



## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

### Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2015-0645

Issued Date: 10/29/2015

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 8.100 (1) Using Force: When Authorized (Policy that was issued 01/01/14)
OPA Finding	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Lawful and Proper)
Allegation #2	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing (Policy that was issued 01/30/14)
OPA Finding	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

Named Employee #2	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 8.100 (1) Using Force: When Authorized (Policy that was issued 01/01/14)
OPA Finding	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Lawful and Proper)
Allegation #2	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing (Policy that was issued 01/30/14)
OPA Finding	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

## **INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

The named employees responded to a call to support the Child Protective Services (CPS) ordered removal of two minor children from their mother.

## **COMPLAINT**

The complainant alleged that the named employees used excessive force against her when they took custody of her children. The complainant further alleged the named employees conducted biased policing when they used force against her because she is black.

## **INVESTIGATION**

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

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

## **ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION**

The evidence showed that it was a difficult situation that occurred during the holiday season. The named employees were assisting CPS with removing two minor children from their mother. An officer shall use only the force reasonable, necessary, and proportionate to effectively bring an incident or person under control, while protecting the lives of the officer or others. The level of force used to restrain the mother was reasonable and proportionate. There is no evidence in bias policing by either named employee as alleged by the complainant.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Named Employee #1 and #2**

#### **Allegation #1**

The weight of the evidence showed that the named employees used force that was reasonable and proportional. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Lawful and Proper) was issued for *Using Force: When Authorized*.

#### **Allegation #2**

The evidence showed that the named employees only took actions to assist with the Child Protective Services order. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Unfounded) was issued for *Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing*.

*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.*