



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-0496

Issued Date: 02/23/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing (Policy that was issued August 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

Named Employee #2	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing (Policy that was issued August 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employees were dispatched to a disturbance call.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that the Name Employees were biased when making the decision not to enforce a Court Order.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

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

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

While the race differences noted by the complainant were true, there was no evidence other than the complainant's statement to support the allegation that Named Employees #1 and #2 decided against enforcing the Court Order based on racial bias. The in-car videos contained no statements showing explicit or implicit bias on the part of Named Employee #1 or Named Employee #2. In addition, the Court Order, which was obtained and reviewed by OPA, supported the primary officer's contention that the order was so confusing it was not enforceable. In addition, the primary officer made an effort to contact the judge to see if the order could be clarified and enforced. Unfortunately, the judge was not available.

FINDINGS

Named Employees #1 and #2

Allegation #1

There was no evidence other than the complainant's statement to support the allegation that the Named Employees decided against enforcing the Court Order based on racial bias. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Unfounded) was issued for *Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing*.

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.