

**Vermont Department of Public Safety - Vermont State Police**  
**Synopses of internal investigations for the period of July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022**  
**Released July 5, 2023**

Background: In an effort to further increase transparency in operations, beginning in January 2021 and continuing twice annually in approximately January and July, the Department of Public Safety and Vermont State Police, with the support of the independent State Police Advisory Commission, began releasing synopses of all internal investigations. These synopses are compiled in six month increments to balance timeliness with the need to have complete investigations and resolutions prior to release.

Notes:

- A. "Internally generated" indicates the complaint was made by a co-worker / employee of the Department. "Externally generated" indicates the complaint was made by someone outside the department, most often a member of the public involved in an event or investigation.
- B. Events marked with an A, B, C and so forth indicate there was either more than one employee involved, or multiple allegations against a single employee. Each case (A, B, C, etc.) has a separate finding or outcome.
- C. All investigations, details and outcomes are reviewed by the State Police Advisory Commission pursuant to their oversight role outlined in state statute.
- D. Pursuant to Title 20 VSA 2403, those cases required to be reported to the Vermont Criminal Justice Council are identified by notation.

	Total	Founded	Unfounded	Other
Internally Generated Cases	9	2	3	4
Externally Generated Cases	1	1	0	0

**1. Internally generated – July 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper accessed the social media account of an individual without their permission.

*Outcome:* The member resigned before the completed investigation could be reviewed and adjudicated by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. Investigation reported to Vermont Criminal Justice Council for possible Category A conduct.

**2. (A and B) Internally generated – July 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into allegation that two troopers used excessive force during an on-duty discharge of their firearms. Investigation revealed that the troopers' use of force was within policy standards.

*Outcome:* Finding that no policies were violated.

**3. (A and B) Internally generated – September 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into an allegation that two troopers used excessive force during the on-duty use of their less-lethal projectile.

*Outcome:* Pending adjudication of criminal prosecution.

**4. Internally generated – October 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper’s interaction with their supervisor and colleagues violated policy related to conduct and insubordination.

*Outcome:* The member resigned before the completed investigation could be reviewed and adjudicated by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.

**5. Internally generated – October 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper violated the state police policy regulating motor vehicle pursuits.

*Outcome:* Finding of a policy violation for “Violation of Rules.” Trooper issued a Letter of Reprimand and lost one day of Annual Leave.

**6. Internally generated – October 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper violated a civil contract.

*Outcome:* Finding that no violation of code of conduct or policy had occurred.

**7. Externally generated – December 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into an allegation that an off-duty trooper interfered with the investigation of another police agency.

*Outcome:* Finding of a policy violation for “Violation of Rules.” Trooper issued a Letter of Reprimand.

**8. Internally generated – December 2022**

*Synopsis:* Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper stole property from a secure personal property storage room.

*Outcome:* The member resigned before the completed investigation could be reviewed and adjudicated by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. Investigation reported to Vermont Criminal Justice Council for possible Category A conduct.