



University of California, Santa Cruz
Police Department
Santa Cruz, Ca 95064
Attn: Chief of Police

What if I have a complaint?

“A relationship of trust and confidence between members of the University Police Department and the community we serve is essential to effective law enforcement. Officers must be free to exercise their best judgment and to initiate law enforcement action in a reasonable, lawful and impartial manner, without fear of reprisal. Likewise, officers have a special obligation to respect the rights of all persons.

The UCSC Police Department acknowledges its responsibility to establish a system of complaint and disciplinary procedures which not only subjects the officer to corrective action when they conduct themselves improperly, but will also protect them from unwarranted criticism when they discharge their duties properly.

It is the purpose of these procedures to provide a prompt, equitable, open and expeditious disposition of complaints regarding the conduct of members and employees of this department.

To this end, the UCSC Police Department welcomes constructive criticism from the members of this community.”

Mary Garcia
Interim Chief of Police

Common Questions

How do I make a complaint?

A complaint may be made in person, by telephone or by mail to any supervisor of the University Police Department.

Must a complaint be made in person?

An initial complaint may be made by telephone or mail. However, you will be asked to complete a written form, as well as be interviewed by an investigator.

Are there any restrictions on making a complaint?

A complaint should be made as soon after the incident as practical. All complaints will be investigated at the direction of the Chief of Police.

Will my complaint be investigated?

Each complaint is read and assigned by the Chief of Police, and will be completely and thoroughly investigated.

Will action be taken against the employee?

If an employee's actions have violated any department rules, regulations, policies, or laws, appropriate action will be taken.

Anonymous Complaints?

Anonymous complaints may not be accepted unless there is sufficient information to warrant an investigation without the aid of the complainant.



If you need this in another format due to disability,
call 459-2231



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
UC Santa Cruz Police Dept.
1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 831.459-2231

**INFORMATION ADVISORY FOR PERSONS MAKING
COMPLAINTS OF MISCONDUCT AGAINST A PEACE OFFICER**

California Penal Code Section 148.6 makes it a misdemeanor to file a false allegation of misconduct against a peace officer.
You are required to read and sign the following advisory:

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST A POLICE OFFICER FOR ANY IMPROPER POLICE MISCONDUCT. CALIFORNIA LAW REQUIRES THIS AGENCY TO HAVE A PROCEDURE TO INVESTIGATE CITIZEN'S COMPLAINTS. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROCEDURE. THIS AGENCY MAY FIND AFTER INVESTIGATION THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO WARRANT ACTION ON YOUR COMPLAINT; EVEN IF THAT IS THE CASE, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE COMPLAINT AND HAVE IT INVESTIGATED IF YOU BELIEVE AN OFFICER BEHAVED IMPROPERLY. CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AND ANY REPORTS OR FINDINGS RELATED TO THE COMPLAINTS MUST BE RETAINED BY THIS AGENCY FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT THAT YOU KNOW TO BE FALSE. IF YOU MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST AN OFFICER KNOWING THAT IT IS FALSE, YOU CAN BE PROSECUTED ON A MISDEMEANOR CHARGE.

I have read and understand the above statement:

Complainant

Date

Advising Investigator

Date

Confidential