



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2014-0244

Issued Date: 03/09/2015

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.100 (I.A)(2) Take Appropriate Action Regarding Criminal Activity (Policy that was issued 07/20/10)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Training Referral)
Final Discipline	N/A

Named Employee #2	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.100 (I.A)(2) Take Appropriate Action Regarding Criminal Activity (Policy that was issued 07/20/10)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Training Referral)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The named employees were dispatched to a call where the 911 caller reported a male was firing shots into Lake Washington from a vehicle. The caller gave a description of the vehicle and her contact information. When they arrived they reported that there was no victim, witness or anything to follow up on. Other officers stopped a vehicle that matched the description but the named employees advised there was nothing to go on and to release the vehicle. They did not attempt to contact the caller to get additional information.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the department, alleged that the named employees failed to properly investigate the incident. The complainant contacted the caller and found that she had additional information and would have been able to identify the suspect and the vehicle.

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. Review of In-Car Videos
4. Interview of 911 caller
5. Interviews of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

While it is not known if the vehicle stopped by the other officers was involved in the incident as reported by the 911 caller, making contact with the 911 caller would have been beneficial in making this determination. The named employees may have not checked their Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) updates after receiving the initial call dispatch and therefore the scope of investigation of criminal activity was limited to what was initially reported to them by the dispatcher.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1 and #2

The weight of the evidence showed that the named employees should have checked their MDT for call updates. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *Take Appropriate Action Regarding Criminal Activity*. A Training Referral will allow a supervisor to review MDT and communications tactics usage with the named employees to ensure that they properly take action regarding criminal activity. It is critical that employees are aware of field communications updates.

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.