

Citizen Complaint Procedures and Forms

The public's trust, confidence and support are vital to successful police services. The public is entitled to have ready access to the police administration that is sworn to serve them. This access will help foster public understanding and acceptance of police procedures, and aid in the detection or correction of improper or undesirable practices.

The Bedford Police Department has a policy that provides a fair, orderly, and uniformly applied process for receiving, investigating and resolving complaints of alleged police misconduct.

Complaints against Bedford Police Department employees may be filed by contacting a police department supervisor and giving all details regarding the incident. The complaint will be forwarded to the Chief of Police or his/her designee to review and if necessary assign for investigation. At the conclusion of the investigation, you will be notified by mail of the outcome.

Please be aware of the Bedford Police Department's Complaint Procedures:

1. You will be asked to fill out a Citizen Complaint Form and sign it. If you need help, help will be provided. You are not required to sign this form; however, your refusal to sign will be noted in the corresponding investigative file.
2. Your complaint will be reviewed by the Chief of Police or his/her designee who will determine if your complaint will be handled by the employee's supervisor or referred to an internal affairs investigator.
3. If your complaint is of a serious nature such as excessive use of force, you may be asked to come in & talk with either an internal affairs investigator or other officer as determined by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
4. Any interview will be confidential and any transcripts or other recordings will not be released to you, your attorney or any other persons, firm or entity without a court order.
5. Specific statements made by the officer(s) or any other person or evidence gathered will not be released to your, your attorney or any other person, firm or entity without a court order.
6. At the conclusion of the investigation, you will be notified by mail of the outcome. You will not be notified of any punitive action that may or may not have been taken against any officer(s).
7. If you are filing a complaint that you know to be false as means of retaliation against an officer, you may be subject to criminal and/or civil proceedings.

I have read and I understand the above procedures _____
Date _____

Please click [HERE](#) to access the Citizen Complaint Form