



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-1397

Issued Date: 06/30/2017

| Named Employees #1 and #2 | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Allegation #1 | <u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued March 1, 2016) |
| OPA Finding | Sustained |
| Final Discipline | Oral Reprimand |

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employees stopped their patrol car behind a subject vehicle with the intent to issue a parking ticket to the subject vehicle.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged the Named Employees did not activate their In-Car Video (ICV) during an incident in which the Named Employees were involved in a collision.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

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

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

Named Employee #1 and his partner (Named Employee #2) were working together in a marked SPD patrol car equipped with ICV. The officers spotted a vehicle parked illegally and stopped to address the violation. As Named Employee #1 began to write a citation for the vehicle, he observed a person get out of the passenger side of the car and then get back in. Neither officer activated the ICV in their patrol car before beginning the police activity of writing a citation for the illegally parked car. ICV was only activated after Named Employee #2 contacted the driver of the illegally parked car and the parked car rolled backwards and struck the front of the police car. This activity was an “on-view” infraction the two officers decided to address. SPD Policy 16.090(6) requires that employees record all police activity, including “on-view infractions and criminal activity.”

FINDINGS

Named Employees #1 and #2

Allegation #1

A preponderance of the evidence showed that neither officer activated the ICV in their patrol car before beginning the police activity of writing a citation for the illegally parked car. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

Discipline Imposed: Oral Reprimand

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.