

Annual Major Discipline Reporting Form

Internal Affairs Policy & Procedures | Appendix L

Pursuant to IAPP Section 9.11.2, every state, county, and local law enforcement agency in New Jersey is required to submit to the Attorney General and the County Prosecutor, and publish on the agency's public website, a brief synopsis of all complaints where a termination, reduction in rank or grade, and/or suspension of more than five days was assessed to an agency member. For the purposes of this report, please include all major disciplines in which a plea agreement was reached or final sanction was imposed during the time period listed below. Instructions for completing this form can be found on the "Instructions" tab of the Excel version of this document.

Time period

01-01-2025 through 12-31-2025

Agency

Kearny Police Department

<-- Type agency name here

County

Hudson

<-- Select county from dropdown menu here

Disciplined Officer				Sanction				Synopsis
No.	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Terminated?	Demoted?	Suspended?	# Days Susp.	Description
1	Officer	Lawrence	Latka	No	No	Yes	60	<p>While on duty, Officer Lawrence Z. Latka #328 used his in-car mobile data computer (MDC) to conduct a digital inquiry into a vehicle's registration in response to a civilian raising the concern that the vehicle was parked improperly and suspecting that the vehicle may be stolen. After the inquiry determined that the vehicle was not reported stolen, the officer shared privileged information from this inquiry result with the civilian who had raised the concern to him.</p> <p>This matter was referred to the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office, which declined to prosecute the matter criminally. The subsequent administrative investigation determined that the digital inquiry was permissible and legal, but that the sharing of any portion of the result with a civilian was prohibited and contrary to 28 CFR Part 23, as well as agency and statewide policies and guidelines. Ultimately, two charges were sustained: Kearny PD Rules & Regulations 3:1.1 (Standard of Conduct) and N.J. Admin. Code § 4A:2-2.3(a)6 (Conduct Unbecoming a Public Employee), and the officer was suspended for 60 days (unpaid).</p> <p>***The Town of Kearny employs multiple individuals with this surname. Readers are advised to exercise caution to ensure the identity of the officer mentioned herein is not confused with other employees.***</p>
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