

Auditing and Review Section

Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau

Child Abuse Section Audit (SVD) March 2025 Report (Final)

Report #CA032025

Sample Period: July 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025

Draft submitted by PSAB: April 1, 2025

Response by SVD Child Abuse: April 11, 2025

Final Report: April 15, 2025

Audit Team

This audit was managed and conducted by the Audit and Review Section, of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau.

Executive Summary

The Audit and Review Section (ARU) of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau conducted a Child Abuse Section Checklist Audit in March of 2025. The Child Abuse checklist audits ensure that the Child Abuse Section is operating in compliance with the most updated New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) policies covering Chapters 42.19 regarding "Child Abuse". The Consent Decree mandates Child Abuse detectives training in Child Abuse-specific matters. As a result, detectives will be able to respond timely to the investigations of Child Abuse incidents, review all evidence and statements, and conduct effective victim-oriented case follow-ups as needed. The audit also focuses on ensuring that each detective works actively to engage the victims and provides guidance on how to get counseling, assistance, and support from available social services.

The March 2025 audit was completed utilizing the most recent Child Abuse Audit Protocol at the time of the audit. This audit consists of thirty-one (31) questions and additional follow-up requests, which cover paragraphs 196-213 of the Consent Decree (CD). Based on the combined total of "one thousand six hundred and seventy-four" (1,674) checklist items rated from the sample size of fifty-four (54) case files audited, the "overall score" of this Child Abuse Section case file audit conducted by the Audit and Review Section was 99.6%.

The scorecard for the Child Abuse Checklist Audit has been updated to include explanations for "Not Applicable" scorings.

Supervisors should address deficiencies with specific training through specific In-service Training classes or Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs). Such training should be reinforced by close and efficient supervision in addition to Supervisor Feedback Logs entries.

Of the thirty-one (31) questions, thirty-one (31) scored as compliant.

The following questions were scored below 100%:

Question 11 - Is there a communications log? - Score 98%

Question 15 - Is there a medical, forensic, CAC and/or SANE report in the Case File? - Score 95%

Question 31 - Is there documented supervisory review of reports and dispositions?- Score 98%

More detailed results are embedded in the Scorecards and Conclusion sections.

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Introduction

The Audit and Review Section of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau audited the Child Abuse Section investigation case files, covering the period of July 2024 to November 2024; the audit occurred from March 24, 2025 – March 28, 2025, and was a double-blind review.

Purpose

The purpose of the Child Abuse Section case file audit was to verify departmental compliance with the Consent Decree and NOPD Operations Manual, Chapter 42.19, "Child Abuse" and Chapter 42.2 "Sexual Assault" investigations.

Scope

This audit will determine and document whether investigators and supervisors of the New Orleans Police Department Child Abuse Section provided an accurate and thorough response in conducting follow-up investigations. The auditors are responsible for verifying that each response is proactive, victim-centered, and professional. Upon completion, the audit manager will submit a report to the Captains of the Child Abuse Section and the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau (PSAB), pointing out any deficiencies or confirming that thorough investigation occurred. The submission of audit reports will assist in maintaining accurate and complete Child Abuse Section investigations in the future. Members of the Office of the Consent Decree Monitor will receive the final Child Abuse audit report.

Methodology

Population – All Child Abuse Section case files (361) for the period to audit.

Sample size – Fifty-four (54) case files were selected via EXCEL's "RAND" function from the three hundred and sixty-one (361) cases taken in for July 2024 through November 2024.

Documentation to be reviewed – All documents and investigative material contained within each case file.

Testing Instrument(s) – New Orleans Police Department Operations Manual Chapter 42.19, "Child Abuse Investigations" (Effective: 1/7/2018), and a thirty-one (31) point Child Abuse Audit Checklist. Each case file will be audited in its entirety via the "Double-blind Review" auditing process.

Data

The audit range is currently bi-annual, occurring every six months. The March 2025 audit included data from July 2024 through November 2024. The Child Abuse Section, upon request, will provide to the Innovation Manager of the Audit and Review Section (ARS) or the Captain within PSAB any item numbers that occurred during the audit range period. The ARS will then use Excel (Rand Function) to randomize cases to select for review. The ARS will then review at least 15% of those cases within the audit range.

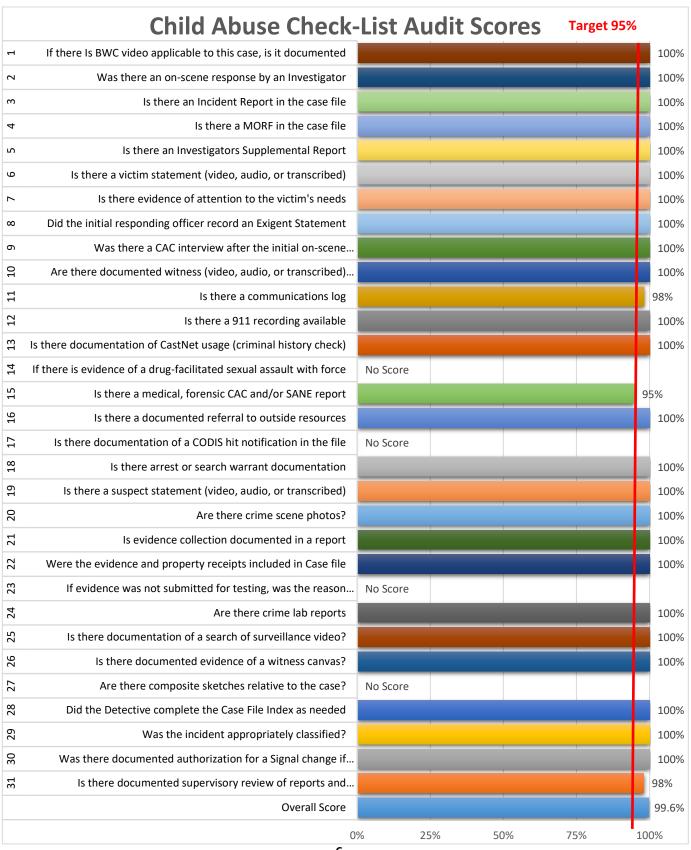
Initiating and Conducting the Child Abuse Audit

The Auditor of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau (PSAB) contacted The Sergeant of the SVD — Child Abuse Section, on March 6, 2025, to notify him of a scheduled Child Abuse Section case file audit that would be initiated by the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau (PSAB) Audit and Review Section (ARS), during the week of March 24, 2025.

The notice sent to the Sergeant included the request for the Child Abuse Section tracker. This tracker comprises a complete list of the incident files investigated by the Section for the date range of July 1, 2024, to November 30, 2024. The returned tracker from the Sergeant included a list of three hundred and sixty-one case files. The list was randomized using the EXEL "RAND" function, and the top 15% of the case files were requested from the Sergeant to conduct the audit. This request included a total of fifty-four (54) case files.

Each case file was systematically reviewed via "Double-Blind" audit process by auditors of the Audit and Review Section, based on each file's compliance with the New Orleans Police Department Operations Manual Chapter 42.19 "Child Abuse" investigations. To facilitate this process, the auditors used the thirty-one (31) point Child Abuse Audit checklist as a gauge to review and analyze the content of every case file.

Child Abuse Graph



Child Abuse Scorecard

Child Abuse Check-List Scorecard - (Double-Blind)

ARU percentages for Consent Decree requirements for child abuse check-list audit.

Audit Period: Mar, 2025 Review Period:July 2024 - November 2024

In Audit

Check-Lis	t Questions	Score	Y	Ν	U	NA	NA Explanations	CD
							Of the 27 N/A Scorings: (20) No BWC associated with the	•
			27	0		27	case, (4) Investigator was not assigned a BWC, (2) Detective referred case by DCFS, (1) Reported at the station.	
1	If there Is BWC video applicable to this case, is it documented	100%			Н		· · · · · · ·	196, 212
							Of the 32 N/A Scorings: (8) Victim relocated to the hopsital away from the scene, (8) Referred by DCFS, (1)	
			22	0		32	Victim unknown, (11) Report was delayed, (1) Detective	
							was not the primary investigator, (1) Crime reported at	
	Was there an on-scene response by an Investigator	100%		L			station, (1) Incident occurred out of parish.	195, 213
	Is there an Incident Report in the case file	100%	54	0		0	None	196, 198, 213
	Is there a MORF in the case file	100%	54	0	_	0	None	196, 198, 212
5	Is there an Investigators Supplemental Report	100%	54	0	Н	0	None Of the 32 N/A scorings: (9) Victim too young to articulate	196, 197, 198, 213
							a statement, (4) Victim was unknown), (3) Parent of victim	
							refused the interview, (4) Forensic interview had yet to	
			22	0	0	32	occur, (3) Victim refused to cooperate, (3) incident occurred out of state or parish, (3) Parent of victim refused	
							the interview, (2) Victim's parents were unreachable, (2)	
							Interview scheduled but the victim failed to show, (2)	
6	Is there a victim statement (video, audio, or transcribed)	100%		_	Н		Victim statement taken by the case manager,	196, 197, 213
			45	0		9	Of the 9 N/A Scorings: (4) Victim was not interviewed, (3) Victim was not located, (1) Victim was the state of	
7	Is there evidence of attention to the victim's needs	100%	<u> </u>	Ľ		•	Louisiana, (1) Incident occurred out of parish.	197, 213
	Did the initial responding officer record an Exigent Statement	100%	6	0		48	(48) Officer determined that an exigent statement was not	106 212
8	Did the findar responding officer record an exigent statement	10070	1	H	Н		necessary. Of the 37 N/A Scorings: (14) No CAC scheduled,(6)	196, 213
			1	l			Crime occurred out of state or parish, (5) Victim absent	
			17	0		37	during interview, (2) Refusal by parent/guardian, (2) Parent	
							of victim was not reached, (2) Victim unknown, (2) CAC scheduled but had yet to occur, (1) Victim was the state of	
9	Was there a CAC interview after the initial on-scene investigation	100%	L	L	∐l		Louisiana, (1) Victim uncooperative.	213
							Of the 18 N/A Scorings: (16) No witness to the crime, (1)	
10	Are there documented witness (video, audio, or transcribed) statements	100%	36	0		18	Witness was not present at the scene, (1) Crime was sex abuse material.	196, 198, 213
	Is there a communications log	98%	53	1		0	None.	196, 213
							Of the 23 N/A Scorings: (16) No 911 audio available, (2)	,
							Incident occurred out of state, (1) Reporting was delayed,	
			31	0		23	(1) Detective was contacted by Homelad Security, (1) Crime was reported by a teacher, (1) 911 audio located	
12	Is there a 911 recording available	100%					under the related item number.	196, 213
			1			_	Of the 5 N/A Scorings: (2) Case was referred by another	
13	Is there documentation of CastNet usage (criminal history check)	100%	49	0		5	parish, (2) Subject was unknown, (1) Insufficient information to conduct CastNet.	198
	If there is evidence of a drug-facilitated sexual assault with force	-	0	0		54	(54) No drug-facilitated sexual assault involved/reported.	208, 213
							Of the 35 N/A Scorings: (25) Victim refused medical	
			18	1		35	services or medical attention not necessary, (6) Incident occurred out of parish or state, (2) CAC scheduled and	
			1.0	1		55	results were pending, (1)CAC interview cancelled or not	
15	Is there a medical, forensic CAC and/or SANE report	95%					scheduled, (1) Victim was the state of Louisiana.	199
							Of the 20 N/A Scorings: (9) Victim or Victim's parents were unreachable. (5) Incident occurred out of parish or	
			34	0		20	state, (3) Victim was uncooperative, (1) Victim unknown,	
							(1) Crime not determined), (1) Victim was the state of	
16	Is there a documented referral to outside resources	100%	-	-	Н		Louisiana. (54) Either no CODIS hit for the suspect or no crime	213, 216
17	Is there documentation of a CODIS hit notification in the file	_	0	0		54	occurred.	196,198,199,213
18	Is there arrest or search warrant documentation	100%	10	0		44	(44) No search or arrest warrant application submitted.	196
			1	l			Of the 40 N/A scorings: (12) Case was on-going, (7)	Ì
			1	l			Suspect was not located, (4) Case occurred out of parish or state, (3) Suspect was unknown, (3) Suspect was incapable	
			14	0	0	40	of making a statement, (3) No suspect identified, (2)	
			1	l			Cleared by arrest, (2) Insufficient evidence to determine	
19	Is there a suspect statement (video, audio, or transcribed)	100%	1	l			crime, (1) Parent refused to proceed with investigation, (1) suspect refused to provide a statement.	196, 198
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		ĺ		П		Of the 45 N/A Scorings: (36) Lack of crime scene, (4)	,
			9	0		45	Crime occurred out of state or parish, (2) No crime	
20	Are there crime scene photos?	100%	1	l			occurred, (1) Delayed crime reporting, (1) NOPD handleded arrest only, (1) No on scene response.	196, 198, 213
21	Is evidence collection documented in a report	100%	50	0		4	(4) No applicable evidence collected.	196, 198, 199, 209
	Were the evidence and property receipts included in Case file	100%	51	0		3	(3) No applicable evidence collected.	196, 198, 213
	If evidence was not submitted for testing, was the reason documented Are there crime lab reports	100%	0	0		54 53	(54) No evidence collected required lab submission. (53) No evidence was submitted to the crime lab.	196, 198, 209 196, 213
	Is there documentation of a search of surveillance video?	100%	5	0		49	(49) No surveillance video relevant to the case.	196, 198, 213
							Of the 48 N/A Scorings: (33) No witness was located, (6)	
			6	0		48	Incident occurred out of state or parish, (3) Crime occurred	
26	Is there documented evidence of a witness canvas?	100%	1	l			in a private setting, (2) Victim relocated, (1) No crime occurred.	196, 198, 213
27	Are there composite sketches relative to the case?	-	0	0		54	(54) No relative sketches composed.	196, 198, 213
	Did the Detective complete the Case File Index as needed	100%	54	0		0	None	196, 213
	Was the incident appropriately classified? Was there documented authorization for a Signal change if required	100%	54 2	0	\vdash	0 52	None (52) No signal change occurred.	195, 213 206, 213
	Is there documented supervisory review of reports and dispositions	98%	53	1	Н	0	None	201, 213
	Overall Score	99.6%	831	_		840		,
							•	

Case File Reviews

The listed information below reveals the outcome of the Audit Team's checklist reviews.

- Is there BWC video applicable to this case? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 27 were audited as positive, none were negative and 27 were N/A (not applicable).
- Was there an on-scene response by Child Abuse? The overall score for this category was 100%.
 Of the 54 cases reviewed, 22 were audited as positive, none were negative and 32 were N/A (not applicable).
- Is there an Incident Report in the case file? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 54 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
- 4. **Is there a MORF in the case file?** The overall score for this category was **100**%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 54 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
- 5. **Is there a Supplemental Report?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 54 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
- 6. **Is there a victim statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 22 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 32 were N/A (not applicable).
- 7. Is there evidence of attention to the victim's needs (i.e., Did the investigator demonstrate empathy, safety & medical needs of the victim, etc.)? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 45 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 9 were N/A (not applicable).
- 8. Did the initial responding officer record an Exigent Statement to determine that a crime occurred, if necessary? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 6 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 48 were N/A (not applicable).
- Was there a CAC Interview after the initial on-scene investigation? The overall score for this
 category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 17 were audited as positive, none were negative,
 and 37 were N/A (not applicable).

- 10. Are there documented witness statements (video, audio, or transcribed)? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 36 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 18 were N/A (not applicable).
- 11. **Is there a communications log?** The overall score for this category was **98%**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 53 were audited as positive, 1 was negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
- 12. **Is there a 911 recording available?** The overall score for this category was **100%.** Of the 54 cases reviewed, 31 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 23 were N/A (not applicable).
- 13. Is there documentation of CastNet usage (criminal history check)? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 49 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 5 were N/A (not applicable).
- 14. If there is evidence of a drug-facilitated sexual assault with follow up according to policy? The overall score for this category was **No Score**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, none were audited as positive, none were negative, and 54 were N/A (not applicable).
- 15. Is there a medical, forensic, CAC and/or SANE report in the Case File? The overall score for this category was 95%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 18 were audited as positive, 1 was negative, and 35 were N/A (not applicable).
- 16. Is there a documented referral to outside resources (i.e., NOFJC, CAC, DCFS, NOPD Social Workers)? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 34 were audited as positive, none were negative and 20 were N/A (not applicable).
- 17. Is there documentation of a CODIS hit notification in the file? The overall score for this category was **No Score**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, none were audited as positive, none were negative, and 54 were N/A (not applicable).
- 18. Is there arrest or search warrant documentation? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 10 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 44 were N/A (not applicable).
- 19. **Is there a suspect statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?** The overall score for this category was **100**%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 14 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 40 were N/A (not applicable).
- 20. Were there crime scene photos taken when evidence could be captured/recorded, as appropriate? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 9 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 45 were N/A (not applicable).

- 21. **Is evidence collection documented in a report?** The overall score for this category was **100**%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 50 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 4 were N/A (not applicable).
- 22. Were the evidence & property receipts included within the Case File for submitted evidence? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 51 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 3 were N/A (not applicable).
- 23. If evidence was not submitted for testing, was the reason documented in a report? The overall score for this category was **No Score**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, none were audited as positive, none were negative, and 54 were N/A (not applicable).
- 24. **Are there crime lab reports?** The overall score for this category was **100**%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 1 was audited as positive, none were negative, and 53 were N/A (not applicable).
- 25. **Is there documentation of a search of surveillance video?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 5 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 49 were N/A (not applicable).
- 26. **Is there documented evidence of a witness canvas?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 6 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 48 were N/A (not applicable).
- 27. **Are there composite sketches relative to the case?** The overall score for this category was **No Score**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, none were audited as positive, none were negative, and 54 were N/A (not applicable).
- 28. Did the Detective complete (initial and date) the Case File Index as items were entered in the Case File? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 54 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
- 29. **Was the incident appropriately classified?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 54 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
- 30. Was there documented authorization for a signal change if required? The overall score for this category was 100%. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 2 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 52 were N/A (not applicable).
- 31. **Is there documented supervisory review of reports and dispositions?** The overall score for this category was **98%**. Of the 54 cases reviewed, 53 were audited as positive, 1 was negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).

Conclusion

Based on the combined total of one thousand six hundred and seventy-four (1,674) checklist items rated, from the sample of fifty-four (54) case files audited, the "Overall Score" of this March 2025 Child Abuse Section case file audit conducted by the Auditing and Review Section was 99.6%.

Results

The overall results of the March 2025 Child Abuse audit revealed compliance threshold scores of **above 95%** in all areas; therefore, there were no areas of concern noted.

Recommendations

The audit resulted in 99.6% compliance for the March 2025 Child Abuse Audit. There were no recommendations from PSAB.

Section Response

Members of the P.S.A.B Auditing Team sampled fifty-four (54) Child Abuse case files against a 31-Point Child Abuse Casefile Audit Checklist.

- Checklist Items:1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,13,14,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29, & 30, all received a passing score of 100%.
- Checklist Items: 11 and 31 received a passing score of 98%
- Checklist Items:15, received a score of 95%.

In the *Conclusion* section of the Audit Report, PSAB Auditors did not note any areas of concern. The Child Abuse Unit will ensure that the document in case file J-05687-24 is included.

The Child Abuse Unit will continue to strive for complete and thorough investigations and case files that will yield positive audits.

Appendix A – Report Distribution

Deputy Supt. PSAB Bureau

Captain PSAB Bureau

Deputy Supt. ISB Bureau

Captain ISB Bureau

Lieutenant SVD

Attachments:

Excel Raw Data Spreadsheet for July 2024 through November 2024 audit.

The following checklist was the instrument used by the auditing team to review each case file.

	n Number: CHILD ABUSE AUDIT REVIEW CHECK	<u>LIST</u> NA = Not
Audi Date	plicable ditor: de: apliant/No	Y = Compliant N = Not
	se Detective	U = Unknown
1.	Is there BWC video applicable to this case?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
2.	Was there an on-scene response by an Investigator?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
3.	Is there an Incident Report in the case file?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
4.	Is there a MORF in the case file?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
5.	Is there an Investigator's Supplemental Report?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
6.	Is there a victim statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
7.	Is there evidence of attention to the victim's needs? (i.e., Did the investigator demonsafety & medical needs of the victim, etc.)	nstrate empathy,
8.	Did the initial responding officer record an Exigent Statement to determine that a cr necessary? (Mark NA if not appropriate)	ime occurred, if \Bigcup NA / \Bigcup Y / \Bigcup N / \Bigcup U
9.	Was there a CAC interview after the initial on-scene investigation?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
10.). Are there documented witness statements (video, audio, or transcribed)?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
11.	1. Is there a communications log? (incident recall)	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
12.	2. Is there a 911 recording available?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
13.	3. Is there documentation of CastNet usage (criminal history check)?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
14.	4. If there is evidence of a drug-facilitated sexual assault with follow up according to p	oolicy?
15.	5. Is there a medical, forensic, CAC and/or SANE report in the case file?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
16.	6. Is there a documented referral to outside resources (i.e., NOFJC, CAC, DCFS, NOP Workers)?	D Social NA / NY / N /
17.	7. Is there documentation of a CODIS hit notification in the file?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
18.	3. Is there arrest or search warrant documentation?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
19.	O. Is there a suspect statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
20.). Were there crime scene photos taken when evidence could be captured/recorded, as (Photos may be in Property & Evidence or case file materials)	appropriate?
21.	Is evidence collection documented in a report?	□NA / □Y / □N /

22.	Were the evidence & property receipts included within the Case File for submitted evidence?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
23.	If evidence was not submitted for testing, was the reason documented in a report?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
24.	Are there crime lab reports?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
25.	Is there documentation of a search of surveillance video?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
26.	Is there documented evidence of a witness canvas?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
27.	Are there composite sketches relative to the case?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
28.	Did the Detective complete (initial and date) the Case File Index as items were entered in the Case File?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
29.	Was the incident appropriately classified?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
30.	Was there documented authorization for a Signal change if required?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
31.	Is there documented supervisory review of reports and dispositions?	□NA / □Y / □N / □U
	Did the Auditor listen to recordings of the victim interview(s)?	□NA / □Y / □N
	Did the Auditor listen to the suspect interview(s)?	□NA / □Y / □N
Naı	rrative/Comments:	