



City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of Police Accountability and Transparency
Evandro C. Carvalho, Executive Director

IAOP Findings Definitions

Any findings and conclusions of the IAOP will be made by a majority vote of the full five (5) member Panel.

Following the review of an internal affairs investigation, the panel will deliberate and make one of the following findings:

- a. **Agree** with the internal affairs findings (the panel must submit its findings to the Police Commissioner, the Chief of the Bureau of Professional Standards, the Legal Advisor for the Boston Police Department, and the named officer(s)).
- b. **Disagree** with the internal affairs findings; (the appeal will be referred to the Police Commissioner) or
- c. Refer the case to IAD for further investigation or action

THE BURDEN OF PROOF

All IAOP cases are determined on a **preponderance of the evidence** scale which equates to a **51%** likelihood that the alleged conduct occurred.

BPD Internal Affairs Division (IAD) Possible Findings Definitions

Sustained: Investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to support allegations in the complaint.

Not Sustained: Investigation failed to prove or disprove the allegations.

Exonerated: The action did occur, but the investigation revealed the action was proper, legal, and reasonable.

Unfounded: Clear and convincing evidence revealed that the alleged conduct did not occur.

Information Inquiry: IAD collects information or reviews an issue without a formal complaint or allegation of misconduct. It could be an informational process in which no disciplinary findings are intended.