

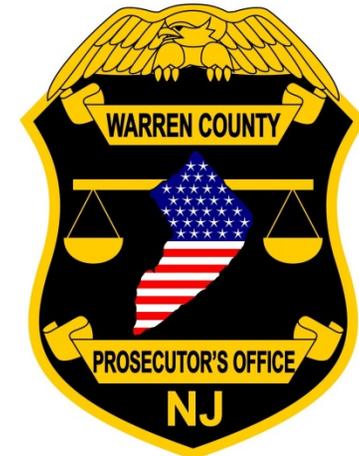
WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Message from the Prosecutor

Members of the Warren County Prosecutor's Office and our county's municipal police departments are committed to providing the best possible law enforcement services that are fair, effective, and impartial. It is important that if any citizen has a complaint or concern regarding anyone in law enforcement that it be promptly reported. It is in the best interest of everyone that any complaint regarding a municipal police officer, county detective, or assistant prosecutor be resolved fairly and expeditiously. The Warren County Prosecutor's Office has formal procedures for investigating citizen complaints. These procedures ensure fairness and protect the rights of both citizens and law enforcement officers. Our goal is to insure that the integrity of law enforcement in Warren County is maintained through a system of internal discipline where fairness and justice are assured by objective and impartial investigations.

Warren County Prosecutor's Office
413 Second Street
Belvidere, NJ 07823
908-475-6275
internalaffairs@co.warren.nj.us
TipLine 866-942-6467

Citizen Complaint Information



Warren County
Prosecutor's Office

1. ***It is unlawful to provide a false report to law enforcement authorities (N.J.S.A. 2C:28-4)***
 - a. Falsely incriminating another. A person who knowingly gives or causes to be given false information to any law enforcement officer with purposes to implicate another commits a crime fourth degree.
 - b. Fictitious Reports. A person commits a disorderly persons offense of he:
 - (1) Reports or causes to be reported to law enforcement authorities an offense or other incident within their concern knowing that it did not occur; or
 - (2) Pretends to furnish or causes to be furnished such authorities with information relating to an offense or incident when he knows he has no information relating to such offense or incident.

The Goal of the Internal Affairs Unit:

- The goal of the Warren County Prosecutor's Office Internal Affairs Unit is to ensure that the integrity of law enforcement is maintained through a system of internal discipline where fairness and justice are assured by both objective and impartial investigation and review. The Warren County Prosecutor's Office is committed to maintaining the public's trust, ensuring fairness, and protecting the rights of both citizens and law enforcement personnel.

How to Register a Complaint:

- Complaints may be filed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You may visit, call email or fax the Prosecutor's Office Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at 430 Front Street (rear) Belvidere, NJ 07823 or call 908-475-6275.
- After business hours, weekends or holidays you may reach Internal Affairs by contacting Warren County Communications 908-835-2048.
- A complaint may be made anonymously and need not be by an American citizen. One cannot be required to produce identification before a complaint will be accepted. Law enforcement cannot report a person to federal immigration officials in retaliation for filing an internal affairs complaint.
- A juvenile has the right to file an internal affairs complaint, with or without the presence of a parent or guardian.

How Complaints are Investigated:

- To ensure an extremely thorough investigation, your complaint will be referred to the Warren County Prosecutor's Office Internal Affairs Unit where a specially trained Internal Affairs detective will conduct a thorough and objective investigation..
- The Internal Affairs detective might ask you to assist with the investigation by giving a detailed statement about what happened or providing other important information. All available witnesses will be contacted to ascertain pertinent information relating to your complaint.
- The length of time to conduct an internal investigation will vary, depending upon the complexity of the incident. If there is an extended delay in the investigation, for any reason, you will be notified. Please feel free to contact the Internal Affairs detective at any time during the course of the investigation with any questions you might have.

The Results:

- When an internal investigation is completed, the Warren County Prosecutor's Office Internal Affairs detective will notify you, in writing, of the outcome of the investigation. There are four possible findings:
 1. **Sustained** - The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to prove the allegation(s).
 - a. If our investigation shows that a crime may have been committed, you may be asked to testify before a grand jury and in court.

b. If our investigation results in a violation of departmental rules and regulations, you might be asked to testify in an administrative disciplinary hearing. All administrative disciplinary hearings shall be closed to the public unless the officer who is the subject of the inquiry requests an open hearing.

2. **Exonerated** - The actions of the officer were justified, legal and proper.
3. **Not Sustained** – The investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation. The case will be closed, pending further information.
4. **Unfounded** - The alleged incident did not occur; or there is insufficient information to conduct a meaningful investigation. The case will be closed, and no further action will be taken.

The Law:

1. ***It is unlawful to provide a false statement under oath (N.J.S.A. 2C:28-2)***
 - a. False swearing. A person who makes a false statement under oath or equivalent affirmation, or swears or affirms the truth of such a statement previously made, when he does not believe the statement to be true, is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.