

## La Pointe Police Department Citizen Complaint

The Town of La Pointe takes allegations of police misconduct seriously and has developed this packet to assist you in better understanding the process of filing a Citizen Complaint.

The attached Citizen Complaint form should be used only to report allegations of police employee misconduct. Disagreements over the merits of an arrest, citation, or ticket do not come under the purview of this complaint process, unless employee misconduct is alleged.

To ensure the Town has clear information to investigate, complaints must be made in writing and sworn. Complaints can be made for allegations of infractions such as inappropriate behavior, or more serious types of misconduct (including without limitation corruption, misuse of force, civil rights violations, or criminal misconduct).

The majority of complaints filed against La Pointe Police Officers are resolved by the employee's superior. Generally, complaint investigations conclude within 60 days, unless extenuating circumstances require a longer investigation. The officer named in the Complaint will be notified of the Complaint and its substance, unless doing so would compromise an ongoing investigation. You will be notified when the investigation is complete and of the disposition of the Complaint.

Written complaints and any investigative findings or dispositions against police employees are subject to Wisconsin open records law and may be released to the media or other requesters. You may request confidentiality by checking "YES" on the complaint form; however, it is not possible to guarantee confidentiality.

Wisconsin law requires that we inform you that pursuant to Wisconsin Statute Section 946.46 **"WHOEVER KNOWINGLY MAKES A FALSE COMPLAINT REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IS SUBJECT TO A CLASS A FORFEITURE."** All instances of false reporting are referred to the Ashland County District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

If you have any questions regarding the Citizen Complaint process, please call the La Pointe Town Administrator at (715) 747-6914. By law, complaints may also be sent to the Town of La Pointe Town Board. Again, there must be a clear allegation of police officer misconduct for the La Pointe Town Board to take action.

Completed forms may be dropped off at Town Hall or mailed to the following address:

Town of La Pointe  
Attention: Town Administrator  
P.O. Box 270  
La Pointe, WI 54850





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(\_\_\_\_) I have written this statement myself.

(\_\_\_\_) This statement was written on my behalf by \_\_\_\_\_, using my words.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read this statement or have had this statement read to me, which begins on Page 2 and ends on Page \_\_\_\_\_. I fully understand the contents of the entire statement made by me. The statement is true. I have initialed all corrections and have signed at the bottom of each page containing the statement. I have made this statement freely without hope of benefit or reward, without threat of punishment, and without coercion, unlawful influence, or unlawful inducement.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Town Use Only**

Form was submitted by: Aggrieved Individual    Witness or Advocate (circle one)

This statement consists of this form plus \_\_\_\_\_ pages and was received on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)  
at \_\_\_\_\_ (time) hours.

Employee Receiving Form: \_\_\_\_\_