

**Vermont Department of Public Safety - Vermont State Police**  
**Synopses of internal investigations for the period of January 1, 2022, through June 30, 2022**  
**Released January 17, 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, will begin releasing synopses of all internal investigations. These synopses will be 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	2	2	0	0
Externally Generated Cases	6	3	1	2

1. (A and B) Externally generated – January 2022

Synopsis: Inquiry into an allegation that a former trooper was harassed by current and past members while attending a training session and was witness to other instances of harassment at similar training sessions. Investigation revealed that the trooper responsible for the training failed to stop behavior that could have been construed as harassment. A second trooper was found to not have been responsible for similar behavior.

Outcome: (A.) Finding of policy violations for "Responsibility" and "Violation of Rules." Trooper was suspended for two days without pay, issued a Letter of Reprimand, and required to review policies with their supervisor relative to their duties and responsibilities. (B.) Finding that no policies were violated.

2. Externally generated – February 2022

Synopsis: Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper committed misdemeanor crimes while off-duty.

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.

3. (A and B) Externally generated – February 2022

Synopsis: Inquiry into an allegation that two troopers mishandled evidence.

Outcome: (A.) Finding of a policy violation for “Violation of Rules”. Trooper counseled in lieu of disciplinary action. (B.) Finding of a policy violation for “Violation of Rules”. Trooper counseled in lieu of disciplinary action.

4. Internally generated – March 2022

Synopsis: Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper provided untruthful statements during an Internal Affairs investigation.

Outcome: Finding of a policy violation for “Truthfulness.” Trooper’s employment was terminated.

5. Externally generated – May 2022

Synopsis: Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper committed misdemeanor crimes while off-duty.

Outcome: Internal Affairs investigation suspended pending outcome of criminal case. Investigation reported to Vermont Criminal Justice Council for possible Category A conduct.

6. Internally generated – June 2022

Synopsis: Inquiry into an allegation that a trooper made inappropriate comments toward a Department of Public Safety civilian employee.

Outcome: Finding of a policy violation for “Conduct”. Trooper issued a Letter of Reprimand.