



Auditing Review Unit
Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau

Sex Crimes Unit Audit Report November 2024 – (Final)

Report #: SC112024

Sample Period: January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024

Submitted by PSAB: November 15, 2024

Response from Sex Crimes: December 3, 2024

Final Report: December 3, 2024

Audit Team

This audit was managed and conducted by the Audit and Review Team

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Introduction

The Auditing Review Unit of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau conducted a semi-annual audit of the Sex Crimes Unit's investigation case files. This audit covered case files for the period of January 2024 to June 2024. The time allocated to conduct this audit was November 6, 2024, through November 12, 2024. The previous audit was conducted in May 2024.

Purpose

The Sex Crimes Unit case file audit was conducted to verify Departmental compliance with the Consent Decree and with NOPD's Operations Manual, Chapter 42.2 "Sexual Assault" Investigations.

Scope

This audit will determine and document whether there was a proper response by investigators and supervisors of the New Orleans Police Department's Sex Crimes Unit in conducting follow-up investigations. The auditors are responsible for verifying that each overall response was proactive, victim centered and professional. Once the review is completed, the audit manager will submit a report to the Captain of the Sex Crimes Unit, and the Captain of the Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau (PSAB) pointing out any deficiencies or confirming a thorough investigation. These audit reports will help to maintain thorough and complete Sex Crimes Unit investigations in the future. A "final report" will also be sent to the appropriate monitor from the OCDM.

Methodology

Population size – the Sex Crimes Unit only.

Sample size – Fifty (50) case files were selected via EXCEL's "RAND" function, from the 331 cases taken in by the Sex Crimes Unit for the first half of the 2024 calendar year.

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

Testing Instrument(s) – New Orleans Police Department Operations Manual Chapter 42.2, "Sexual Assault Investigations" (Revised: 5/27/2018), and a thirty-one (31) point Sex Crimes Audit Checklist. Each individual case file was audited in its entirety via "double-blind" auditing process by two (2) members of the Auditing Review Unit (ARU), to give a reliable and thorough review of each case file.

Data

The audit range is usually set for every six months (semi-annually). The Sex Crimes Unit will give the Auditing Review Unit all item numbers they were assigned during that audit date range. The Auditing and Review Unit will then take those item numbers and enter them into EXCEL's randomizer generator for cases to be selected for review. The Auditing Review Unit will then review at least 15% of those cases within the audit range.

Initiating and Conducting the Sex Crimes Audit

The Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau contacted the Commander of the Special Victims Division (SVD), on October 28, 2024, to inform her of a scheduled Sex Crimes Unit case file audit that would be initiated by the Auditing Review Unit (ARU), during the week of November 4, 2024.

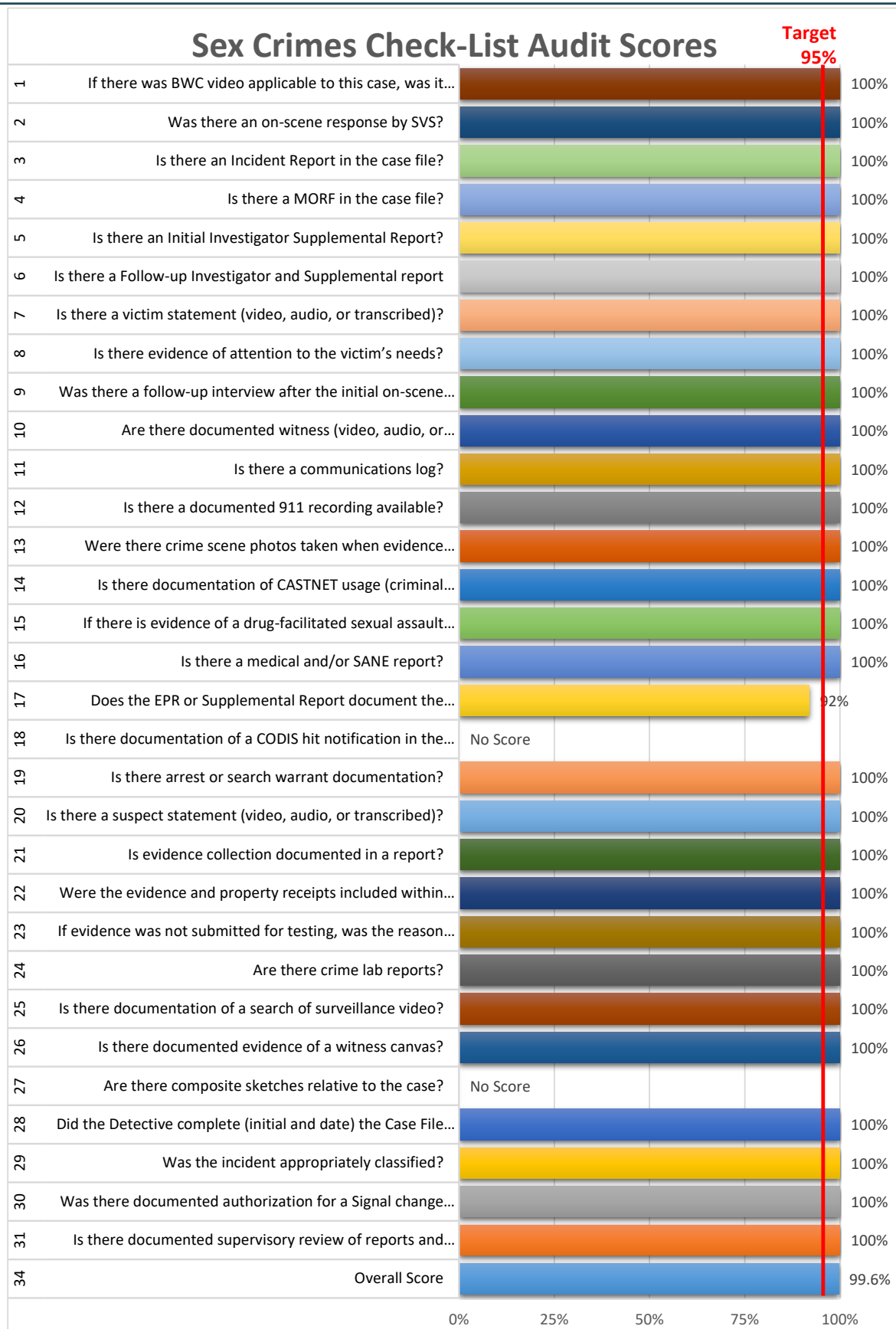
The SVD Commander was provided this advanced notice so that she could schedule a Sex Crimes Unit supervisor to be on standby to provide the requested case files to the Auditing Review Unit (ARU) upon demand. The SVD Commander was provided with the checklist that would be used, in addition to the audit protocol.

During this audit period, the ARU auditors requested and received a total of fifty (50) case files from the on-duty Sex Crimes sergeant for review. The auditors conducted a review of the case files at the office of the Audit and Review Unit.

Each case file was then systematically reviewed via “double-blind” audit process by the ARU auditors, for a determination of each case file’s compliance with the New Orleans Police Department’s Operations Manual Chapter 42.2, as it relates to “Sexual Assault” Investigations. To facilitate this process, the auditors used the thirty-one (31) point Sexual Assault audit checklist as a gauge to review and analyze the content of every case file.

The count of the case files that each auditor reviewed for the “double-blind” case file audit is as follows: **Total: 50 Case Files**

Sex Crimes Unit Scorecards



Sex Crimes Check-List Scorecard - (Double-blind)

Report Date: November 2024

ARU percentages for Consent Decree requirements for sex crimes check-list audit.

January 2024 - June 2024

Check-List Questions

Score

Y

N

NA

NA Explanations

CD¶

1	If there was BWC video applicable to this case, was it reviewed by the Investigator? Applicable BWC would be video from responding officer(s) to the crime scene.	100%	29	0	21	No BWC applicable to the case	196
2	Was there an on-scene response by SVS?	100%	22	0	28	The victim was a district walk-in, the victim relocated from the scene, or the reported crime occurred years prior.	195
3	Is there an Incident Report in the case file?	100%	50	0	0	None	196, 198
4	Is there a MORF in the case file?	100%	50	0	0	None	196, 198
5	Is there an Initial Investigator Supplemental Report?	100%	50	0	0	None	196, 197, 198
6	Is there a Follow-up Investigator and Supplemental report	100%	1	0	49	Either the case is still open and a follow-up investigation has yet to occur, or the victim declined to proceed with the investigation.	196, 197, 198
7	Is there a victim statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?	100%	45	0	5	Either the victim could not be located, or the victim declined to speak with the responding officer or investigator.	196, 197
8	Is there evidence of attention to the victim's needs?	100%	47	0	3	Either the victim declined to speak with the investigator, or the victim could not be located.	197
9	Was there a follow-up interview after the initial on-scene investigation	100%	2	0	48	Either the case is still open and a follow-up interview has yet to occur, or the victim declined to proceed with the investigation.	196, 197, 198
10	Are there documented witness (video, audio, or transcribed) statement?	100%	13	0	37	Either no witnesses were available or no crime occurred.	196, 198
11	Is there a communications log?	100%	50	0	0	None	196
12	Is there a documented 911 recording available?	100%	24	0	26	The incident was field initiated, an outside referral, or the victim was a district walk-in.	196
13	Were there crime scene photos taken when evidence could be captured?	100%	5	0	45	Either evidence was not captured due to lack of crime scene or no crime occurred.	196, 198
14	Is there documentation of CASTNET usage (criminal history check)?	100%	47	0	3	No crime occurred, the victim could not be located, the suspect was not identified, or the case is on-going.	196, 198
15	If there is evidence of a drug-facilitated sexual assault with follow up according to policy?	100%	3	0	47	No drug-facilitated sexual assault reported.	195, 198
16	Is there a medical and/or SANE report?	100%	13	0	37	Victim refused medical services, victim could not be located, or no injury reported.	196, 199
17	Does the EPR or Supplemental Report document the required referral to NOFJC?	92%	34	3	13	Either victim unable to be located or victim declined to speak with the investigator.	196, 197, 216
18	Is there documentation of a CODIS hit notification in the file?	-	0	0	50	Either no CODIS hit for the suspect or no crime occurred.	196, 198, 199
19	Is there arrest or search warrant documentation?	100%	8	0	42	No search or arrest warrant application submitted.	196
20	Is there a suspect statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?	100%	9	0	41	The suspect is unknown/unidentified, suspect arrested by warrant or unable to locate suspect.	196, 198
21	Is evidence collection documented in a report?	100%	47	0	3	No evidence collected due to either the victim not being located, or the victim refusing to comply with the investigation.	196, 198, 199
22	Were the evidence and property receipts included within the Casefile for submitted evidence?	100%	50	0	0	None	196, 198
23	If evidence was not submitted for testing, was the reason documented in a report?	100%	1	0	49	No applicable evidence collected required lab submission.	196, 198
24	Are there crime lab reports?	100%	4	0	46	No evidence submitted to the crime lab.	196
25	Is there documentation of a search of surveillance video?	100%	16	0	34	No surveillance video relevant to the case.	196, 198
26	Is there documented evidence of a witness canvas?	100%	8	0	42	Witness canvas did not occur due to witness reporting the crime, district walk-in, case is on-going, or no crime occurred.	196, 198
27	Are there composite sketches relative to the case?	-	0	0	50	No relative composite sketches composed.	196, 198
28	Did the Detective complete (initial and date) the Case File Index as items were included in the case file?	100%	50	0	0	None	196
29	Was the incident appropriately classified?	100%	50	0	0	None	195
30	Was there documented authorization for a Signal change if required	100%	3	0	47	No signal change occurred.	201, 206
31	Is there documented supervisory review of reports and dispositions	100%	50	0	0	None	201, 206
34	Overall Score	99.6%	781	3	766		

General Comments

ARU audited sampled Sex Crimes case file items for a defined period, for completeness and accuracy as required by the Consent Decree.

For an explanation of the procedure and scoring system for this review, see the associated "protocol" document.

For a list of relevant policies, contact PSAB as needed.

For the audit results for each case file, see the accompanying RawData spreadsheets.

Scores below 95% are highlighted in red.

Case File Review – 1st Half of 2024

The below-listed information reveals the outcome of each checklist review question.

1. **If there was BWC video applicable to this case, was it reviewed by the Investigator?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 29 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 21 were N/A (not applicable without BWC available to review; because the victim may have reported event sometime after the assault, the victim may not have been on scene when the officer arrived, or there was no officer involvement at all).
2. **Was there an on-scene response by SVD?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 22 were audited as positive, none were negative and 28 were N/A (not applicable due the victim was a district walk-in, the victim relocated from scene, or the reported crime occurred years prior). If the victim is no longer at the scene, and has relocated to a facility for treatment, or walked into a nearby district station to report a crime, then there was no on-scene response by SVD, and it is therefore not applicable.
3. **Is there an Incident Report in the case file?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 50 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 50 cases reviewed, 50 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
5. **Is there an Initial Investigator Supplemental Report?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 50 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
6. **Is there a Follow up Investigator & Supplemental Report)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 1 was audited as positive, none were negative, and 49 were N/A (not applicable) as either the case is still open, and follow-up has not occurred yet or victim chose not to proceed with the case. If a follow-up has yet to occur, it is due to a lack of evidence or necessary information to continue an investigation. The length of time between reporting a crime and initiating a follow-up will vary depending on the victim's cooperation and ability to be located.
7. **Is there a victim statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 47 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 3 were N/A (not applicable) due to either the victim chose not to speak with the officer/detective, or the victim could not be located.
8. **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 50 cases reviewed, 47 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 3 were N/A (not applicable) due to either the victim chose not to speak with the officer/detective, or the victim could not be located.

9. **Was there a follow-up interview after the initial on-scene investigation?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 2 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 48 were N/A (not applicable) due to either the case is still open, and follow-up has not occurred yet, or the victim chose not to proceed with the case.
10. **Are there documented witness statements (video, audio, or transcribed)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 13 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 37 were N/A (not applicable) due to either there were no witnesses, or a crime did not occur.
11. **Is there a communications log (incident recall)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 50 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).
12. **Is there a documented 911 recording available?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 24 were audited as positive, none were negative and 26 were N/A (not applicable) due the incident was field initiated, an outside referral, or the victim was a walk-in at the district station. Since not all reports are initiated via 911 (victim was a district walk-in, flag down occurred, etc.) there will not be a 911 call for each communications log that is present.
13. **Were there crime scene photos taken when evidence could be captured/recorded, as appropriate?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 5 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 45 were N/A (not applicable) due to either there was no crime scene, or a crime was not committed.
14. **Is there documentation of CASTNET usage (criminal history check)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 47 were audited as positive, none were negative and 3 were N/A (not applicable) due to the suspect was not identified, the victim could not be located, the case is still open, or a crime was not committed.
15. **If there is evidence of a drug- facilitated sexual assault with follow up according to policy?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 3 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 47 were N/A (not applicable) due to no drugs were reported to be involved in the incident, or a crime was not committed.
16. **Is there a medical and/or SANE report)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 13 were audited as positive, none were negative and 37 were N/A (not applicable) due to the victim refused medical services, the victim was not found, or no crime occurred.

17. **Does the EPR or Supplemental Report document the required referral to NOFJC?** The overall score for this category was **92%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 34 were audited as positive, 3 were negative (**D-07342-24, D-10906-24, B-05137-24**), and 13 were N/A (not applicable) due to the victim declined to speak with the officer/detective, no crime occurred, or the victim could not be located.
18. **Is there documentation of a CODIS hit notification in the file?** The overall score for this category was **No Score**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, none were audited as positive, none were negative, and 50 were N/A (not applicable) due to there was no DNA submitted, no crime occurred, or a suspect has not been identified.
19. **Is there arrest or search warrant documentation?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 8 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 42 were N/A (not applicable) due to there was no application made by the detective, no crime occurred, or no suspect was found.
20. **Is there a suspect statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 9 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 41 were N/A (not applicable) due to the suspect was not located, the suspect was not identified, or the suspect refused.
21. **Is evidence collection documented in a report?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 47 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 3 were N/A (not applicable) with no evidence collected due to either the victim not being located, or the victim refused to cooperate with the investigation.
22. **Were the evidence & property receipts included within the Case File for submitted evidence?** Of the 50 cases reviewed, 50 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none 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 **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 1 was audited as positive, none were negative, and 49 were N/A (not applicable) due to none of the evidence collected required a lab submission.
24. **Are there crime lab reports?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 4 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 46 were N/A (not applicable) due to there was no evidence to submit to the crime lab; therefore, crime lab was not called to the scene.
25. **Is there documentation of a search for surveillance video?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 16 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 34 were N/A (not applicable) with no surveillance video located. Because most incidents occurred inside a residence or structure, there was no available video footage on scene.

26. **Is there documented evidence of a witness canvas?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 8 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 42 were N/A (not applicable) due to there were no witnesses present at the scene, no crime occurred, a witness reported the crime, or the victim was a district walk-in.
27. **Are there composite sketches relative to the case?** The overall score for this category was **No Score**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, none were audited as positive, none were negative, and 50 were N/A (not applicable) as no suspect sketches made.
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 50 cases reviewed, 50 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 50 cases reviewed, 50 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 50 cases reviewed, 3 were audited as positive, none were negative, and 47 were N/A (not applicable) due to a signal change was not requested.
31. **Is there documented supervisory review of reports and dispositions?** The overall score for this category was **100%**. Of the 50 cases reviewed, 50 were audited as positive, none were negative, and none were N/A (not applicable).

Mandated Consent Decree Paragraph Responses

(CD #206-#211)

During the audit ARU auditors corroborated to ascertain and verify the below listed information to address Consent Decree paragraphs #206 through #211 pertaining to the Sex Crimes Unit:

CD #206

During the first year of this Agreement, neither patrol officers nor detectives shall code reported sexual assaults in a miscellaneous or non-criminal category without the express written approval of the Investigations & Support Bureau Special Victim Division Commander and the Investigations & Support Bureau Criminal Investigations Division Commander. Following this period, patrol officers shall not code reported sexual assaults in a miscellaneous or non-criminal category without their immediate supervisor first approving. Any decision by a detective to do so shall receive close secondary review and shall be approved in writing by an immediate Sex Crimes unit supervisor and the Division command.

As per Consent Decree paragraphs #206 and #207, the Auditing Review Unit retrieved the CAD data regarding sexual assault cases matching the stated criteria from the NOPD SQL Database.

During the Sex Crimes audit, the Auditing Review Unit reviewed the sexual assault cases handled by the Sex Crimes Unit for the 1st half of 2024. The review revealed a total of 797 cases were initially called in as a sex crime, with seventy-three (73) cases matching the criteria listed in CD #206: as a call initiated as a sex crime but later changed to a miscellaneous incident or non-criminal category that was cleared. The audit revealed that SVD was compliant with CD #206 regarding calls initiated as sex crimes and later changed to miscellaneous incidents or non-criminal categories.

Incident Recalls:

As a result of the Communication District (Dispatch) transitioning from using "Plain Language" descriptions in their CAD system back to the use of NOPD complaint signals, there are a variety of different incident types coded to 43B by NOPD in the first quarter, through cross-mapping translation that might not otherwise be, as the translation list is limited to two (2) signal codes, 43B and 42. Seventy-three (73) cases coded by NOPD, were initially assigned a signal 43B (Sexual Battery) or 42 (Aggravated Rape) through the NOPD cross-mapping, and changed to a signal 21 (Miscellaneous) with the disposition of NAT or RTF. See the breakdown below:

Nineteen (19) of the entries were reports of a possible sexual assault under the signal codes 43B and 42.

- None of the signal 43B coded entries involved SVD notification.
- Three (3) of the 43B coded entries that involved a possible sexual assault, do not appear to have SVD involvement.

- Two (2) of the signal 42 coded entries involved SVD notification.

Fifty-four (54) of the entries were determined to be other signals that did not involve a sexual assault, via the NOPD cross-mapping, but were coded into 43B or 42; per Chapter 81.7:

- Four (4) of the coded entries were signals describing, “81 - Indecent Behavior” or “106 - Obscenity, exposing one’s person”.
- Fifty (50) of the coded entries were signals describing incidents that did not involve an actual sexual assault. They include the following totals:
 - Nineteen (19) Signal 35 – Simple Battery, involving a physical assault.
 - Two (2) Signal 37 – Aggravated Assault; an assault involving a weapon.
 - Four (4) Signal 38 – Simple Assault; an assault that does not involve a weapon.
 - Two (2) Signal 107 – Suspicious Person
 - One (1) Signal 103D – Domestic Disturbance
 - Seventeen (17) Signal 103M – Mental Disturbance, involving a person having a mental crisis.
 - Three (3) Signal 35D – Simple Domestic Battery, involving a physical assault.
 - One (1) Signal 65P – Simple Robbery Purse Snatching
 - One (1) NA, due to the entry was entered in error.

Within this total of entries of changed signal codes, twenty-eight (28) of the entries do not appear to have Supervisor or SVD approval. However, these entries were not coded in plain language as a “Sexual Assault”. Therefore, items not plainly coded as a “Sexual Assault” are not classified as a Sex Crime and did not involve the Sex Crimes Unit.

Signals 42 and 43B “Not SVD Notified”

Total: 71 of the totals 73

District	ItemNumber	Type	TypeText	InitialType	InitialTypeText	Primary Unit	Approved By	NOPD Policy Signal
1st	A-23496-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	129B	U	38
1st	C-22943-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	111D	U	107
1st	D-02741-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	149C	SUPV	38
1st	E-29294-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	111B	SUPV	42
1st	F-09721-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	111D	SUPV	65P
2nd	A-09126-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	213C	SUPV	106
2nd	B-00302-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	245B	U	103D
2nd	B-00682-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	239B	U	103M
2nd	C-24541-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	229A	SUPV	42
2nd	D-05826-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	215D	U	38
2nd	D-06472-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	223B	SUPV	43B
2nd	D-25375-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	213C	U	107
3rd	A-24622-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	345B	SUPV	43B
3rd	B-25012-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	327D	U	35D
3rd	C-09586-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	357	U	38
3rd	C-20525-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	323B	U	35
3rd	D-10571-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	327D	SUPV	42
3rd	D-11053-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	358	U	35
3rd	F-15730-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	320A	SUPV	103M
4th	A-04845-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	435C	SUPV	42
4th	A-25582-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	433D	U	35D
4th	B-09346-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	9415	U	35
4th	B-10168-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	436D	U	35
4th	C-07649-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	423D	SUPV	35
4th	D-14245-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	499D	SUPV	35
4th	D-24757-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	443C	SUPV	35
5th	A-08212-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	527D	SUPV	42
5th	B-24266-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	513B	U	35
5th	E-24551-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	523A	SUPV	35
6th	B-17299-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	613C	U	35
6th	E-13815-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	635D	U	35
7th	A-14635-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	710C	U	103M
7th	A-21073-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	710D	SUPV	42
7th	A-23066-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	720C	SUPV	42
7th	A-23813-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710D	U	42
7th	A-28532-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710D	SUPV	103M
7th	A-28610-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710D	SUPV	103M
7th	B-01727-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-01864-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-01961-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-02942-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-03614-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710D	SUPV	103M
7th	B-04621-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710A	SUPV	103M
7th	B-04707-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	42
7th	B-04863-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	42
7th	B-04876-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	42
7th	B-04979-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	42
7th	B-05761-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	741C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-05893-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	730C	SUPV	42
7th	B-05919-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	730D	SUPV	42
7th	B-14502-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710D	SUPV	103M
7th	B-19080-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710D	SUPV	103M
7th	B-21172-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	730C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-25989-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-26090-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	103M
7th	B-28793-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	749D	U	35D
7th	C-02428-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	741C	U	37
7th	C-22364-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	723B	U	NA
7th	D-16378-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	710C	SUPV	42
7th	D-27852-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	741B	U	37
7th	D-27866-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	793	U	35
7th	F-19860-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	794	SUPV	35
7th	F-21655-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	743A	U	35
8th	A-08602-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	839A	SUPV	106
8th	A-13193-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	813A	SUPV	106
8th	B-00278-24	21	MISCELLANEOUS COMPLAINT	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	821B	SUPV	35
8th	B-25306-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	835A	SUPV	35
8th	C-20197-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	823C	U	81
8th	D-00484-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	1816	U	35
8th	E-02196-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	833B	U	35
8th	E-03012-24	21	COMPLAINT OTHER	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	9804	U	35

Gone on Arrival:

In addition to the Seventy-three (73) NAT/RTF cases covered under consent decree paragraph #206, three (3) were initiated as a signal 43B (Sexual Battery) or 42 (Aggravated Rape) and later changed to a 21 (Miscellaneous) with a disposition of Gone on Arrival (GOA). One (1) of the entries that was GOA (B-07588-24), regarding a possible rape, did not appear to have SVD involvement. The reporting person was a third-party complainant for the possible rape, and there was no response at the location where the incident was reported to happen. Dispatch attempted multiple callbacks, with negative results. The case was therefore classified GOA as the final disposition. If a case is finalized with a disposition of GOA, SVD will not be notified, as the victim, caller, and/or suspect are no longer at the scene.

Signal 43B to Signal 21 (GOA)

Total: 3

Type	Initial Type	Initial Type Text	Disposition	Approved By	NOPD Signal
21	43B	SEX OFFENSE: GENERAL/MISC	GOA	SUPV	103
21	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	GOA	U	81
21	42	AGGRAVATED RAPE	GOA	SUPV	45/82/83

CD #207

NOPD agrees to train supervisors and investigators in the Sex Crimes unit in the proper definitions and application of “unfounded,” “false,” and “baseless” classifications in the context of sexual assault. The immediate supervisor in the Sex Crimes Unit and the Special Victims Division Commander shall closely review and approve in writing any decision to classify a report as “unfounded.” NOPD agrees to track each of these conclusions separately in NOPD’s Criminal Case Management System (CCMS) and publicly report them on at least a semi-annual basis.

Since the cyber-attack in December of 2019, the NOPD’s CCMS system has not been restored and is unavailable for tracking and reporting purposes. Since that time, the Special Victim’s Division has created and used a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet for tracking purposes. During the Sex Crimes Checklist Audit the Auditing Review Unit reviewed the sexual assault cases as input into the Sex Crimes Unit for the 1st half of 2024. The review revealed that of the 331 cases documented by the Sex Crimes Unit there were thirty-two (32) cases matching the criteria listed in CD #207 as a call initiated as a sex crime and later cleared with the disposition of “Unfounded”. The audit revealed that SVD was compliant with CD #207 regarding calls initiated as sex crimes and later cleared with the disposition “Unfounded” by Sex Crimes.

Case Item	Signal	District	Case Status
A-01408-24	43U	8	Unfounded
A-14192-24	46	1	Unfounded
A-16097-24	283	6	Unfounded
A-23642-24	42O	1	Unfounded
A-25326-24	42O	1	Unfounded
A-27479-24	43B	3	Unfounded

B-02140-24	42O	1	Unfounded
B-06505-24	42	7	Unfounded
B-07252-24	43	5	Unfounded
B-27301-24	283	1	Unfounded
C-03147-24	420	2	Unfounded
C-05355-24	43	8	Unfounded
C-15819-24	42U	8	Unfounded
C-19491-24	42O	8	Unfounded
C-19635-24	43O	1	Unfounded
C-22035-24	42	8	Unfounded
C-22101-24	42	8	Unfounded
C-28507-24	43O	1	Unfounded
C-29933-24	42	4	Unfounded
D-00408-24	43B	4	Unfounded
D-03030-24	42	8	Unfounded
D-05807-24	42U	8	Unfounded
D-18763-24	42	8	Unfounded
D-20036-24	42	4	Unfounded
D-24048-24	43	4	Unfounded
E-01302-24	43	8	Unfounded
E-02276-24	43	4	Unfounded
E-13382-24	42U	1	Unfounded
E-23371-24	43O	1	Unfounded
E-25115-24	43O	1	Unfounded
F-06918-24	42O	8	Unfounded
F-27825-24	43	8	Unfounded

CD #208

The Department is required to track all reports of felony sexual assault including drug-facilitated sexual assault, sexual assaults involving persons with disabilities rendering them unable to consent, sodomy, and male victims of sexual assault. The Department must collect data on the final disposition of sexual assault investigations, including whether an arrest was made and whether the DA charged the suspect or rejected the case and, if so, the reason for the rejection if the DA provides a reason.

Lieutenant SVD advised the Audit and Review Unit that the CCMS system has been inoperable since the December 2019 cyber-attack. As a result, the SVD (Special Victims Division) continues to store all sexual assault cases (to include felony cases) in the Sexual Assault KIT Database Log.

CD #209

The New Orleans Police Department is required to track in an Information Management System the Evidence collected and whether it is submitted to a crime lab for testing. Where evidence is not submitted, the NOPD agrees to record in this system the justification for the decision.

Detective of the Investigative Support Bureau continues to track the SVD Evidence Log. The log consists of evidence entries and outgoing evidence lab testing. The log is a spreadsheet consisting of formulas that allows the detective to track cases that are entered within the log. The two spreadsheets, the Sexual Assault Kit, and the Evidence Tracker, are utilized together in the process.

Both spreadsheets are updated weekly, and Sergeant Claudia Bruce verifies that the work is done correctly.

The process for the DNA request is as follows:

- 1. Officers submit their DNA request via email to NOPD DNA.gov.**
- 2. Detective reviews the DNA requests and respond via email acknowledging that the DNA request was received.**
- 3. Detective then submits a request to Officer Channing Branch at CEP, and request that the evidence is pulled, so that it could be transported to the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab.**
- 4. Detective then enters the information into the Louisiana State Police Portal, also known as Justice Trax.**
- 5. The evidence is then transported to the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab by Investigator, on every Tuesday.**
- 6. The spreadsheets are then update weekly by ISB Detective.**

CD #210

The Department is required to work with the District Attorney (DA), community service providers, and other stake holders to develop and implement Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). SART was

established over five years ago and meets monthly.

Ms. Ashilee Bissell, who is a member of SART, advised the Audit and Review Unit that it has been a pleasure working with NOPD's SVD as a community partner. Ms. Bissell additionally advised that she has witnessed countless acts of selfless service and acts of excellence from NOPD's SVD.

CD #211

The Department developed a committee of representatives from the community, including rape crisis advocates, service providers, and/or legal providers to review, on a semi-annual basis (1) any sexual assault investigation disposed of as unfounded, (2) a random sample of open sexual assault investigations with the approval of the DA, (3) any reported sexual assault placed in a miscellaneous signal that are considered to be a non-criminal category. The Department has agreed to ensure that feedback and recommendations from the committee are incorporated into policies, general training, remedial training for specific officers or detectives, and the decision to re-examine and re-open investigations, if warranted.

Ms. Ashilee Bissell, who is a member of SART and the NOFJC, advised that the NOPD is actively participating with the established committees such as SART. Ms. Bissell advised that the organizations and the NOPD discuss unfounded dispositions on a frequent basis. Ms. Naomi Jones, who is an Assistant District Attorney from the Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office, advised that the relationship with the NOPD's SVD is "great". Ms. Paige Cline, who is a supervisor with the OPDA's Office SVD liaison, advised that the NOPD's SVD is a great business partner and stated that the Lieutenant and the Detectives go above and beyond with their assigned cases. There has been no change in the participating members/partners.

Overall Compliance Score (Final)

Based on the combined total of the one thousand five hundred fifty (**1,550**) checklist items rated, from the sample size of fifty (**50**) case files audited; the **“overall score”** of this 1st Half 2024v Semi-Annual Sex Crimes Unit case file audit conducted by the Auditing Review Unit was **99.6%**.

Conclusions (Final)

Results

The overall results of the 1st Half Semi-Annual 2024 Sex Crimes audit revealed a compliance threshold score of **99.6%**. The following checklist items revealed a threshold score **below 95%**:

17. Does the EPR or Supplemental Report document the required referral to NOFJC?

- **3 Items**
 - Upon reviewing the case file, the auditors did not find any evidence that Detective referred the victim to the NOFJC.

Recommendations

1. The Audit and Review Unit recommends that the immediate supervisors of the Sex Crimes Unit conduct regular reviews of detectives' case files for the presence of all mandatory documentation. Such action would hopefully ensure that all Sex Crimes Unit case files are complete.
2. It is also recommended that the SVD offer a refresher or Roll Call Training for all investigators and detectives regarding providing all sex crimes victims with a referral to the New Orleans Family and Justice Center (NOFJC). According to Paragraph 216 of the Consent Decree, NOPD agrees to collaborate with and refer all victims to the NOFJC.
3. While reviewing signal changes that occurred between January 2024 and June 2024, the ARU observed calls labeled as a 43B (Sexual Battery) per Policy 81.7, when in fact the calls were regarding lewdness or Indecent Behavior (81) or Obscenity (106). It was discovered that when Orleans Parish Communication District (OPCD) moved to plain language classification of calls, the signal used to capture all “Sexual Misconduct” was assigned by Management Services Bureau (MSB) NOPD Technology Unit, and not by OPCD, as part of the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) data feed from OPCD. As a result, it is necessary that the data be reviewed thoroughly in the comments to determine the actual type of crime reported. As OPCD moved away from plain language calls in 2024, the signal classifications became more diverse, eliminating the bucketing of different incidents into a single code.

Sex Crimes Unit Responses & PSAB Notes:

Response to P.S.A.B

- Upon reviewing the case file, the auditors did not find any evidence that Sex Crimes Detective referred the victim to the NOFJC.

District Response: The incident involved a victim that identified as homeless/unhoused. The victim did not possess a contact number or address. The Social Service Unit was unable to refer to the Family Justice Center for resources because of lack of contact information.

- Upon reviewing the case file, the auditors did not find any evidence that Sex Crimes Detective referred the victim to the NOFJC.

District Response: The incident involved a victim was a juvenile and could not be referred for services. This case should not have been included in the Sex Crimes Audit because of the age of the victim. Due to Night Watch conducting investigations of Child Abuse and Sex Crimes cases, the case was labeled as a Child Abuse investigation because of human error.

District Actions to ensure compliance: Lt. SVD will ensure the Sex Crimes Supervisors scrutinize their detectives case files more closely to ensure all relevant documents are enclosed and they are properly assigned to the correct unit for platoons investigating both disciplines. Overall, the supervisors are performing well conducting their own internal audits, but it's very easy to overlook some items. Lt. Celious will also ensure detectives, and the Social Service Unit find methods to engage the unhoused/homeless population to ensure they are access to resources. The victims ultimately determine where they would like to obtain services and counseling.

ARU Attachments: Excel Raw Data Spreadsheets for 1st Semi-Annual 2024.

Timothy A. Lindsey

Innovation Manager, Auditing

Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau

Chelsea N. Albritton

Performance Auditor

Professional Standards and Accountability Bureau

Appendix C – Report Distribution

Deputy Supt. PSAB Bureau

Captain PSAB Bureau

Deputy Supt. ISB Bureau

Captain ISB Bureau

Lieutenant SVD Unit

ARU Unit

Sex Crimes Unit Review Checklist Template

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

Item Number: _____
 Monitor: _____
 Date: _____

NA = Not Applicable
 Y = Compliant
 N = Not compliant
 U = Unknown

1. Is there BWC video applicable to this case?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
2. Was there an on-scene response by SVS?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
3. Is there an Incident Report in the case file?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
4. Is there a MORF in the case file?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
5. Is there an Initial Investigator's Supplement Report?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
6. Is there a Follow up Investigation & Supplement Report?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
7. Is there a victim statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
8. Is there evidence of attention to the victim's needs (i.e., Did the investigator demonstrate empathy, safety & medical needs of the victim, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
9. Was there a follow-up interview after the initial on-scene investigation?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
10. Are there documented witnesses (video, audio, or transcribed) statements?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
11. Is there a communications log (incident recall)?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
12. Is there a documented 911 recording available?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
13. Were there crime scene photos taken when evidence could be captured/recorded, as appropriate? (photos may be in Property & Evidence or Case File materials)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
14. Is there documentation of CastNet usage (criminal history check)?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
15. If there is evidence of a drug-facilitated sexual assault with follow up according to policy?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
16. Is there a medical and/or SANE report?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
17. Does the EPR or Supplement Report document the required referral to NOFJC?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
18. Is there documentation of a CODIS hit notification in the file?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
19. Is there arrest or search warrant documentation?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
20. Is there a suspect statement (video, audio, or transcribed)?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
21. Is evidence collection documented in a report?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
22. Were the evidence & property receipts included within the Case File for submitted evidence?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
23. If evidence was not submitted for testing, was the reason documented in a report?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
24. Are there crime lab reports?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
25. Is there documentation of a search of surveillance video?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
26. Is there documented evidence of a witness canvas?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
27. Are there composite sketches relative to the case?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
28. Did the Detective complete (initial and date) the Case File Index as items were included in the Case File?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
29. Was the incident appropriately classified?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
30. Was there documented authorization for a Signal change if required?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
31. Is there documented supervisory review of reports and dispositions?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N / <input type="checkbox"/> U
Did the Auditor listen to recordings of the victim interview(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N
Did the Auditor listen to suspect interview(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/> NA / <input type="checkbox"/> Y / <input type="checkbox"/> N

Auditor Comments: Explain in the narrative below whether there were any exceptional strategies used by the investigator or any deficiencies noted in the case investigation by Auditor: