



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2015-1485

Issued Date: 02/12/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued 02/01/2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Training Referral)
Final Discipline	N/A

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INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The named employees were assigned as uniformed Bike Patrol officers. They received an administrative assignment from their Sergeant that required them to drive a patrol vehicle. While returning from their assignment, they heard a foot pursuit call broadcast over the radio and proceeded to back the officers on that call. The foot pursuit incident ended with the suspect being taken into custody and required a use of force report to be written.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged that the named employees forgot to take microphones with them when they switched assignments to be in a patrol vehicle and failed to have audio recorded when they assisted to take law enforcement action.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint memo
2. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
3. Review of In-Car Video (ICV)
4. Interview of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The investigation showed that the named employees were working as uniformed bike patrol officers when a supervisor gave them an administrative assignment that required them to drive a patrol vehicle. The named employees do not regularly carry microphones while on bike patrol. After completing the administrative assignment, the named employees responded to several calls for service including the foot pursuit that required a use of force statement to be written. When the sergeant directed the named employees to write the required witness statement for the use of force report, it was discovered that they did not have their microphones on the call. The preponderance of the evidence supports that each named employee should receive refresher training on all required procedures, steps and equipment necessary to log into and be capable of recording (both video and audio) all police activity when operating a vehicle equipped with In-Car Video (ICV).

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1 and #2

Allegation #1

The preponderance of evidence supports that the named employees would benefit from additional training on the In Car Video System. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

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.