Citizen Complaints

Your Complaint Is Important

The Chesnee Police Department (CPD) is committed to receiving and accepting complaints about the actions and performance of all our personnel. As an organization, we try very hard to provide the highest level of quality law enforcement service to all our citizens. Policing is a very difficult and complex job in today's society, and we realize that mistakes can be made, and the actions of our personnel may fall short of your expectations.

The Chesnee Police Department (CPD) is aware of the important responsibilities and duties they have as public servants. CPD operates under the constitutional guarantees afforded to everyone and under the laws that govern us. Therefore, courteous receipt of complaints, thorough and impartial investigation, and just disposition is important in maintaining the confidence of our citizens.

Understanding the Process

This complaint process is for the complaints against the Chesnee Police Department and/or Officers of the Chesnee Police Department.

A complaint may be made with the CPD in the following ways.

- Completing the provided Citizen's Complaint Form and emailing it to <u>GMAIN@CITYOFCHESNEE.ORG</u>
- Mailing in a completed Citizen's Complaint Form to 201 W. Cherokee Street, Chesnee, SC 29323
- Request a Citizen's Complaint Form at Chesnee City Hall located at 201 W. Cherokee Street, Chesnee, SC 29323
- You may also request to speak with a member of the Chesnee Police Department

After a complaint is made

A record of your complaint will be forwarded to the Chief for evaluation and assignment. The Chief will decide whether the complaint should be handled by the involved member's supervisor or whether to initiate an internal affairs investigation. Depending on the facts, the complaint could be referred to another agency to investigate.

Length of the process

The agency requires that investigations of complaints be completed withing 180 days from the time that they are received. This may be longer due to any circumstances that prevent the completion of the investigation and make an extension necessary.

What happens after the investigation?

The results of each investigation/review will be discussed with the Chief and appropriate staff. If evidence supports a violation of agency rules only, it will be handled internally. If the matter is criminal in nature, it will be referred to an appropriate jurisdiction.

What if a member is in violation of agency rules?

In severe cases this may result in termination of employment, reduction of rank, or suspension without pay. Other less severe sanctions include training and counseling by supervisory or command staff. The Chief is the final agency authority for discipline.

Your rights after the investigation

You will be notified in writing of the conclusion of the investigation of your complaint. It <u>will not</u> contain the description of any disciplinary action.

CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM BELOW

201 W CHEROKEE ST CHESNEE, SC 29323 (P) 864.461.2225



Chesnee Police Department

City of Chesnee Law Enforcement Citizens' Complaint Form

Complainant's Full Name:	D.O.B:
Complainant's Full Address:	
Complainant's Phone Number: (home)	(cell)
Complainant's Driver's License Number and State:	
Complaint Date/Time:	
Date/Time of Occurrence:	
Location of Occurrence:	
Officer(s) Involved:	
Witness:	Phone:
Witness:	Phone:

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Details- Please relate your complaint, including names, times, locations, and any other factual, supporting information.

I certify that all statements made by me on this complaint are true and correct. I understand that knowingly making a false complaint is a violation of South Carolina Code and is punishable by a fine and not to exceed two hundred dollars or by a term of imprisonment not to exceed thirty days. I have read and understand this statement.

Witness: _____

Witness: _____

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