

Annual Major Discipline Reporting Form
Internal Affairs Policy & Procedures | Appendix L

Pursuant to Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2022-14, every state, county, and local law enforcement agency in New Jersey is required to submit to the Attorney General and the County Prosecutor, and publish on the agency's public website, a brief synopsis of all complaints where a termination, reduction in rank or grade, and/or suspension of more than five days, as well as sustained findings listed in the above directive, regardless of the type or severity of discipline imposed, was assessed to an agency member. For the purposes of this report, please include all major disciplines in which a plea agreement was reached or final sanction was imposed during the time period listed below. In addition, include all discipline from earlier years which was has been on appeal, the final appeal was resolved during 2023, and the discipline remains in one of the enumerated categories. Instructions for completing this form can be found on the "Instructions" tab of the Excel version of this document.

Time period
County
Agency

January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023
Monmouth
Monmouth Co Corrections

<--Select County from dropdown menu here
 <--Select Agency from dropdown menu here

		Disciplined Officer		Sanction						Synopsis	
No.	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Terminated?	Demoted?	Suspended?	# Days Susp.	Resigned, retired, transferred, or separated while IA Pending	Specify other sanction type, if applicable	Sustained Charge	Description
1	CPO	Stephanie	Welch	No	No	Yes	10	No		Unprofessional Behavior	On September 25, 2022, CPO Welch was in violation of the uniform policy. CPO Welch was ordered by her superior to correct the issue, to which she refused and behaved unprofessionally.
2	CPO	Benjamin	Markus	No	No	Yes	30	No		Possession of Cell Phone	On December 30, 2022, CPO Markus was in possession of a cell phone in the secured perimeter of the facility, resulting in a breach of security.
3	CPO	John	Dixon	No	No	Yes	6	No		Insubordination	On January 11, 2023, CPO Dixon refused direct orders from his superior and argued with him in clear view of the superior's subordinates as well as inmates.
4	CPO	Jeremy	Berenger	No	No	No	0	Yes		Violating Firearms Policy	On May 11, 2023, CPO Berenger violated MCCI policies and procedures regarding the safe handling of firearms including entering the secure perimeter of the MCCI with a firearm. No formal disciplinary sanction was issued as he resigned his law enforcement employment on September 19, 2023.
5	CPO	John	Schultz	No	No	Yes	30	No		Possession of Cell Phone	On August 18, 2023, CPO Schultz was in possession of a cell phone in the secured perimeter of the facility, resulting in a breach of security.
6	CPO	Jose	Tirado	No	No	Yes	30	No		Possession of Cell Phone	On August 10, 2023, CPO Tirado was in possession of a cell phone in the secured perimeter of the facility, resulting in a breach of security.
7	CPO	Latonya	Johnson	No	No	Yes	191	Yes	Job forfeiture pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A. 2C:51-2(d)</u> .	Indictable Offense	On January 23, 2023, CPO Johnson was arrested and criminally charged with providing an electronic communication device to an inmate, resulting in a breach of security. CPO Johnson forfeited her position via Court order dated October 16, 2023.
8	CPO	Samuel	Marriott	No	No	Yes	6	No		Improper inventory	On September 11, 2023, CPO Marriott failed to properly inventory inmate barber equipment before issuing it to an inmate for use, resulting in a breach of security.
9	CPO	Michael	Niedbala	No	No	Yes	20	No		Loss of Equipment	On October 1, 2023, CPO Niedbala failed to maintain control of his issued Aerosol Restraint Spray and failed to report the lost equipment in accordance with policy.
10	CPO	Benjamin	Markus	Yes	No	No	0	No		Improper Disclosure of Confidential Information	On or about December 16, 2022, CPO Markus disclosed an internal report containing confidential and sensitive information to a non-authorized person.
11	CPO	David-John	Leventhal	No	No	No	0	Yes		Providing False Documentation	On February 24, 2023, CPO Leventhal submitted a fictitious document regarding a personal matter. No formal disciplinary sanction was issued as he resigned from his law enforcement employment on March 14, 2023.

For Sustained Charge(s), regardless of the type or severity of discipline imposed, please use A SHORT HAND description like the below, rather than a statute or ordinance:

-Discrimination or bias: Discrimination or Bias against any person b/c of the individual's actual or perceived race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, sex, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, familial status, or any other protected characteristic under N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq.

-Excessive Force: Officer utilized excessive force

-Untruthful/Candor: Officer was untruthful or has demonstrated a lack of candor

-False Report: Officer has filed a false report or submitted a false certification in any criminal, administrative, employment, financial, or insurance matter in their professional or personal life

-Improper Search, Seizure, Arrest: Officer intentionally conducted an improper search, seizure or arrest

-Evidence Mishandling: Officer intentionally mishandled or destroyed evidence

-Domestic Violence: Domestic violence, as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:25-19

-Indictable Offense: Officer was charged with any indictable crime under New Jersey or an equivalent offense under federal law or the law of another jurisdiction related to the complaint