



January 10, 2022

Interim Chief Adrian Diaz
Seattle Police Department
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Chief Diaz:

Please see the below Management Action Recommendation.

Case Number

- 2021OPA-0188 / 2022COMP-0001

Topic

- Reporting Policy Violations

Summary

- It was alleged the NE did not immediately report a serious policy violation to a supervisor or OPA.

Analysis

- The NE mishandled a firearm that was submitted into evidence for fingerprint processing. In total, three employees handled the firearm without gloves. After realizing his mistake, the NE wiped down the firearm to remove their fingerprints.
- The incident occurred toward the end of a shift before the office was closed for a long weekend. On the following Monday morning, the NE self-reported the incident to his chain of command.
- SPD Policy 5.002-POL-6 states that employees must report potential serious misconduct to a supervisor or directly to OPA. The policy further requires that “[e]mployees who witness or learn of a violation of public trust [...] will take action to prevent aggravation of the incident or loss of evidence that could prove or disprove the allegation.”
- OPA notes this case bears similarities to [2019OPA-0383](#), in which an officer waited three days to report that another officer was believed to be intoxicated on duty.

Recommendation(s)

- Revise SPD Policy 5.002-POL-6 to set forth when potential misconduct must be reported to a supervisor or OPA. Evaluate whether certain types of misconduct should have different reporting requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "AM".

Andrew Myerberg
Director, Office of Police Accountability