



## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

### Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-1042

Issued Date: 04/20/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 12.050 (2) Criminal Justice Information Systems: Inquiries Through ACCESS, or Any Other Criminal Justice Record System, Are Only to Be Made for Legitimate Law Enforcement Purposes (Policy that was issued April 4, 2015)
OPA Finding	<b>Sustained</b>
Allegation #2	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 12.050 (6) Criminal Justice Information Systems: All Employees Shall Adhere to WASIS and NCIC Policies (Policy that was issued April 4, 2015)
OPA Finding	<b>Sustained</b>
Final Discipline	One Day Suspension

#### **INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

The Named Employee submitted an inquiry through Criminal Justice Record Systems.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged that the Named Employee violated policy by running their own name in Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC)/ National Crime Information Center (NCIC). The Named Employee allegedly acknowledged to a co-worker that she was aware of the policy but planned to do it anyway. The violation was confirmed by an off line journal search run by Washington State Patrol.

## **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. Interviews of SPD employees

## **ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION**

The preponderance of the evidence from this investigation showed that the Named Employee conducted a search of her own name through WCIC, NCIC and the International Justice and Public Safety Information Sharing Network (NLETS) for a purely personal reason not connected in any way to her duties as a SPD employee or as part of an “official” SPD investigation. SPD Policy, State of Washington regulations and Federal regulations prohibit the use of these Criminal Justice Information Systems for personal purposes.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Named Employee #1**

#### **Allegation #1**

A preponderance of the evidence showed that the Named Employee conducted a search of her own name through Criminal Justice Record Systems for a reason not connected to her duties as a SPD employee or as part of an SPD investigation. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *Criminal Justice Information Systems: Inquiries Through ACCESS, or Any Other Criminal Justice Record System, Are Only to Be Made for Legitimate Law Enforcement Purposes.*

#### **Allegation #2**

A preponderance of the evidence showed that the Named Employee conducted a search of her own name through Criminal Justice Record Systems for a reason not connected to her duties as a SPD employee or as part of an SPD investigation. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *Criminal Justice Information Systems: All Employees Shall Adhere to WASIS and NCIC Policies.*

Discipline Imposed: One Day Suspension

*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.*