

‘It means open season:’ Under Trump, the Justice Department has largely stopped investigating police departments for systemic abuses

By [Jess Bidgood](#) and [Jazmine Ulloa](#) Globe Staff, Updated June 9, 2020, 7:52 p.m.



In 2014, then-Attorney General Eric Holder traveled to Ferguson, Mo., after the killing of Michael Brown. PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS

WASHINGTON — In Chicago, the investigators in 2017 said police officers shot at moving vehicles with no justification, and endangered young people by bringing them to rival gang territory and leaving them there.

In Seattle, they wrote in 2011, two police officers tasered and beat a mentally ill man in the middle of a crisis, leaving him with a brain injury.

And in Baltimore, where the investigators in 2016 found a full 91 percent of people arrested for trespassing or failure to obey were Black, they said officers punched and pepper-sprayed a juvenile after they accused him and his sister of loitering; they were standing in front of their own home.

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