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August 18, 2025

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City Data: NYPD Alleged Misconduct Cost Taxpayers Over \$77 Million Just Six Months Into 2025

At This Rate, Total 2025 NYPD Alleged Misconduct Lawsuit Payouts Could Exceed \$154 Million

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society released an [analysis](#) of [City data](#) showing that from January 1 to June 30, 2025, the City has already paid out a staggering \$77,367,582 in settlements for lawsuits alleging police misconduct. If this pace continues, total payouts for the year could exceed \$154 million.

Total payouts for police misconduct are likely significantly higher, as these data do not include cases settled with the New York City Comptroller's Office before formal litigation.

Disposal year	Number of lawsuits disposed	Total payout	Mean payout	Median payout
2018	1,576	\$76,492,741.72	\$48,536.00	\$10,650.50
2019	1,280	\$71,898,242.62	\$56,170.50	\$17,500.00
2020	931	\$62,111,491.67	\$66,714.81	\$20,000.00
2021	762	\$88,203,727.13	\$115,752.92	\$20,000.00
2022	975	\$135,379,617.10	\$138,850.89	\$22,002.00
2023	826	\$116,282,779.64	\$140,778.18	\$25,000.00
2024	973	\$206,329,754.53	\$212,055.25	\$20,000.00
1/1 - 6/27/2025	592	\$77,367,582.40	\$130,688.48	\$22,500.00

In 2024, the City paid out a record [\\$206,329,754](#) million in lawsuits alleging police misconduct. Since 2018, these lawsuits have cost taxpayers \$834,065,936.81.

In addition to the millions of dollars in payouts, the City is also on track to exceed its overtime budget by more than \$840 million in FY25, [according to the NYC Independent Budget Office](#), with NYPD officers accounting for the majority of the additional spending. In FY24, the NYPD [spent nearly \\$1.1 billion on overtime](#), marking a \$141 million increase from the previous year.

“Year after year, New Yorkers are stuck picking up the tab for alleged police misconduct — and the first six months of 2025 are no different,” said **Jennvine Wong, Supervising Attorney with the Cop Accountability Project at The Legal Aid Society**. “Many of the officers involved in these cases have been sued numerous times for alleged misconduct — some have even been promoted. In virtually no other profession would racking up lawsuits that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars be tolerated. This ‘no rules, no consequences’ culture only perpetuates the NYPD’s impunity and helps explain why many communities distrust a Department that claims to ‘protect and serve.’”

Case examples:

Kenneth Bacote v. City of New York et. al.

Incident Date: June 2, 2020

Settlement Date: April 25, 2025

Payout: \$5,750,000

Summary: On June 2, 2020, Kenneth Bacote was allegedly assaulted and battered by three on-duty police officers in Brooklyn. According to Bacote, the officers, without justification, deployed a taser that struck him in the left eye, resulting in blindness. He further alleged that the officers continued to use the taser on other parts of his body, causing additional injuries.

As detailed in his civil complaint, Bacote claimed the officers then threw him to the ground, beat him, dragged him, and forcibly placed him in handcuffs and leg shackles. He was subsequently arrested and transported to Kings County Hospital, where he underwent eye surgery before being taken to a police precinct and later returned to the hospital. The complaint alleges that his arrest and confinement were not supported by probable cause or a warrant.

[Jason A. Reisgerzog](#) has been named as a defendant in at least six other known lawsuits, which have resulted in a total of \$158,500 in settlement payouts.

Courtney Merchant v. City of New York et. al.

Incident Date: July 6, 2023

Settlement Date: March 5, 2025

Payout: \$480,000

Summary: On July 6, 2023, Courtney Merchant was arrested in Queens and charged with criminal possession of a weapon and related offenses. According to a subsequent legal filing, members of the NYPD allegedly

“manufactured evidence, provided materially false information, and omitted material information regarding the circumstances around [her] arrest.” Based on these alleged misrepresentations, a grand jury indicted Ms. Merchant on various charges.

On February 8, 2024, a representative of the Queens County District Attorney’s Office moved to dismiss the indictment, and Ms. Merchant was released from custody. Legal documents filed on her behalf allege that the prosecution was initiated without probable cause.

Officer [Jaipaul Ramdat](#) has been named as a defendant in two other publicly known lawsuits. Those lawsuits reportedly resulted in settlement payments totaling \$200,000. Public records also indicate that three Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) complaints have been filed against him, two of which the CCRB substantiated. Officer Ramdat was promoted to Detective Grade 3 with the Drug Enforcement Task Force in February 2025.

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The Legal Aid Society is a nonprofit organization that exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For nearly 150 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities.

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