

# OFFICE OF THE POLICE OVERSIGHT MONITOR

*OPOM...Fostering Community Trust Through Collaboration and Law Enforcement Accountability and Transparency*

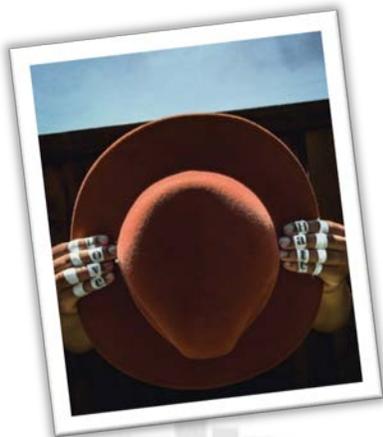
## MISSION

The City of Fort Worth's Office of the Police Oversight Monitor (OPOM) was first established in February 2020 pursuant to Fort Worth City Code Art. 2, § 2-27(1)(a) as a mechanism with which to provide oversight and accountability of the Fort Worth Police Department. Kim Neal, was appointed as the City of Fort Worth's first Police Monitor in March 2020. Efforts to build this newly-created office first began in mid-March 2020. Our vision for the office is for it to be a proactive leader in law enforcement accountability to the Fort Worth Police Department and the population it serves.

## OPOM FUNCTIONS

In order to achieve its mission, the OPOM engages in the following primary functions:

- ❖ Oversight & Accountability
- ❖ Monitor Contacts and Complaint Investigations
- ❖ Review Policies and Procedures
- ❖ Auditing
- ❖ Mediation
- ❖ Community Engagement
- ❖ Data Collection and Analysis
- ❖ Periodic Reporting



## RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ❖ Conducted initial meetings with multiple community organizations, city leaders, and FWPD personnel.

- ❖ Created a complaint form and began receiving and reviewing complaints, inquiries, commendations, use of force incidents, FWPD policies and procedures including, but not limited to use of force.
- ❖ Provided recommendations made in these reviews to the City Manager and the FWPD Police Chief.
- ❖ Conducted and/or attended periodic meetings set with the Police Chief, FWPD Professional Standards Division, Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief for Finance and
- ❖ Commenced conducting virtual employee and police-community collaboration sessions.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Continue to collaborate with community stakeholders through workgroup meetings and examine the results from the community/officer perception surveys to finalize recommendations regarding civilian oversight.
- ❖ Continue to review and monitor inquiries, complaints, use of force, and FWPD policies and procedures.
- ❖ Continue to serve as a member of FWPD's Use of Force Review Board and Critical Police Incident Review Board.
- ❖ Continue to track collection of complainant and police data to identify trends, patterns and circumstances in order to address root causes and recommend next steps.
- ❖ Finalize OPOM mission, duties, and expectations.
- ❖ Maintain website, social media platforms, newsletter, and listserv communication venues.
- ❖ Continue to participate in speaking engagements with local and non-local stakeholders and organizations regarding community oversight of law enforcement, police reform and race relations
- ❖ Establish a Working Coalition to OPOM and meet periodically
- ❖ Draft formal mandate for access and transparency between FWPD and OPOM
- ❖ Draft the Office's Standard Operating Procedures

## YOUR VOICE MATTERS

The Office of the Police Oversight Monitor will use the input gathered from community members, community stakeholders, and officers to craft the recommendation for community oversight, improve police-community engagement efforts, identify neighborhood specific community policing strategies, and enhance the OPOM.



## HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

OPOM office accepts complaints about the Fort Worth Police Department via the following methods:

**Online:** [www.fortworthtexas.gov/opom](http://www.fortworthtexas.gov/opom)

**E-mail:** [PoliceOversight@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:PoliceOversight@fortworthtexas.gov)

**In-person:** To make an appointment please call (817) 392-6535. Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm

**By Mail:** Download the Citizen Complaint Form (PDF). Print and fill out the form, then mail to: Office of the Police Oversight Monitor 200 Texas Street, 3rd floor Fort Worth, Texas 76102

**Printed Copies:** Printed copies of the complaint form are also provided at our office and your local Police Division, Community Center and/or Library.

## COMPLAINT PROCESS

It is important that complaints be filed as soon as possible after the incident. According to Tex. Loc. Gov't Code Ann. Chapter 143, any disciplinary action against an officer must be issued within 180 days of the incident. Therefore, it is imperative that a complaint is submitted as soon as possible after the incident. The following outlines the complaint process after a completed complaint form is received by our office.

- ❖ The Office of the Police Monitor receives your complaint.
- ❖ OPOM acknowledges receipt of your complaint.
- ❖ OPOM reviews and forwards your complaint to Fort Worth Police Department Internal Affairs for review and/or investigation. The FWPD complaint investigation can take up to 90 days.
- ❖ OPOM monitors the FWPD investigation.
- ❖ OPOM reviews the completed FWPD Internal Affairs investigation and provides recommendations to the FWPD as appropriate.
- ❖ OPOM notifies you once the review is completed.

## CONTACT US

**Office Location:** City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
200 Texas Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

**E-mail:** [PoliceOversight@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:PoliceOversight@fortworthtexas.gov)

**Office Phone:** (817) 392-6535

**Website:** [www.fortworthtexas.gov/OPOM](http://www.fortworthtexas.gov/OPOM)

**Facebook:** @FortWorthPoliceOversight

**Twitter:** @FWPoliceMonitor

*For more information about OPOM, its functions, recent accomplishments, and upcoming activities and events, please visit our website: [www.fortworthtexas.gov/OPOM](http://www.fortworthtexas.gov/OPOM)*