



Auditing and Review Section
Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau

Domestic Violence Patrol Audit July 2026 Report

Report #DVP072026

Sample Period: January - March 2026

Draft submitted by PSAB: July, 2026

Response from Districts: July - August, 2026

Final Report: September 2026

Audit Team

This audit was managed and conducted by the Audit and Review Section of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau, individuals listed below:

Matthew Segraves – Innovation Manager
Jovan M. Berry – Auditor
Taneva Bowers – Auditor
Melinda C. Foy – Auditor
Danta L. Lewis – Auditor
Christopher J. Porter – Auditor

Executive Summary

The Audit and Review Section (ARS) of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau (PSAB) initiated a Domestic Violence (DV) Patrol Audit in April 2026. The audit universe covered the period from January 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026. This audit is conducted to ensure the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) responds to and investigates reports of domestic violence professionally, effectively, and in a manner free of gender-bias, in accordance with the rights secured or protected by the Constitution and Laws of the United States. The majority of requirements assessed by this audit are regulated by NOPD policy Chapter 42.4 – Domestic Violence.

The audit assessed 92 randomly selected DV calls for service using a checklist and a double-blind process. The checklist includes 28 questions, of which 18 scored 95% and above, 2 scored between 85 and 94%, and 8 scored below 85%. Find the detailed results table [here](#).

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Introduction

The Audit and Review Section of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau audited responses to DV calls for service from January through March 2026. The unit assessed a random selection of such calls with a checklist. Completing the check list required review of associated videos and reports. The unit implemented a double-blind process.

Purpose

The DV patrol audit is conducted to verify Departmental compliance with the NOPD Operations Manual as it pertains to responses to domestic violence calls for service. The following are the NOPD Policy Chapters covered by this audit:

- Chapter 42.4 – Domestic Violence
- Chapter 41.3.10 – Body Worn Camera
- Rule 3: Professional Conduct

Find NOPD policies here: nola.gov/next/nopd/topics/policies

Scope

This audit is designed to assess the extent to which responses to DV calls for service by NOPD officers are done so in accordance with the U.S. Constitution and NOPD policies. The audit assesses such incidents for compliance on a number of criteria such as the below. For a complete list of checklist audit questions see the [scorecard table](#).

- a. Was a police report written? If so, is it complete?
- b. Does complete video coverage exist?
- c. Did the officer(s) separate the parties?
- d. Did the officer(s) assess injuries?
- e. Did the officer(s) assess risk?
- f. Did the officer(s) refer victims to support services?
- g. Did the officer(s) get supervisor approval when required?
- h. Were the officer(s) professional?

Methodology

The unit used a stratified, representative random sample. The unit used CAD (computer-aided dispatch) data to count the total number of DV calls for service for the audit time period (the universe). The unit used a sample size calculator to identify the sample size needed for a one-tailed test with a 95% degree of confidence and a 4% error rate. The unit used the police districts in which the incidents occurred to create strata. The results of the sample design are below:

N	Representative Sample Size*
3,030	92

*One-tailed test, 95% degree of confidence, 4% error rate

Stratification Group	N	%	Sample Size
1st District	283	9%	9
2nd District	244	8%	7
3rd District	331	11%	10
4th District	338	11%	10
5th District	560	18%	17
6th District	377	12%	12
7th District	723	24%	22
8th District	174	6%	5
Total	3,030		92

For each incident selected the unit reviewed:

- CAD information
- Associated police reports
- Associated video footage (BWC, ICC) for the officers on scene

For each incident selected the unit completed the DV patrol audit checklist, which contains 28 questions. See the [results table](#) for the checklist question details.

The audit used a double-blind process. Two auditors were assigned each randomly selected incident. The auditors reviewed each incident independently and answered the audit questions (i.e. checklist, audit form) before discussing the incident with their double-blind counterpart. After discussing the incident and comparing results the auditors completed the audit criteria a third time with their reconciled results. When the auditors ultimately disagreed with the result for one or more audit questions, the decision was made by the audit supervisor.

Domestic Violence Patrol Scorecard

	Checklist Questions	Score	Y	N	NA	NA Explanations	Policy
1	Is there an incident report?	99%	71	1	20	20 NA - GOA/NAT	Ch 42.4 P 60-65
2	Is there body worn camera footage?	99%	90	1	1	1 NA - GOA	Ch 41.3.10 P 11
3	If call was Code 2, did two officers respond?	83%	58	12	22	22 NA - Not Code 2	Ch 42.4 P 7
4	If only one officer responded, did they request a supervisor?	33%	4	8	80	22 NA - Not a Code 2 58 NA - Multiple Officers Responded	Ch 42.4 P 7
5	Did the officer(s) exercise caution and care ensuring safety of the officers and parties involved?	100%	68	0	24	24 NA - GOA	Ch 42.4 P 2
6	Did officer(s) attempt to make contact with anyone on scene?	100%	69	0	23	23 NA - GOA/Call Back Unanswered	Ch 42.4 P 12
7	Did the officer(s) separate the parties?	95%	20	1	71	25 NA - GOA 46 NA - Only One Party Present	Ch 42.4 P 10
8	If child witnesses were present, did officer(s) separate them?	67%	2	1	89	24 NA - GOA 65 NA - No child witnesses	Ch 42.4 P 11 C-D
9	Did the officer(s) take appropriate action for a violation of a PO?	100%	5	0	87	23 NA - GOA 64 NA - No protective order involved	Ch 42.4 P 8 C
10	Did the officer(s) assess for injuries (obvious or not)?	100%	32	0	60	24 NA - GOA 33 NA - No DV 3 NA - Parties not present	Ch 42.4 P 11 F
11	Did the officer(s) conduct a Risk Assessment (5 Questions)?	80%	20	5	67	11 NA - GOA 44 NA - No DV 12 NA - Victim Unavailable	Ch 42.4 P 16
12	Did the officer(s) try to determine the predominant aggressor?	100%	11	0	81	24 NA - GOA 38 NA - No DV 3 NA - Parties not present 16 NA - Allegations Against One Party	Ch 42.4 P 8 E, 27 B

	Checklist Questions	Score	Y	N	NA	NA Explanations	Policy
13	If dual-arrest possible, officer assessed for self-defense?	100%	4	0	88	23 NA - GOA 40 NA - No DV 4 NA - Parties not present 21 NA - Allegations Against One Party	Ch 42.4 P 25 B, 27 A
14	If a dual arrest was made, was there supervisory approval?	-	0	0	92	24 NA - GOA 68 NA - No Dual Arrest	Ch 42.4 P 8 A
15	Did the officer(s) follow policy for a suspect not on the scene?	98%	43	1	48	24 NA - GOA 24 NA - Subject On Scene	Ch 42.4 P 36-37
16	Did the officer(s) explain circumstances when arrest not made?	100%	55	0	37	24 NA - GOA 8 NA - Arrest Made 5 NA - Parties Not Present	Ch 42.4 P 33-34
17	Did officer(s) refer victims/parties to the NOFJC?	47%	30	34	28	24 NA - GOA 4 NA - Parties Not Present	Ch 42.4 P 8 E, Ch 42.4.1 P 10
18a	Did officer(s) provide victims with Form #45 - Notice to Victims of Family Violence?	76%	22	7	63	24 NA - GOA 35 NA - No DV 3 NA - Victim unavailable 1 NA - Victim uncooperative	Ch 42.4 P 46 C i
18b	Did officer(s) provide victims with Form #49 - Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Brochure?	4%	1	23	68	24 NA - GOA 40 NA - No DV 3 NA - Victim unavailable 1 NA - Victim uncooperative	Ch 42.4 P 46 C ii
19	Did the officer avoid making any statements that would discourage the victim from reporting DV?	100%	64	0	28	24 NA - GOA 4 NA - Victim Not Present	Ch 42.4 P 41 A
20	If the signal was changed, was it approved by a supervisor?	83%	10	2	80	24 NA - GOA 26 NA - Changed to DV 30 NA - Signal Not Changed	Ch 42.4 P 68
21	Were victim/witness statements documented in the report?	98%	65	1	26	26 NA - Victim/Witness GOA	Ch 42.4 P 15
22	Were observations of the crime scene noted?	100%	21	0	71	25 NA - GOA 41 NA - No Crime 5 NA - Crime Reported Later	Ch 42.4 P 13 B

	Checklist Questions	Score	Y	N	NA	NA Explanations	Policy
23	Were signs and symptoms of strangulation noted?	100%	5	0	87	25 NA - GOA 62 NA - No Strangulation Occurred	Ch 42.4 P 11 G
24	Was a photo taken of injuries sustained?	88%	14	2	76	25 NA - GOA 51 NA - No Injuries Claimed	Ch 42.4 P 13f, 19 B
25	Did officer follow policy documenting felony risk information?	100%	28	0	64	25 NA - GOA 39 NA - No Crime	Ch 42.4 P 38
26	Did the officer(s) collect, preserve and document evidence?	100%	25	0	67	25 NA - GOA 39 NA - No Crime 3 NA - Reported Later	Ch 42.4 P 17
27	Did the officers conduct themselves in a professional manner?	100%	90	0	2	2 NA - No Video	Rule 3 P 1

Domestic Violence Patrol Scorecard by District

Check-List Questions		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Score
1	Is there an incident report?	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
2	Is there body worn camera footage?	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	95%	100%	99%
3	If call was Code 2, did two officers respond?	83%	83%	70%	80%	92%	60%	100%	75%	83%
4	If only one officer responded, did they request a supervisor?	100%	0%	67%	100%	0%	0%	-	0%	33%
5	Did the officer(s) exercise caution and care ensuring safety of the officers and parties involved?	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
6	Did officer(s) attempt to make contact with anyone on scene?	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
7	Did the officer(s) separate the parties?	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	88%	-	95%
8	If child witnesses were present, did officer(s) separate them?	-	-	-	100%	50%	-	-	-	67%
9	Did the officer(s) take appropriate action for a violation of a PO?	-	100%	-	-	100%	100%	-	-	100%
10	Did the officer(s) assess for injuries (obvious or not)?	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11	Did the officer(s) conduct a Risk Assessment (5 Questions)?	50%	100%	75%	67%	67%	100%	100%	0%	80%
12	Did the officer(s) try to determine the predominant aggressor?	100%	100%	-	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
13	If dual-arrest possible, officer assessed for self-defense?	100%	-	-	100%	100%	-	100%	-	100%
14	If a dual arrest was made, was there supervisory approval?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Did the officer(s) follow policy for a suspect not on the scene?	100%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	98%
16	Did the officer(s) explain circumstances when arrest not made?	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
17	Did officer(s) refer victims/parties to the NOFJC?	40%	40%	44%	38%	50%	80%	41%	67%	47%

[illegible]

Recommendations

The audit results should be reviewed by the commanding Captains, or their designee(s). Scores below 85% should be addressed with corrective action. The audit unit will make the raw data for the audits available, which allows the reviewer to see the specific incidents and individuals involved in any non-compliance.

Corrective action could include:

- Modifying/enhanced training whether it be Academy courses, roll call training, and/or DTBs
- Counseling individuals whose action or in-action resulted in non-compliance
- Initiating formal disciplinary investigations for individuals whose action or in-action resulted in non-compliance and for whom the audit finding is a repeat issue or represents an intentional policy violation.
- Policy revisions for requirements that are overly burdensome and are determined not needed to meet Departmental goals and which led to non-compliance

Reevaluation Requests

District 3 & 4

Auditee thought Q17 “Did officer(s) refer victims to the NOFJC?” should not apply to four 103D (domestic disturbance) incidents, where there is no victim. Audit unit reworded question to “Did officer(s) refer victims/parties to the NOFJC?” and added Ch 42.4.1 P 10 to the policy reference for the question. No change in scores.

District 7

Auditee found ARS scored two incidents that started as Code 1 calls and were later changed to Code 2 signals as non-compliant for not having a Code 2 response (two officers must respond or one officer may respond with a supervisor approval). ARS updated the results for the Code 2 audit questions to “NA” for the two incidents and the 7th Districts scores increased.

Appendix A – Report Distribution

- Report and audit data emailed to Field Operations Bureau Deputy Superintendent and Captains
- Report posted to nola.gov/next/nopd/audits-and-reports