



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2014-0582

Issued Date: 05/11/2015

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 8.100 (I) Using Force: When Authorized (Policy that was issued 01/01/14)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Training Referral)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The named employee was working as a Field Training Officer (FTO) and in plain clothes when he and the student officer were dispatched to a reported disturbance at the complainant's residence. The complainant initially denied the named employee entrance to his residence. The named employee identified himself to the complainant as a Seattle Police Officer and the complainant permitted the named employee to enter his residence. The named employee entered the residence.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged the named employee pushed him aside to enter his residence causing him injury.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint phone statement
2. Interview of the complainant
3. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
4. Review of In-Car Videos
5. Interviews of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

Reviewing the evidence it was determined that the complainant permitted the named employee inside his residence. Field Training Officers (FTO's) are required to work in plain clothes during a portion of their time assigned with student officers. The reason for this assignment is to place the student officer in the primary role during the shift and better evaluate student officer performance. The named employee had used his foot to block the door when the complainant initially denied entry. There is no evidence, including In-Car Video-Audio, to substantiate the claim by the complainant that the named employee used force by making direct contact with the complainant.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The weight of the evidence showed that the named employee did not use force in his contact with the complainant. . Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *Using Force: When Authorized*. The named employee would benefit from training and guidance from the FTO Program Coordinator on how to avoid unintended confrontations that could occur when in plain clothes as a FTO.

NOTE: The Seattle Police Department Manual policies cited for the allegation(s) made for this OPA Investigation are policies that were in effect during the time of the incident. The issued date of the policy is listed.