



PAB

City of Rochester
Police Accountability Board
Established 2019

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For Immediate Release

PAB Investigation Finds Majority of Juvenile Use of Force Incidents Involve Black Children
Agency Releases Data in First Oversight Investigation

An investigative report published by the Police Accountability Board shows that Black children, mostly male, make up nearly 80 percent of the Rochester Police Department's juvenile use of force incidents.

The PAB defines juvenile use of force as any intentional physical strength or energy exerted or brought to bear upon or against a person aged 17 or younger for compulsion, constraint, or restraint.

The report, titled *Juvenile Use of Force: An Oversight Investigation* is the first long-term look into systemic public safety data released by the agency. The PAB's findings are based on the review of more than 1,100 reports related to incidents involving juveniles in the City of Rochester.

Among the PAB's findings:

- About 30 percent of the total incidents involved mental health crises;
- Black children, mostly male, comprised nearly 80 percent of incidents;
- Many incidents involved search warrant executions (about 11 percent of events) and traffic stops (six percent). During those interactions, children were likely to be confronted by officers with firearms drawn. Handguns were pointed at children in 27 percent of the incidents analyzed.

The Rochester Police Department provided data used in the analysis. However, requests from the PAB for additional reports and body camera video related to the majority of these incidents were denied.

The PAB is also launching its second Oversight Investigation that will assess the policies, procedures, patterns, and practices related to the discipline of sworn members of the Rochester Police Department. Details of that investigation and the full *Juvenile Use of Force: An Oversight Investigation* can be found at www.rocpab.org/policy-oversight.

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