

# LOS ANGELES FIRE COMMISSION

April 2, 2019

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March 22, 2019

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FILE NO. BFC 19-043

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Independent Assessor

SUBJECT: QUARTERLY REPORT OF AUDITS

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

## SUMMARY

On February 19, 2019, the Board of Fire Commissioners requested that the Independent Assessor provide quarterly reports of audits that are “in progress and that are contemplated by the Independent Assessor’s office.” This Report is prepared in compliance with that direction.

The Office of the Independent Assessor (OIA) is presently engaged in research in support of two audits: an audit examining the progress of recruits in Drill Tower classes 2013-1 through 2017-3, and an audit of complaints closed in the Complaint Tracking System (CTS) in 2018.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

1. Approve the Report.

## DISCUSSION

### Audit 1

Recruit Progress in Specified Drill Tower Classes

### Preliminary Scope and Methodology

Review and assess data extracted from examinations and recruit evaluations for Drill Tower classes 2013-1 through 2017-3.

**Preliminary Objectives<sup>1</sup>**

- Determine if similar audits or reviews have been conducted of other fire department recruit academies.
- Identify any nexus between recruit progress through the drill tower and gender/race/ethnicity.
- Determine if inconsistencies existed in the grading process.
- Identify any nexus between recruit performance and background (e.g., high school or college athlete, military service, prior fire service experience).
- Identify any nexus between drill tower performance and a recruit's height/reach or weight.
- Determine effectiveness of remediation "class."
- Determine effectiveness of reassignment.
- Determine the ratio of substandard performance in academic coursework versus substandard performance on manipulative skills.

**Audit 2**

Annual review of cases filed and closed in the Complaint Tracking System (CTS) in 2018.<sup>2</sup>

**Preliminary Scope and Methodology**

Review and assess cases filed and closed in the Los Angeles Fire Department's CTS and Discipline Tracking System in 2018.

**Preliminary Objectives<sup>3</sup>**

- Identify the number of cases filed in 2018.
- Identify the number of cases closed in CTS in 2018.
- Identify the categories of cases closed in CTS in 2018.
- Identify the adjudications of cases closed in CTS in 2018.
- Identify the number of sustained cases resulting in a settlement agreement in 2018.
- Identify the number of cases awaiting a Board of Rights hearing.

I am available to provide any additional information the Commission may require.

Respectfully submitted,



SUE STENGEL

Independent Assessor

Board of Fire Commissioners

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<sup>1</sup>Objectives are subject to change based on the research.

<sup>2</sup>This audit will be similar to the audit presented to the BOFC on March 19, 2019, Review of Cases Closed in CTS in 2017 (BFC No. 19-037).

<sup>3</sup>Objectives are subject to change based on the research.