

Performance History Audits

1028.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for the use of performance history audits. Performance history audits can help identify commendable performance as well as provide early recognition of training needs and other potential issues. This policy addresses the responsibilities, performance indicators and components of the audit, and handling of collected data.

1028.2 POLICY

The Duvall Police Department collects data to assist supervisors with evaluating the performance of their employees. While it is understood that the statistical compilation of data may be helpful to supervisors, the Department recognizes that it cannot account for, and must carefully balance such data with the many variables in law enforcement, such as:

- Ability to detect crime.
- Work ethic.
- Assignment and shift.
- Physical abilities (ability to perform the job-related physical tasks).
- Randomness of events.

1028.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the authority of the Administrative Services Division Commander, the Operations Commander is responsible for collecting performance indicators and other relevant data. The data will be compiled to generate biannual performance history audit reports that will be provided to the appropriate Division Commander. The Operations Commander will utilize confidential methods to compile and track information regarding performance indicators for each officer during each rating period in order to prepare the report. Though generated biannually, each report should contain data from a one-year time period.

The Administrative Services Division Commander should forward a copy of each performance history audit report to the City Attorney for review and retention as attorney work product and confidential personnel information.

1028.4 COMPONENTS OF PERFORMANCE HISTORY AUDITS

Performance history audits should include the following components:

- Performance indicators
- Data analysis
- Employee review
- Follow-up monitoring

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1028.4.1 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance indicators represent the categories of employee performance activity that the Chief of Police has determined may be relevant data for the generation and analysis of performance history audits. These indicators may include, but are not limited to, the frequency and/or number of:

- (a) Use of force incidents.
- (b) Involvement and conduct during vehicle pursuits.
- (c) Personnel complaints, including the findings.
- (d) Commendations, compliments and awards from the Department and the public.
- (e) Canine bite incidents.
- (f) Personnel investigations.
- (g) Prosecuting attorney case rejections and the reasons.
- (h) Intentional or unintentional firearm discharges (regardless of injury).
- (i) Vehicle collisions.
- (j) Missed court appearances.
- (k) Documented counseling.

1028.4.2 DATA ANALYSIS

The Administrative Services Division Commander will review each performance history audit report and determine whether it should be provided to the officer's immediate supervisor for further consideration.

1028.4.3 EMPLOYEE REVIEW

Upon receipt of a performance history audit report, the supervisor will carefully review the report with the officer to assess any potential trends or other issues that may warrant informal counseling, additional training or a recommendation for other action, including discipline. The officer shall date and sign the report and should be provided with a copy of the report upon request.

If a supervisor determines that an officer's performance warrants action beyond informal counseling, the supervisor shall advise the Division Commander of such recommendation. If the Division Commander concurs with the recommendation of the supervisor, he/she shall take steps to initiate the appropriate action.

If discipline or other adverse action is initiated against an officer as a result of a performance history audit, the officer shall be entitled to all rights and processes set forth in the Personnel Complaints Policy.

1028.4.4 FOLLOW-UP MONITORING

Depending upon the results of each performance history audit, a determination should be made by the Administrative Services Division Commander, after discussion with the officer's immediate

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supervisor, about the need, type and duration of any follow-up. Performance indicators and data analysis will generally provide the basis upon which such decisions should be made.

1028.5 CONFIDENTIALITY OF DATA

Information, data and copies of material compiled to develop performance history audit reports shall be considered confidential as part of the employee's personnel file and will not be subject to discovery or release except as provided by law. Access to performance history audit reports will be governed under the same process as access to an officer's personnel file, as outlined in the Personnel Files Policy.

Access to the underlying data will be governed by the process for access to the original records (such as police reports).

1028.6 RETENTION

Performance history audit reports and associated records shall be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.