FALSE COMPLAINTS

On occasion people will make false complaints against department members. Citizens should be aware of the Illinois Criminal Code 720 ILCS 26-1 (A4) “Transmits or causes to be transmitted in any manner to any peace officer, public officer or public employee a report to the effect that an offense will be committed, is being committed, or has been committed, knowing at the time of the transmission that there is no reasonable ground for believing that the offense will be committed, is being committed, or has been committed;”

Police Employees are carefully selected, held to high professional standards, and provided the best training possible. If you should have an occasion to see a police employee doing an outstanding job, we encourage you to let us know about it.

Peoria Police Department
600 S. W. Adams Street
Peoria, Illinois, 61602
Phone: 309-673-4521

Website: http://www.peoriagov.org/peoria-police-department/
COMPLIMENTS

How to compliment the actions or performance of a Peoria Police Employee?

- Call the Police Department at 309-673-4521 or stop by the department and ask to speak with a supervisor to verbally communicate your thanks.
- Write a letter or send an email to the Peoria Police Department commending the employee.
- Complete the Commendation / Complaint form from the Peoria Police Department website or pick up a form at the front lobby. City website is www.peoriagov.org

Commendation letters are forwarded to the Department member and a copy is placed in the employee’s permanent personnel file.

COMPLAINTS

What is considered a personnel complaint?
A complaint of wrong doing or inappropriate action on the part of any employee of the Peoria Police Department.

How do I file a complaint against a Police Department employee?
When a person has a complaint against a police department employee (sworn or civilian), the complaint may be filed in person, by telephone, or completing the citizen commendation / complaint form and sending it to the Department.

Illinois law (50 ILCS 725/3.8(b)) requires that anyone filing a complaint against a sworn police officer must have the complaint supported by a sworn affidavit. This can be done by using a notary public.

What type of complaints will not be taken?
Complaints alleging disagreements on traffic or parking tickets, or probable cause for an arrest are examples of complaints that may not be taken since they are best suited for a judicial review and decisions.

Who is responsible for investigating complaints?
In most cases, a supervisor specifically trained in these types of investigations will conduct the investigation with the disposition of each case being reviewed by the Chief of Police.

Will the Police Department employee be told about the complaint?
Yes. As in the case with a potentially punitive process, the accused is afforded the right of knowing what they are accused of and who the accusers are. This is done in fairness to the employee just as it is for any other person.

How long will the investigation take?
Whenever possible, investigations will be concluded within 30 days unless unusual circumstances warrant an extension. The Department will make every effort to keep the complainant advised of any delays and the disposition of the investigation.

What if the allegation / complaint turns out to be false?
If a complaint is made on a good faith belief of truth and the Department member is cleared, the complaint will be closed without further action. If it is determined the allegation was intentionally false or intended to discredit or embarrass the Department member, you may be subject to criminal charges or a civil law suit.

What if you’re concerned about the disposition of the investigation?
You may contact the Police-Community Relations Committee at 309-494-8450 or email communityrelationscommittee@peoriagov.org or Chief of Police 309-494-8335