



Seattle Office of
Inspector General

Mid-Year Review of OPA Classification and Certification – 2026

January 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026

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Introduction

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is required to publish data related to its review of the Office of Police Accountability (OPA) complaint handling system through regular classification reviews, and via an Annual Report that includes insight into completed investigations. These quarterly reports will culminate in the OIG Annual Report, which will aggregate the data.

Classifications

OIG individually reviews all OPA classifications on a weekly basis to validate they have been appropriately assigned, and that allegations and employees associated with the complaints were properly identified.

Table 1 | **OIG Review of OPA Classification Concurrence by Case Type and Quarter**

OPA Classification	Total Q1	Total Q2	Mid-Year Total	Level of Concurrence
Contact Log	45	48	93	98.9%
Batch Contact Log	356	333	689	99.9%
Supervisor Action	24	31	55	100%
Bias Reviews	18	10	218	100%
Rapid Adjudication	0	0	0	N/A
Mediation	0	0	0	N/A
Grand Total	443	422	865	

All values rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.

Contact Logs

OIG individually reviewed 48 Contact Logs at the time of classification during Q2, bringing the mid-year total to 93 contact logs. OIG did not concur with one contact log classification in Q1, and OPA reclassified the contact log for further investigation. This makes OIG's level of concurrence 98.9% for the first half of 2026.

Batch Contact Logs

OIG reviewed all 333 Batch Contact Logs classified by OPA during Q2 and previously reviewed 356 Batch Contact Logs classified by OPA in Q1. OIG had 99.9% concurrence with OPA's classification decisions in the cases OIG reviewed. Specifically, OIG disagreed with the classification decision in one contact log because OPA's initial review revealed a separate unaddressed policy violation. Once OIG brought this to OPA's attention the case was reclassified for further investigation.

Supervisor Actions

OIG reviewed and agreed with 31 Supervisor Actions classified by OPA during Q2. OIG concurred with the classification for all 55 Supervisor Actions in the first half of the year. Additionally, while these cases have a supervisor action component, this number does not reflect the number of referrals for Supervisor Actions OPA is responsible for tracking and preparing, as in some cases a Supervisor Action may be issued for more than one officer involved in the complaint.

Bias Reviews

OIG evaluated 10 Bias Reviews closed by OPA during Q2. OIG had 100% concurrence with OPA reviews, maintaining a 100% concurrence for all 28 Bias Reviews OIG reviewed in Q1 and Q2.

Rapid Adjudication

OPA has not submitted any cases classified for Rapid Adjudication to OIG so far in 2026.

Mediation

OPA did not complete any Mediation cases in the first half of 2026.

Investigations

OIG reviews all OPA investigations prior to case completion to certify whether a case is thorough, timely, and objective. At the end of Q2 OIG issued 137 certifications in 134 cases. These certifications include instances when a case is certified as an Expedited investigation and as a typical investigation. When a case is Expedited, the Complainant alleges a serious policy violation; however, preliminary review of information provides dispositive evidence to resolve the allegation without the need to interview further witnesses or the involved employee. OIG must concur with an Expedited Investigation classification in the certification, otherwise OPA re-classifies the case as an Investigation.

In some proposed Expedited classifications, OIG does not initially concur because of insufficient evidence and requests additional information from OPA. In many situations, OPA can remedy identified deficiencies prior to classification to gain concurrence and receive full certification of the Expedited Investigation. In other proposed Expedited Investigations, OIG does not concur with OPA's assessment that this classification is appropriate, and these cases are reclassified for further investigation. Finally, in certain cases, Expedited allegations are accepted on some proposed allegations but not on others. In these cases, OPA receives a certification for allegations accepted as an Expedited Investigation, and the case is bifurcated, meaning remaining allegations will be further investigated. This causes multiple certifications to be issued on a single OPA case.

This report includes all OIG certifications through Q2. Some cases reviewed by OIG may have allegations that will be certified later in the year, or Expedited requests may have been completed after the mid-year mark. For this reason, further information on Expedited requests accepted by OIG and bifurcated cases will be available in the 2026 Annual Report.

Table 2 | Certifications by Category

OPA Classification	Total Count	% of Total Cases
Partial: Not Objective or Thorough	1	0.7%
Partial: Not Timely	2	1.5%
Subtotal	3	2.2%
Full: Timely, Thorough & Objective	134	97.8%
Total Certifications Issued by OIG	137	100%

All values rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.

Certifications

In the first half of 2026 OIG issued three partial certifications and 134 full certifications. Two cases were partially certified due to a timeliness issue, and one was partially certified due to issues with objectivity and thoroughness. Overall, OPA received a full certification on about 98% of their cases, which is slightly higher than the full certification rates in 2025 (97%) and 2024 (95%).

Requests for Additional Investigation

When OIG determines additional investigation is necessary and appropriate to meet standards for case objectivity, thoroughness, and timeliness, OIG issues a “Request for Additional Investigation” memo highlighting OIG concerns. In the first half of 2026 OIG issued 12 formal requests for additional investigation in 12 different OPA cases. While the number of formal requests provides insight into processes where OIG can provide OPA feedback prior to certifying, this does not cover minor feedback or conversations about cases that may also impact OIG certification decisions.