



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2015-1380

Issued Date: 03/17/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.001 (9) Professionalism (Policy that was issued 07/16/14 and 04/01/2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Training Referral)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The named employee is assigned a city-owned vehicle and routinely drives back and forth from his residence.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that the named employee on several occasions consumed alcohol then drove a government vehicle.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint voicemail
2. Interview of the complainant
3. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
4. Interview of witnesses
5. Interview of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The OPA investigation determined that the named employee is assigned a city-owned vehicle that he routinely drives back and forth from his residence. The complainant reported that he observed the named employee in a specific restaurant consuming alcoholic beverages and then operating his government vehicle. The complainant confronted the named employee about the alleged behavior. OPA interviewed two regular employees of the restaurant. The employees confirmed that the named employee is a frequent customer and they had never observed him to be intoxicated or too impaired to drive. The same employees witnessed the confrontation between the complainant and the named employee and disputed the complainant's contention that the named employee was impaired or intoxicated. In his OPA interview, the named employee denied having consumed a sufficient amount of alcohol to render him too impaired to drive.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The evidence supports that the named employee should receive training from his supervisor. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *Professionalism*.

Required Training: The named employee should receive individualized training from his supervisor regarding the importance of building public trust in the Seattle Police Department by avoiding activities that may cause members of the public to question his judgement or give the impression that he may violate the law or place the public at risk. In addition, the named employee should be reminded of the risks associated with operating a motor vehicle after consuming an alcoholic beverage, even if the amount consumed is insufficient to place the person's blood alcohol level at or above the legal definition of impairment.

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.