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### **OIG Releases Audit of CPD Assault-Related Crime Statistics**

The City of Chicago Office of Inspector General (OIG) has completed an audit assessing the Chicago Police Department's (CPD) compliance with its reporting infrastructure for crime statistics. The audit specifically focused on CPD classification and summary reporting for assault-related crimes in 2012; it did not seek to verify the accuracy of the incident narratives.

OIG found that CPD incorrectly classified 3.1% of 2012 assault-related events contained in incident reports, under the 10% error rate that the FBI states is acceptable for agencies participating in its national reporting program. In addition, CPD's CompStat reports and the City's Data Portal accurately reflected the assault-related incidents in CPD's data warehouse, the Criminal History Record Information System.

OIG also identified significant errors in CPD's reports to the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) program, which feeds into the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system:

- Contrary to I-UCR reporting requirements, CPD failed to count each victim in multiple victim crimes as a separate offense. This resulted in a 24% undercount in victim offenses in the reporting sample OIG examined.
- CPD erroneously excluded certain crimes committed against protected persons, thereby underreporting all aggravated assaults and batteries to the I-UCR program by 5.7% and 3.2% respectively.

CPD agreed with OIG's findings and is reviewing all aggravated assaults and batteries from 2012 and 2013 to ensure the accuracy of its reports to I-UCR. CPD will also provide clearer guidance on multi-victim crime reporting in its Field Reporting Manual and, if needed, will add categories to its classification rules in order to better address I-UCR reporting needs for incidents involving protected persons.

"Data analysis is central to CPD's pursuit of its critical public safety mission," said Inspector General Joe Ferguson, "The integrity and reliability of crime statistics used for those purposes hinges on two features – the accuracy of incident reporting from the field and the accuracy of the classification and reporting of that information once entered into the system. With this audit, we tested the latter, observing some flaws in the data system, but finding that the system largely accounted for documented assault-related crimes. CPD's robust response to the problems the

audit revealed is an encouraging sign of an organization seeking to improve. We caution, however, that what is reported out is only as reliable as what is fed into the system from the field. Public confidence in crime statistics therefore also depends on the accuracy of field reporting, which we did not test.”

The full audit, and City’s response to the findings, can be found online at the OIG website: [www.ChicagoInspectorGeneral.org](http://www.ChicagoInspectorGeneral.org)

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