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NOPD FIELD INTERVIEW DATA WERE UNRELIABLE FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The City of New Orleans Inspector General today released a report titled “Inspection of the New Orleans Police Department Field Interview Data reported from January to June 2011: Technical Assistance Provided to the Independent Police Monitor Division of the Office of Inspector General.”

The goals were to determine if NOPD’s stop and frisk practices complied with legal standards and, if so, whether those standards were applied equally to all residents. However, problems with the department’s field interview data collection practices made the intended analysis impossible. Field interview data were at times incomplete or inaccurate and field interview cards were not designed to collect key information needed for the analysis.

“The City should work with NOPD to find cost effective ways of improving the department’s field interview data collection,” said Inspector General Ed Quatrevaux. “Redesigning the field interview card template and supervisory review of field interview cards for completeness and accuracy should be priorities.”

The report is attached to this press release. Other reports issued by the Office of Inspector General can be viewed and downloaded from the website at <http://www.nolaoig.org>.

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