

## **IPCC To Release 2006 Report**

The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) presents the [“Report of the IPCC 2006”](#) to LegCo today.

In 2006, the IPCC reviewed and endorsed a total of 2,114 complaint cases investigated by the Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO) of the Hong Kong Police Force, involving 3,518 allegations, a drop of 714 cases and 1,177 allegations compared with the figures in 2005.

The majority of the allegations were “Assault”(15.1%), “Misconduct/Improper Manner/Offensive Language” (36.8%), and “Neglect of Duty” (32.5%).

Of the 3,518 allegations, 1,053 were fully investigated and the substantiation rate was 9.9%. The other allegations which were not fully investigated were those classified as “Curtailed”, “Not Pursuable”, “Withdrawn”, or resolved by “Informal Resolution”.

Last year, the IPCC raised 829 queries or suggestions on CAPO’s investigations and 565 (68.2%) of those were accepted by CAPO. The results of 44 allegations were changed subsequently, including the re-classification of 2 investigation results from “Unsubstantiated” to “Substantiated”. Eleven counts of “Substantiated Other Than Reported” allegations were also added as a result of IPCC’s monitoring and review.

Arising from the investigation results endorsed by the IPCC in 2006, disciplinary and other forms of internal actions were taken against 114 police officers. The IPCC also suggested improvements to police procedures where appropriate.

Although the IPCC is not involved in the actual investigations, its Members and Lay Observers, through the IPCC Observers Scheme, can observe the conduct of investigations and interviews by CAPO on a scheduled or surprise basis. In the past year, 317 observations were arranged under the IPCC Observers Scheme. After each observation, the Observers report to the IPCC as to whether CAPO has conducted the investigation in a thorough and impartial manner. Their feedback has been useful for the IPCC in monitoring complaint cases.

The IPCC also gave an account of the Personal Data Leakage Incident

which came to light in March 2006 in the 2006 Report. A series of internal security measures aimed at tightening up the handling of classified information containing personal data has been implemented. The IPCC also relayed the concerns and requests of some citizens affected by the Incident to the relevant authority for consideration.

The year of 2006 was a challenging one to the IPCC, with much valuable experience earned. The IPCC will remain focussed on its main work of closely monitoring and reviewing the investigations conducted by CAPO and maintaining a high degree of thoroughness and impartiality in its work.

The IPCC also looks forward to the IPCC Bill, which proposes to turn the IPCC into a statutory body, giving adequate powers to the Council to carry out its mandated work, as well as enhancing public confidence in the police complaint system.

Independent Police Complaints Council

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