THE COMMISSION

The Honolulu Police Commission consists of seven Police Commissioners (members).

The members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. They each serve staggered terms of five years, and they serve until their successors have been appointed and qualified.

All members volunteer their services and receive no compensation.

A chair and vice-chair are elected annually by the commissioners.

POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS

The Commission shall appoint and may remove the Chief of Police; shall adopt rules as it may consider necessary for the conduct of its business; review rules and regulations for the administration of the Honolulu Police Department; review the annual budget prepared by the Chief of Police and may make recommendations thereon to the Mayor; submit an annual report to the Mayor and the City Council; receive, consider and investigate charges brought by the public against the conduct of the Department or any of its members and submit its findings to the Chief of Police.

Except for purposes of the inquiry or as otherwise provided in the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu, 1973, neither the Commission nor its members shall interfere in any way with the administrative affairs of the Honolulu Police Department.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

In addition to its seven members, the Commission has an administrative staff which includes an Executive Officer/Investigator, three Investigators, a Secretary-Reporter, two Police Reporters, and a Senior Clerk-typist. The staff members are civil service employees of the City and County of Honolulu.

WHO MAY REGISTER A COMPLAINT?

Any person who has been physically or verbally abused by a police officer or any other employee of the Honolulu Police Department may register a complaint within sixty (60) days from the date of the incident at the Honolulu Police Commission office. If the complainant is a minor or adjudged to be incompetent, the “complainant” may be the individual’s legal guardian.

The Commission will accept a notarized letter signed and dated by the complainant who is unable to register his or her complaint in person at the Honolulu Police Commission office.

In the event the complainant is ill, incapacitated due to injury, age, imprisonment, or any other valid reason, complaints may be registered other than at the Honolulu Police Commission office.

COMPLAINT PROCESS

The complaint will be classified according to the nature of the alleged misconduct and assigned to an investigator.

After completion of the investigation, the assigned investigator will submit an “open end” report to the Commission. The Commission will review and decide whether there is sufficient evidence to sustain the allegation(s) of the complaint.

Complaints upheld by the Commission are forwarded to the Chief of Police.

Complainants and accused Honolulu Police Department personnel are notified by letter of the Commission’s decision.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Honolulu Police Commission meets the first and third Wednesday of each month.
OUR MISSION

Establish a system of law enforcement based on due regard for the constitutional rights of all persons, which shall promote the highest degree of mutual respect between police officers and the public and which shall provide for the expeditious apprehension of those who violate the law.

Maintain a meaningful, fair and effective system of complaint procedure whereby complaints against the conduct of the police department or any of its officers and employees are received, considered, investigated and resolved.

Enhance the public confidence, trust and support in the integrity, fairness and respect of the police department, its officers and employees.