his right hand and was required to undergo surgery and several weeks of recuperation to recover from his injuries.

Officers were dispatched on a report of a felony assault. When the suspect was located, he became violent and intentionally stepped into and head butted one of the Officers, who sustained a broken nose in two places (which required surgery). The Officer is commended for his commitment to duty in gaining control of a violent felon after being seriously injured while performing an official action.



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY

## APPENDIX H

## DSD AWARDS

## DSD Commmendations and Awards Granted in 2008

***Medal of Valor*** - The “Medal of Valor” is awarded to employees who perform acts of bravery or receive personal injuries from inmates or others while performing their duties. The actions of these employees exemplify the highest standards of public service.

A Deputy arrived home to find a perpetrator inside burglarizing his residence. When confronted, the perpetrator armed himself with a crowbar and advanced toward the Deputy Sheriff who drew his service weapon, identified himself as a Denver Deputy Sheriff and ordered the perpetrator to drop his weapon and get down on the ground: the perpetrator complied. The Deputy was able to detain the suspect without injury to himself or the suspect until DPD arrived on scene.

***Merit Award*** - A “Merit Award” is given to employees, who through personal initiative, developed a program which contributes to the Deptment’s objectives, goals, or morale.

One Deputy was recognized for his service to the Black Sheriff’s Protective Association tour program. This program provides educational tours to interested community members and at-risk youth.

***Community Service Award*** - A “Community Service Award” is given to an employee who sacrifices his/her time and expense, contributes a successful program to the community, or who performs an act to improve Sheriff/Community relations.

One Deputy was recognized for his dressing as “Badges” the Easter Bunny every Easter at The Children’s Hospital for the last several years.

One Deputy was recognized for his participation with the Denver Police Explorer Program.

Three Deputies were recognized for conducting County Jail tours on their personal time.

One Deputy was recognized for his yearly contributions to the Annual School Supply Drive: fills 10 backpacks with school supplies.

One Sergeant was recognized for his participation with several charitable organizations, including the Child Rescue Foundation and Special Olympics.

One Captain was recognized for singing the National Anthem at several DSD functions.

One Sergeant and nineteen Deputies were recognized for their participation with the Denver Sheriff Department Honor Guard.