

The role of the Public Integrity and Professional Standards Units:

- The **Public Integrity Unit (PIU)** is commanded by a lieutenant and is made up of sergeants and detectives from LMPD with a multitude of diverse experience, ranging from homicide investigations to fraud investigations. Under LMPD Standard Operating Procedures, PIU is responsible for conducting criminal investigations of police department members. Additionally, PIU conducts criminal investigations of all Louisville Metro employees suspected of committing a felony or an offense involving the physical or sexual abuse of a minor. PIU investigations are bound by state and federal law, and employees investigated are afforded the same due process and constitutional rights as any individual suspected of a criminal offense. The PIU is one of the primary investigative units to respond to officer-involved critical incidents. Additionally, PIU responds and supports Kentucky State Police at the scene of officer-involved shootings involving LMPD members (recent change).
- The **Professional Standards Unit (PSU)** is commanded by a lieutenant and is made up of sergeants and detectives with exemplary reputations who have not been the subject of significant policy violations. Under LMPD Standard Operating Procedures, the PSU is responsible for conducting internal, administrative investigations of departmental members and administering the department's drug testing program. PSU investigations proceed in accordance with state and federal law, specifically KRS 67C.326 and federal rulings, such as *Garrity v. New Jersey*, 385 U.S. 493 (1967), dictate how investigations are conducted.

What is the process for investigations?

- An incident or complaint is received and initially screened by LMPD commanding officers to determine if it is criminal or administrative in nature.
- If the complaint alleges criminal conduct, it is sent to PIU for investigation. Allegations of federal crimes constituting public corruption or civil rights violations are sent to the FBI Public Corruption & Civil Rights Task Force for investigation.
- If the complaint strictly alleges an administrative violation, it is sent to PSU for investigation. PSU investigations can only be initiated based on an affidavit by an individual or by direct initiation from the chief of police.
- After completion of a PIU investigation, cases alleging an administrative violation are then sent to PSU to determine if any policy violations occurred. PSU investigative interviews may not be conducted before the criminal case, due to Garrity rules.
- Once a case is received by PSU every effort is made to complete the investigation within 180 days. Completion times vary based on the complexity of the case.

What are the legal requirements in police administrative cases?

- Under Kentucky State Law (KRS 67C.326), *when a police officer has been charged with a violation of departmental rules or regulations, no public statements shall be made concerning the alleged violation by any person or persons of the consolidated local government or the police officer so charged, until final disposition of the charges.*

- Garrity v. New Jersey* is a Supreme Court of the United States case that held that law enforcement officers and other public employees have the right to be free of self-incrimination. It allows employers to compel an officer to provide a statement provided that the statement cannot be used in a criminal proceeding. Investigators can, however, use a compelled statement for an administrative violation. PSU gives a Garrity Warning in a similar manner as the Miranda Warning is administered to suspects in criminal investigations.

PIU/PSU Investigation Flow Chart

