

CIVILIAN OFFICE OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

INTEGRITY ● TRANSPARENCY ● INDEPENDENCE ● TIMELINESS

WELCOMING CITY ORDINANCE
JURISDICTION

INTERIM CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR LAKENYA WHITE

Current Jurisdictional Landscape

- COPA's jurisdictional authority is defined in section 2-78-120 of the Chicago Municipal Code.
- This section lists allegation types currently under COPA's investigative authority.
- All allegation types not listed fall under the investigative authority of CPD's Bureau of Internal Affairs.
- COPA has forwarded most WCO violation allegations to BIA for investigation. A small number of cases have been referred to the OIG or another investigative body as they geographically took place outside of Chicago.

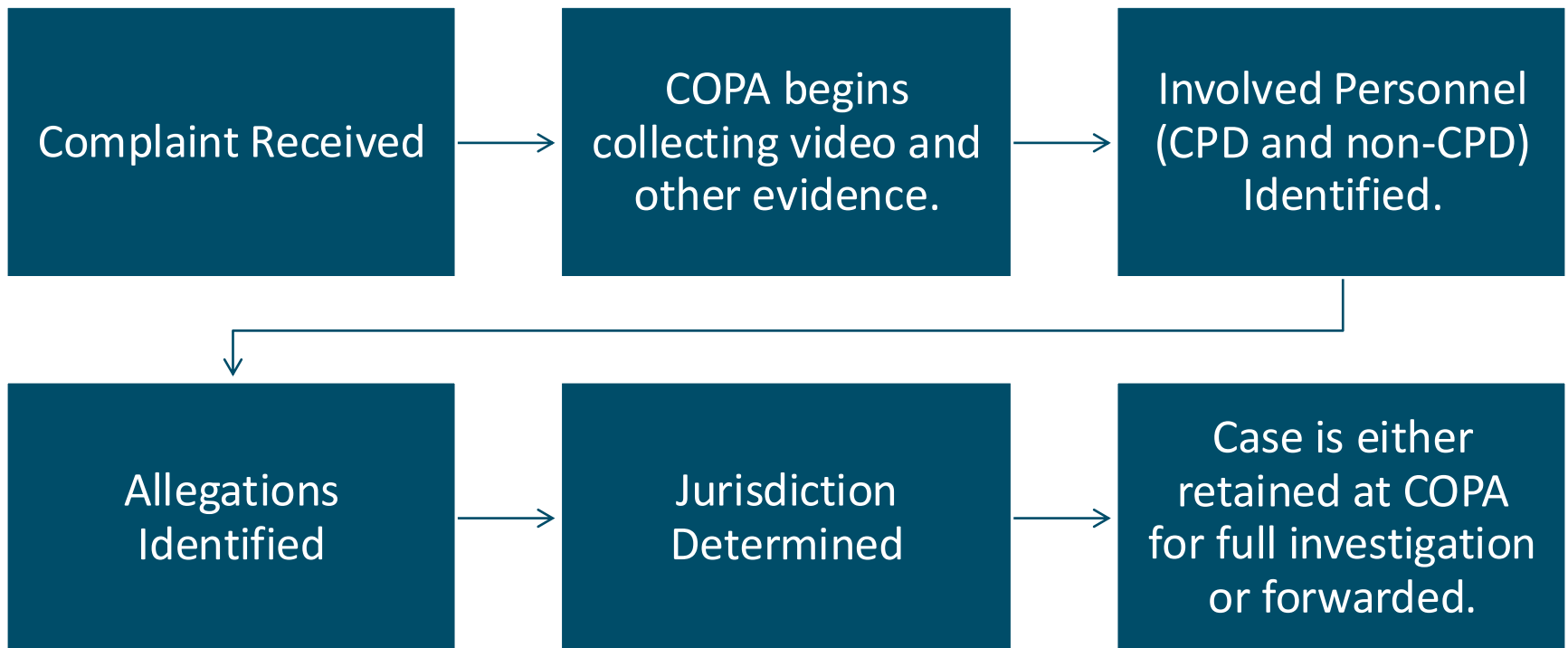
Current Figures & Process

- From June 4, 2025, to January 26, 2026, COPA has received 28 complaints that allege facts indicating a potential WCO violation.
 - 26 were forwarded to CPD's Bureau of Internal Affairs.
 - 2 were ultimately forwarded to the Inspector General.
- The average amount of time it took for COPA to make its reassignment determination was 1.82 business days and over 70% of complaints were reassigned day of.

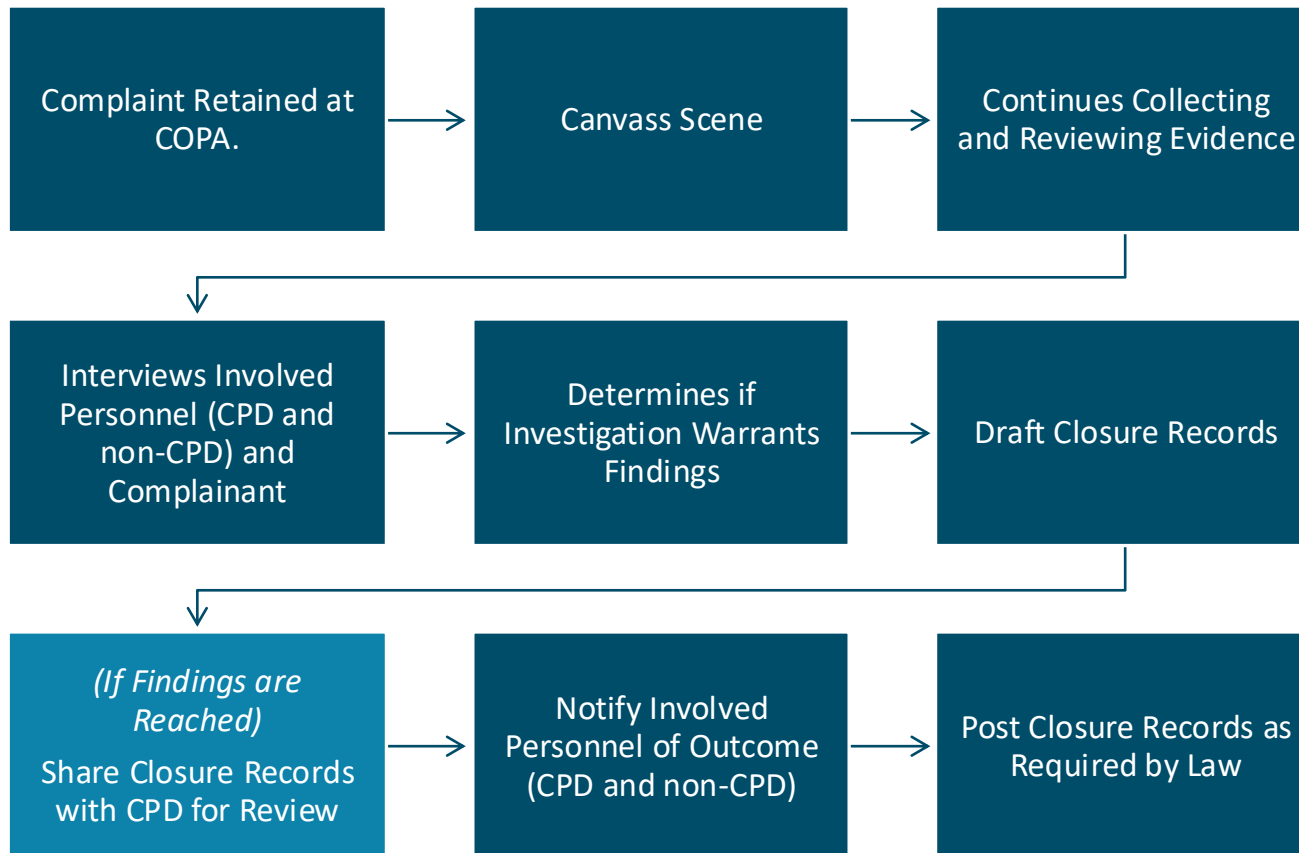
Amendment Proposal

- Through the amendment being discussed today, alleged WCO violations will be added to the list of allegations under COPA's investigative jurisdiction.
- COPA will immediately obtain this authority upon passage by City Council.
- Therefore, all WCO violation allegations after date of passage that involve a CPD member will be subject to COPA's investigative authority.

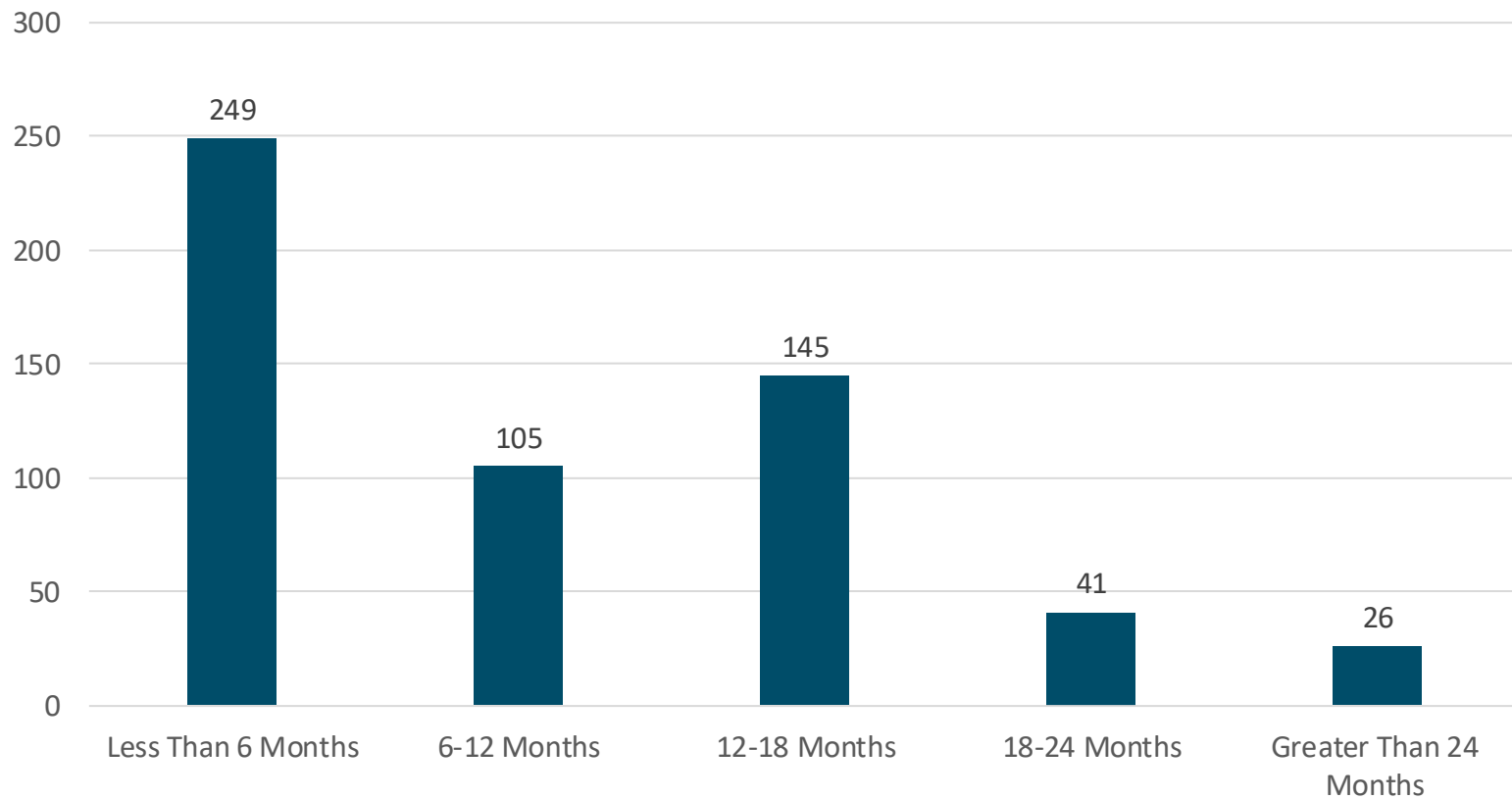
COPA's Intake Process



COPA's Investigative Process



2025 Case Closure Timelines



Public Transparency Into Investigations

- All complaints formally investigated by COPA produce a closing record that outlines investigative efforts and outcome.
- These records are subject to public transparency requirements such as through posting to COPA's website or through FOIA.
- COPA maintains online data and case portals that are always available to members of the public.
- COPA produces monthly, quarterly, and annual reports distributed to all members of this body.
- According to the MCC, COPA must report quarterly and annual reports before the Committee on Police & Fire to answer any questions about its report.