

FREDERICKTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

182 South Main Street, Fredericktown, Ohio 43019

740-694-9222 Office 740-694-9333 Fax

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Citizen Complaint Process

Purpose:

The citizen complaint procedure provides individuals the opportunity to file a complaint alleging misconduct or wrong doing on the part of a member of the Fredericktown Police Department. Complaints include any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance that, if true, would constitute a violation of department policy or of federal, state or local law, policy or rule. The Department takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the Department and the conduct of its members.

How to File a Complaint:

Although written complaints are preferred, a complaint may also be filed orally, either in person at the Fredericktown Police Department, 182 S. Main Street Fredericktown, Ohio or by telephone at (740) 694-9222.

Where to Obtain a Written Complaint Form:

- Online at www.fredericktownpolice.com/contact-officers
- Fredericktown Police Department Lobby: 182 S. Main St., Fredericktown, Ohio 43019
- Fredericktown Village Office: 2 E. Sandusky St., Fredericktown, Ohio 43019

When the written complaint form is complete it can be submitted in person or via any of the other forms of contact listed at the top of this form; in-person, mail, fax, or email.

Investigation of the Complaint:

Within 24 hours of the Department receiving the complaint, the Chief of Police or his / her designee will contact you to verify receipt of the complaint, if contact information was provided. At this time additional clarifying questions may be asked of you to ensure a thorough and accurate investigation. An investigation will then commence and all efforts will be made to ensure a speedy resolution to your complaint. The length of the investigation may vary based upon the complexity of the complaint.

Disposition of Complaint:

Once a thorough investigation has been conducted, the result of the investigation will produce one of the following dispositions which will be communicated to the individual filing the complaint.

- **Unfounded** – When the investigation discloses that the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve department members. Complaints that are determined to be frivolous will fall within the classification of unfounded. A result of unfounded may result in criminal charges against the individual filing the complaint as outlined in Ohio Revised Code section 2921.15B.
- **Exonerated** – When the investigation discloses that the alleged act occurred but the act was justified, lawful and / or proper.
- **Not Sustained** - When the investigation discloses that there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.
- **Sustained** – When the investigation discloses sufficient evidence to establish that the act occurred and that it constituted misconduct.

ORC 2921.15B “No person shall knowingly file a complaint against a peace officer that alleges that the peace officer engaged in misconduct in the performance of the officer’s duties if the person knows that the allegation is false. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree.”

