



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2014-0360

Issued Date: 02/11/2015

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 8.100 Use-of-Force: When Authorized (Policy that was issued 1/1/2014)
OPA Finding	<u>Not Sustained</u> (Lawful & Proper)
Final Discipline	N/A

Named Employee #2	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 8.100 Use-of-Force: When Authorized (Policy that was issued 1/1/2014)
OPA Finding	<u>Not Sustained</u> (Lawful & Proper)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant had two contacts with SPD over a period of one month. The first incident occurred on June 24, 2014 when a friend of the complainant called 911 regarding the complainant's suicidal threats. After hours of negotiation, the complainant was taken into custody and transported to a hospital for a crisis health evaluation.

The second incident occurred on July 12, 2014, when the named employees responded to a 911 call to the complainant's apartment building. A tenant reported that the complainant had placed notes on apartment doors threatening to "kill others and herself." The named employees interacted with the complainant in front of her apartment building, which was caught partially on

In-Car Video. The named employees determined the complainant was a danger to herself and took her into custody, so that she could be transported to a hospital for evaluation. While speaking with the complainant, one of the named employees observed a knife taped to the doorway of the complainant's apartment. The complainant made comments to the named employees about killing herself and others. In the process of restraining the complainant, she was lowered to the floor in order to put the handcuffs on her and this was witnessed by an observer.

COMPLAINT

On July 30, 2014, the complainant left two voicemail messages stating that the named employees had mistakenly arrested her, did not take a report of property damage, went into her home when no one was home, and "beat her up." The complainant did not respond to any OPA attempts for follow up regarding the allegations. As a result, OPA was unable to conduct an interview of the complainant.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the voicemail complaints
2. Interviews of witnesses
3. Interviews of the named employees
4. Review of the In-Car Video

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The allegations made by the complainant are not supported by the evidence. The named employee's use of force was reasonable, necessary and proportional when interacting with the complainant. The witness, who is a neighbor and friend of the complainant, was present during the July 12, 2014 interaction and stated that the named employees treated the complainant in a dignified manner.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1: The evidence showed that the named employee's use of force was reasonable and proportional and supports a finding of **Not Sustained** (Lawful and Proper) for *Use-of-Force: When Authorized*.

Named Employee #2

Allegation #1: The evidence showed that the named employee's use of force was reasonable and proportional and supports a finding of **Not Sustained** (Lawful and Proper) for *Use-of-Force: When Authorized*.

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.