Sexual Assault

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 Section 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 CCMS and publicly report them on at least a semi-annual basis. [Consent Decree ¶207]

Key definitions

Sexual assault – For the purposes of this report, sexual assault encompasses the following NOPD signal codes:

- Aggravated rape;
- Oral sexual battery;
- Simple rape;
- Sexual battery;
- Carnal knowledge of a juvenile; and
- Indecent behavior.

Unfounded Case[1] **–** When, through investigation, an agency determines that complaints of crimes are unfounded or false, the agency eliminates that offense from its crime tally.

Unfounded – False or baseless complaint.[2]

Findings

NOPD had 9 unfounded sexual assault cases through the first half of 2015.

NOPD had 48 unfounded sexual assault cases in 2014.

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[1] http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/methodology

[2] UCR Handbook 2004. http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/additional-ucr-publications/ucr_handbook.pdf/view