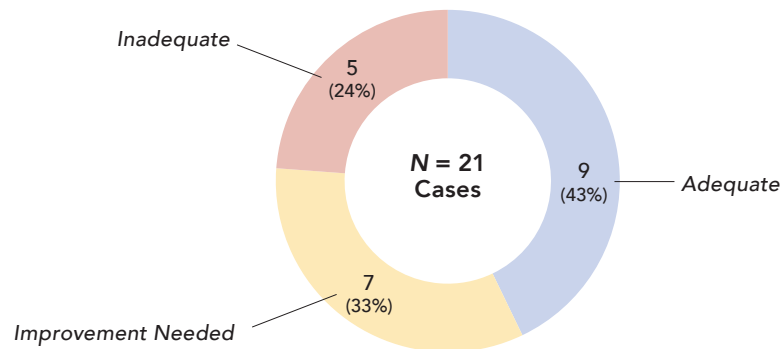




From April 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) completed its review of 21 closed California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) grievance cases involving allegations of staff misconduct that were resolved through the department's routine review process. The OIG rated the department's overall performance *adequate* in nine cases, or 43 percent. The OIG rated the department's overall performance *improvement needed* in seven cases, or 33 percent. The OIG rated the department's overall performance *inadequate* in five cases, or 24 percent.

Cases Monitored Retrospectively by the Office of the Inspector General From April 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026



Source: Office of the Inspector General Tracking and Reporting System.

OIG Case Number
26-02-01

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

On March 4, 2026, two officers allegedly confiscated and damaged an incarcerated person's personal property during a cell search and left the incarcerated person's cell in disarray.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.



OIG Case Number
26-02-02

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

On an unknown date, unidentified officers allegedly degraded and sexually harassed an incarcerated person when they made obscene gestures and comments while conducting several unclothed body searches.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.

OIG Case Number
26-02-03

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

On January 5, 2026, a teacher allegedly threatened to issue an incarcerated person a retaliatory rules violation for a previously filed grievance against the teacher.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.

OIG Case Number
26-02-04

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

On and before January 23, 2026, an officer allegedly harassed and racially discriminated against an incarcerated person by continually not allowing the incarcerated person to report to his job assignment and educational classes.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.



Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.

OIG Case Number
26-02-05

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

On January 12, 2026, an officer allegedly notified an incarcerated person that he was not allowed to have a book the incarcerated person received in the mail because it was determined to be contraband. The officer allegedly used profanity toward the incarcerated person when the incarcerated person stated he would file a grievance against the officer.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.

OIG Case Number
26-02-06

Rating Assessment
Improvement Needed

Factual Summary

On February 27, 2026, an officer allegedly was unprofessional when she made an inappropriate comment to an incarcerated person after the incarcerated person's wife assaulted him during a supervised visit.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG did not concur because the officer admitted making the comment and although the officer stated she was joking, her comment was unprofessional and warranted counseling.

Overall Assessment

The OIG identified a deficiency in the department's performance. The reviewing authority should have granted the incarcerated person's grievance and provided counseling because although the incarcerated person was laughing at the time of the incident, he did file a grievance indicating the unprofessional comment did have an effect more than was demonstrated at the time.



OIG Case Number
26-02-07

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

Between September 1, 2025, and September 30, 2025, an officer allegedly discriminated against an incarcerated person due to their mental and physical disabilities by disallowing the incarcerated person to work as a porter and used profanity and derogatory language towards the incarcerated person.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.

OIG Case Number
26-02-08

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

On an unknown date, an unidentified officer entered an incarcerated person's cell and removed grievance confirmation receipts related to past grievances submitted by the incarcerated person.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.

OIG Case Number
26-02-09

Rating Assessment
Improvement Needed

Factual Summary

On February 15, 2026, an officer allegedly intentionally closed a building door on an incarcerated person in a wheelchair.



Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The incarcerated person appealed the decision, and the Office of Appeals granted the appeal because the decision letter did not explain the basis for the department's determination or adequately address the allegation that staff intentionally closed the building door on the incarcerated person's wheelchair. The Office of Appeals required the Office of Grievances open a new grievance and provide a substantive response to the incarcerated person's allegation. The OIG concurred with the Office of Appeals' decision.

Overall Assessment

The OIG identified deficiencies in the department's performance. The supervisor inaccurately documented that the interview of a witness officer occurred on January 29, 2026, which predates both the alleged misconduct and the routine review assignment. In addition, the supervisor interviewed a witness incarcerated person but failed to document the witness's full name and prison identification number. The decision letter failed to identify the facts and evidence relied upon to support the finding that staff did not violate department policy and deny the grievance. The reviewing manager and reviewing authority failed to identify the deficiencies in the recommended decision letter.

OIG Case Number
26-02-10

Rating Assessment
Improvement Needed

Factual Summary

On December 11, 2025, an officer allegedly conspired with a second officer to enter an incarcerated person's cell to steal the incarcerated person's legal complaints and gave away the incarcerated person's mail to other incarcerated people.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The incarcerated person appealed the decision, and the Office of Appeals denied the appeal. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The OIG identified deficiencies in the department's performance. The supervisor interviewed the incarcerated person and should have asked additional clarifying questions, such as a description or identifying information about the second officer and the approximate time of the alleged conversation that he claimed to have overheard while attending morning dayroom. Obtaining this information may have allowed the supervisor to identify potential witnesses and determine whether relevant video footage existed for review.



OIG Case Number
26-02-11

Rating Assessment
Inadequate

Factual Summary

On November 25, 2025, two officers allegedly failed to pack and withheld an incarcerated person's personal belongings and medical equipment for his breathing machine. Officers also allegedly pepper sprayed the incarcerated person and attempted to kill him.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The incarcerated person appealed the decision. The Office of Appeals determined that the video evidence did not establish whether all components of the breathing machine, including the electrical cord and storage container, were packed with the device. Accordingly, the Office of Appeals requested the Office of Grievances open a new grievance and provide the incarcerated person a substantive response. The OIG concurred with the findings of the Office of Appeals regarding the missing medical equipment. However, the OIG did not concur with the findings on the remaining allegations because the routine review was inadequate and the reviewing authority should have requested additional fact-gathering.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *inadequate*. The supervisor did not interview the incarcerated person and therefore, failed to address the allegations staff pepper sprayed him and attempted to kill him. Allegations that staff used unnecessary force with pepper spray and attempted to kill an incarcerated person are identified in the department's Allegation Decision Index and should have been referred to the Centralized Screening Team to determine whether the allegations should be routed for investigation by the Office of Internal Affairs' Allegation Investigation Unit. The incarcerated person identified one officer by name and described the second officer as the "one who was working with him." The supervisor should have obtained the officer sign-in sheet to identify the second officer. The supervisor did not provide an adequate summary in the department's confidential records system of the video footage reviewed and only documented that the officer was observed with the incarcerated person's breathing machine equipment. However, neither the fact-gathering materials nor the decision letter established whether the video footage confirmed that all components of the breathing machine, including the electrical cord and storage container, were packed with the device. As a result, the supervisor's recommendation to deny the grievance was not supported by sufficient evidence. The reviewing manager and reviewing authority failed to identify deficiencies in the recommended decision letter. The reviewing manager and reviewing authority should have returned the recommended decision letter to the supervisor for additional fact-gathering, including an interview of the incarcerated person, referral of the allegation for investigative screening, and a more thorough review and documentation of the video evidence.



OIG Case Number
26-02-12

Rating Assessment
Improvement Needed

Factual Summary

On November 23, 2025, an officer allegedly harassed and threatened an incarcerated person by stating that the officer would issue the incarcerated person a rules violation report and set up the incarcerated person to be attacked by other incarcerated people.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The incarcerated person appealed the decision. The Office of Appeals determined that the routine review relied on an inaccurate date associated with the incarcerated person's allegations and requested the Office of Grievances open a new grievance to respond to the claim. The Office of Appeals subsequently denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The OIG identified a deficiency in the department's performance. The supervisor did not include a summary of the video footage reviewed, referenced a staff sign-in sheet but did not include it as an exhibit, and should have verified the date of the alleged misconduct in the confidential records system because the incarcerated person described it as her "arrival date" and the date the incarcerated person provided was incorrect.

OIG Case Number
26-02-13

Rating Assessment
Inadequate

Factual Summary

On January 2, 2026, an officer allegedly failed to provide an incarcerated person a decontamination shower after the incarcerated person was exposed to chemical agents, despite repeatedly assuring the incarcerated person would receive a shower.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG did not concur because the routine review was inadequate and the reviewing authority should have requested additional fact-gathering.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *inadequate*. The supervisor did not request or review video evidence and did not document relevant departmental policies and procedures governing decontamination procedures. The supervisor should have conducted additional interviews of either the sergeant or lieutenant who documented that chemical exposure



decontamination was offered and refused by all incarcerated people. The supervisor should have confirmed whether the incarcerated person was part of that group because the chemical exposure occurred on the shift prior to the shift worked by the officer who is the subject of this grievance. The supervisor should have asked the officer and the incarcerated person additional follow-up questions. The reviewing manager and reviewing authority accepted the recommended decision despite the deficiencies identified and denied the incarcerated person's grievance.

OIG Case Number

26-02-14

Rating Assessment
Improvement Needed

Factual Summary

On April 3, 2026, a sergeant allegedly ignored an incarcerated person's enemy concerns and told the incarcerated person to "fight him or figure it out."

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The OIG identified deficiencies in the department's performance. The supervisor was not at least one rank higher than the highest-ranking subject because both the supervisor and the subject were sergeants. In addition, the supervisor did not request or preserve any video footage relating to the alleged misconduct. During the incarcerated person's interview, the supervisor did not ask follow-up questions to identify the specific location of the interaction or otherwise obtain information that may have permitted the identification and review of relevant video footage. The supervisor also did not inquire as to why the incarcerated person signed a document three days after the alleged misconduct indicating that he had no enemy concerns. By failing to explore the discrepancy between the grievance allegations and the subsequently signed document, the supervisor missed an opportunity to assess the incarcerated person's credibility and the reliability of the allegations.

OIG Case Number

26-02-15

Rating Assessment
Improvement Needed

Factual Summary

On January 31, 2026, two officers allegedly failed to provide assistance to an incarcerated person after the incarcerated person fell to the floor and the officers failed to report the fall after the incarcerated person requested.



Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The incarcerated person appealed the decision, and the Office of Appeals granted the appeal after determining that the routine review failed to address the allegation that the officers failed to report the fall. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The OIG identified a deficiency in the department's performance. Specifically, the routine review failed to address the incarcerated person's allegation that he requested the officers report the fall and that both officers refused to do so. The reviewing manager and reviewing authority should have identified the deficiency and returned the matter to the supervisor for additional fact-gathering.

OIG Case Number
26-02-16

Rating Assessment
Inadequate

Factual Summary

On March 11, 2026, an officer allegedly ignored an incarcerated person's request for emergency medical care for chest pain and shortness of breath.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *inadequate*. The supervisor determined the officer's response was consistent with departmental procedures and training and that documentation indicated medical services were reasonably made available. However, the department's confidential records system is void of any documented investigative efforts, relevant medical documentation, or any attempts to interview the incarcerated person and the officer to support those conclusions. There is also no documentation to support whether the supervisor requested or reviewed relevant video-recorded evidence. The OIG, on its own, requested and reviewed video-recorded footage which supported the supervisor's findings that medical services were provided to the incarcerated person in a reasonable and timely manner. The supervisor should have interviewed the officer and posed questions to determine if the officer's response was appropriate and consistent with policy and compared those responses to the video-recorded footage.



OIG Case Number
26-02-17

Rating Assessment
Improvement Needed

Factual Summary

On December 10, 2025, a sergeant allegedly improperly applied handcuffs to an incarcerated person's right wrist, causing injury, an officer allegedly falsely documented that the incarcerated person was given a direct order to turn around and submit to handcuffs and then resisted, a second officer falsely documented the incarcerated person blocked the cell door from being keyed open and placed his belongings in front of the door, and a third officer allegedly improperly called an alarm for a disruptive incarcerated person.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The OIG identified deficiencies in the department's performance. The supervisor, reviewing manager, and reviewing authority did not identify that the grievance alleged dishonesty and therefore should have suspended the routine review and referred the matter back to the Centralized Screening Team to be routed for investigation. According to departmental policy, allegations of dishonesty are identified in the department's Allegation Decision Index and are referred to the Office of Internal Affairs' Allegation Investigation Unit for investigation. The supervisor referenced in the recommended decision letter that video evidence was reviewed. However, it is unclear whether the supervisor preserved the relevant video footage.

OIG Case Number
26-02-18

Rating Assessment
Inadequate

Factual Summary

On March 4, 2026, a lieutenant allegedly called an incarcerated person a "sex offender," claimed the incarcerated person would not survive on a general population prison yard, and used a derogatory word to describe the incarcerated person and his mother.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG did not concur because the routine review was inadequate and the reviewing authority should have requested additional fact-gathering.



Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *inadequate*. The supervisor failed to request and review video evidence. The incarcerated person provided a date and a very narrow time frame for the video footage, which would have captured the alleged statements made by the lieutenant. The supervisor should have interviewed the incarcerated person to determine whether additional witnesses could be identified. The supervisor should have attempted to identify additional witnesses by obtaining staff sign-in logs and housing assignments of incarcerated people. Witness interviews were vital to the supervisor's review of these allegations to determine whether the misconduct occurred, especially considering that the supervisor never reviewed video footage. The reviewing authority accepted the supervisor's recommendation and denied the incarcerated person's grievance. However, due to the lack of sufficient fact-gathering, the reviewing authority did not have sufficient information to make a determination on the allegation. The reviewing authority should have returned the matter to the supervisor to obtain video evidence and conduct additional interviews.

OIG Case Number
26-02-19

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

On March 3, 2026, an officer allegedly threatened to physically harm an incarcerated person after releasing him for a phone call and shower.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.

OIG Case Number
26-02-20

Rating Assessment
Inadequate

Factual Summary

On December 22, 2025, unidentified officers allegedly were unprofessional when conducting unclothed body searches which unnecessarily embarrassed several incarcerated people in front of other incarcerated people and failed to deactivate their body-worn cameras during the search.



Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG did not concur because the confidential record system is void of any investigative activity for the reviewing authority to make a finding.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *inadequate*. The supervisor determined that officers acted professionally and within the scope of their duties and found no evidence to suggest the inspections were intended to harass or discipline the incarcerated people. However, the confidential record system is void of any investigative activity. The supervisor failed to document any interviews, evidence collected, or video evidence preserved or reviewed. Video-recorded footage could have provided an objective and unbiased perspective and supported or refuted the supervisor's findings that no misconduct occurred. Instead, the reviewing manager and reviewing authority failed to identify these deficiencies and instead accepted the recommended decision letter and denied the grievance.

OIG Case Number
26-02-21

Rating Assessment
Adequate

Factual Summary

Between March 7, 2026, and March 10, 2026, an officer allegedly spoke in a rude manner when she refused to issue a package to an incarcerated person.

Disposition

The reviewing authority denied the incarcerated person's grievance. The OIG concurred.

Overall Assessment

The department's performance was *adequate*.



Appendix A

The Assessment Indicators assess the performance of the supervisor in conducting the routine review and the performance of the reviewing authority.

Assessment Indicator – Supervisor

1. Did the OIG identify any bias by the supervisor during the routine review?
2. Did the supervisor properly identify, collect, and preserve all relevant evidence?
3. Did the supervisor complete all necessary and relevant interviews?
4. Did the supervisor ask all necessary questions and use effective interviewing techniques when conducting interviews?
5. Did the supervisor properly document all relevant facts, evidence and supporting exhibits in the department's confidential records system?
6. Did the supervisor provide an appropriate recommendation to the reviewing authority?
7. Did the supervisor appropriately suspend the routine review and refer the matter to the Centralized Screening Team to determine if the grievance should be elevated to an investigation?
8. Did the supervisor timely complete the routine review?
9. If the routine review was inadequate or incomplete, did the manager return the matter to the supervisor for additional fact gathering?
10. Aside from any issue identified in another question, did the supervisor follow policy and procedure, and comply with best practices during the routine review?

Assessment Indicator- Reviewing Authority

11. Did the reviewing authority identify any conflict of interest in the routine review process?
12. Was the reviewing authority at least one rank higher than the highest ranking subject?
13. Did the reviewing authority appropriately determine whether the routine review was sufficient for each allegation?
14. Did the reviewing authority make an appropriate finding for each allegation?
15. Did the Office of Grievances timely send the written decision letter to the incarcerated person?



Appendix A (continued)

16. Did the reviewing authority properly document whether corrective action was issued?
17. Did the reviewing authority timely complete the routine review?
18. Aside from any issue identified in another question, did the reviewing authority follow policy and procedure, and comply with best practices during the routine review?