



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2015-0102

Issued Date: 08/12/2015

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 8.001 (1) Using Force: When Authorized (Policy that was issued 01/01/14)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Lawful and Proper)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

SPD employees were on duty during a protest.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that the named employee used excessive force when he shoved her, causing her to fall on the ground and hit her head.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of complaint email
2. Interview of the complainant
3. Review of Body-Worn video
4. Review of In-Car video
5. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
6. Interviews of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

An officer shall use only the force reasonable, necessary, and proportional to effectively bring an incident or person under control, while protecting the lives of the officer or others. The named employee was part of a squad of bicycle officers assigned to block demonstrators from continuing their progress on a street. The officers were using verbal commands and bicycle positioning to define the police line. The complainant attempted to step over the named employee's front bicycle wheel. The named employee pushed the complainant back. Although the complainant fell to the ground as a result of his push, the level of physical force applied was reasonable and proportionate in the totality of circumstances. The use of force was reported following SPD policy.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The weight of the evidence showed that the named employee used force consistent with department policy. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Lawful and Proper) was issued for *Using 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.