

## *Other Avenues Of Complaint*

If you are not satisfied with the way your complaint is handled, you may contact the Mayor's Office of the Town of Cumberland.

Depending on the nature of your complaint, you may wish to contact the:

- RI Department of the Attorney General
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

## *Special Notes*

- It is important that you make your complaint as soon as possible.
- If you want a complaint investigated, you must be willing to be interviewed, and make a written statement.
- Upon completion of a formal investigation, the complainant will be notified in writing of the results.
- If your complaint alleges that the police have assaulted you, you should seek medical attention immediately.
- If your complaint is of alleged police assault and there are signs of injury, you should have photographs taken as soon as possible.
- If you need it, arrangements can be made by the Professional Standards Officer to have Photographs taken as well as provide you with transportation, or visit you at home.

## Cumberland Police Department



### *Misconduct Complaint Procedure*

*Professional Standards  
1380 Diamond Hill RD.  
Cumberland, RI 02864*

*(401) 333-2500*

*A Nationally  
Accredited Agency*

## What Is Professional Standards?

- It is an Administrative Unit of police officers that reports directly to the Chief of Police.
- It is an integral part of the police department in that it monitors police conduct, investigates citizen complaints, and conducts other investigations as directed by the Chief of Police.
- Types of investigations conducted by the Professional Standards Unit include: alleged excessive use of force by police, illegal acts, disrespectful conduct, and allegation of civil rights violations by the police.

## How Do I Make A Complaint?

- If you are unhappy with any aspect of police conduct, you can make a complaint.
- Some complaints, such as rudeness or discourtesy, will normally be handled by the officer's immediate supervisor or shift commander.
- Complaints deemed to be serious will be handled by the Professional Standards Unit.

You can contact the Professional Standards Unit or submit your complaint in writing to:

Cumberland Police Department

1380 Diamond Hill RD.

Cumberland RI 02864

OR

By telephone (401) 333-2500 and ask to speak with the Professional Standards Officer.

Complaint forms can be printed from our website, [www.cumberlandpolice.com](http://www.cumberlandpolice.com) or obtained at the Cumberland Town Hall, Clerks Office  
45 Broad Street, Cumberland, RI 02864

## How Is Your Complaint Handled?

- If you want the department to investigate a formal complaint, you must be willing to be interviewed, possibly recorded on tape, and provide a written statement.
- It is important you make the complaint as soon as possible.
- The investigator will then interview witnesses and involved police officers to obtain statements.
- All other information and evidence will be analyzed and a conclusion reached.
- Most investigations are completed within 10 days and the complainant will be notified of the results.