



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2015-1405

Issued Date: 03/24/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual 5.001 (I.A.2.) Operations Bureau Individual Responsibilities: Monitor and take appropriate action regarding criminal activity in assigned area (Policy that was issued 07/20/2010)</u>
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Training Referral)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The named employee was on patrol and his In-Car Video (ICV) captured a suspect setting fire to a garbage container.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that the named employee failed to take enforcement action for criminal activity. Specifically, the complainant alleges the named employee should have seen the arsonist starting a fire and taken enforcement action instead of simply driving away.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint memo
2. Review of the In-Car Video (ICV)
3. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
4. Interview of the SPD employee

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The focus of the OPA investigation was to determine if the named employee observed the flaming garbage container located across the street from his patrol vehicle. During his OPA interview, the named employee demonstrated startled surprise when shown the video footage. The preponderance of the evidence developed in the OPA investigation supports the conclusion that the named employee did not see the suspicious activity.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The evidence supports that the named employee would benefit from training. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *Operations Bureau Individual Responsibilities: Monitor and take appropriate action regarding criminal activity in assigned area.*

Required Training: The named employee should receive extensive coaching and direction from his chain of command regarding the need for him to be more observant and tactically aware of his surroundings while on-duty and out in public. He should also receive coaching and direction concerning the need for him to remain in his assigned beat unless and under what circumstances it would be considered reasonable and necessary for him to leave his assigned area.

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.