



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-1198

Issued Date: 07/21/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.001 (2) Standards and Duties: Employees Must Adhere to Laws, City Policy and Department Policy (Policy that was issued April 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Seattle Police Department purchased a license to use an online web-based service

COMPLAINT

The Complainant, the Office of Professional Accountability, alleges Unknown Employee(s) acquired various surveillance equipment in possible violation of the Seattle City Municipal Code requiring various notifications to certain officials, as well as approval by City Council. Additionally, other Unknown Employee(s) may have used this surveillance equipment in a manner which may have violated the Constitutional Rights of individuals.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the newspaper article
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 Seattle Police Department (SPD) purchased a license to use an online web-based service. This purchase did not involve the acquisition of equipment, hardware, software or any other asset. It did provide SPD with access to an online service that compiled publically-available internet information. It was the OPA Director's opinion that neither SMC 14.18 – Acquisition and Use of Surveillance Equipment, nor SMC 3.22.040 – Acquisition of Technology Resources, applied to this purchase.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

A preponderance of the evidence showed that neither SMC 14.18 nor SMC 3.22.040 applied to this purchase. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Unfounded) was issued for *Standards and Duties: Employees Must Adhere to Laws, City Policy and Department Policy*.

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.