

Commissioner what sort of action should be taken.

The question of the degree of the sanction, or whether or not any sanction will be imposed at all is left solely to the Commissioner of Police.

Each of the interviewees admitted that in many instances they felt that the penalties for police misconduct ^{were} not as stringent as ^{they} it ought to be. Patrolman Turner told us that in one case handled by him, he had taken up the matter of the sanction imposed with his superior officers, because he felt that the penalty did not fit the degree of misconduct. When asked what kind of sanctions were generally imposed, we were told by the interviewees that the matter may be disposed of ^{by} with a letter of apology to the complainant, or a letter of reprimand which would go into the file of the miscreant officer, or transfer out of a particular precinct into another or in very severe cases, suspension and discharge were possibilities. However, none of the interviewees could recall many cases in which the sanction was suspension and/or discharge. [#] We were told that only about ten percent of the complaints filed resulted in a finding of police misconduct. The bulk of the complaints also involved charges of verbal abuse rather than physical abuse. In such cases, we were told, that it's quite often a matter of the word of the complainant against that of the officer. In such cases, it is apparently the feeling of the Bureau that there is an irreconcilable conflict of ^{testimony} positions. This results in ^{no} a finding ~~in favor of the accused~~ officer: ^{one way or the other and of course the officer} is not punished.