

Incident Summary

Officer A secured his service pistol and magazines in a gun locker at the entrance to a jail facility. He placed his pistol in the locker first, and then placed one magazine on top of the handgun and the other magazine to the side of the handgun.

Officer A completed his work shift and went to retrieve his pistol. Officer A stood to the right of the open gun locker door and reached in with his left hand. As his hand grasped the magazine on top of his handgun, the tip of either his index or middle finger pressed the trigger of the handgun, causing it to discharge in the locker. The round struck the interior of the locker and ricocheted out into the room, coming to rest on the concrete floor.

Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners' Findings

The BOPC reviews each Categorical Use of Force incident based upon the totality of the circumstances, namely all of the facts, evidence, statements and all other pertinent material relating to the particular incident. In every case, the BOPC makes specific findings in three areas: Tactics of the involved officer(s); Drawing/Exhibiting of a firearm by any involved officer(s); and the Use of Force by any involved officer(s). All incidents are evaluated to identify areas where involved officers can benefit from a tactical debriefing to improve their response to future tactical situations. This is an effort to ensure that all officers benefit from the critical analysis that is applied to each incident as it is reviewed by various levels within the Department and by the BOPC. Based on the BOPC's review of the instant case, the BOPC made the following findings.

A. Unintentional Discharge

The BOPC found Officer A's unintentional discharge to be negligent, warranting administrative disapproval.

Basis for Findings

A. Unintentional Discharge

- **Officer A** (pistol, one round)

In this instance, Officer A was attempting to remove his service pistol from a gun locker when his finger made contact with the trigger, resulting in an unintentional discharge.

The BOPC evaluated the circumstances relevant to Officer A's unintentional discharge and determined that his actions were negligent in nature, warranting administrative disapproval.