

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 1, 2024

OIG releases much-anticipated Use of Force report with Seattle Police Department recommendations

As mandated by the Court in September 2023, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) has released its Seattle Police Department (SPD) Use of Force Assessment to the U.S. District Court. SPD also released its Outcomes Measures Update report. Download and read the reports on the Community Police Commission's (CPC) website.

"I appreciate the work of OIG in submitting the use of force assessment to the court, which is a thorough analysis of use of force and crowd control policies," said CPC Co-Chair Rev. Patricia Hunter. "It will help SPD enhance community trust by analyzing and improving its policies so that all communities will see a reduction of force. This is important in communities of color and we hope that SPD will look closely at who is being most heavily impacted by its use of force policies."

This report is long-awaited by the Community Police Commission, which works in part to make community-based recommendations concerning the SPD's use of force and crowd control policies.

The CPC's founding is rooted in the aftermath of the SPD's excessive use of deadly force against First Nations woodcarver John T. Williams in 2010. Williams' death galvanized the community and prompted the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate and enter into Consent Decree with the City of Seattle to ensure SPD's unconstitutional policing practices are corrected.

The CPC listens to, amplifies, and builds common ground among communities affected by policing in Seattle. We champion policing practices centered in justice and equity. The CPC is independent and led by volunteer commissioners. Learn more about the CPC at seattle.gov/community-police-commission.

##

Media Contact

Emma Shepard
Communications Advisor
Community Police Commission
Emma.shepard@seattle.gov