



## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

### Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-0592

Issued Date: 03/08/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.230 (3) Issuing Tickets and Traffic Contact Reports: Officers Document All Traffic Stops (Policy that was issued December 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Training Referral)
Allegation #2	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.001 (9) Standards and Duties: Employees Shall Strive to be Professional at all Times (Policy that was issued April 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Training Referral)
Final Discipline	N/A

#### **INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

The Named Employee contacted the complainant after she bumped a car while pulling out of a parking spot.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The complainant alleged that the Named Employee was "aggressive and on the edge of control" when he approached her after witnessing her bump the car behind her while pulling out of a tight parking spot. The complainant also alleged that the Name Employee accused her of "parking by braille" and he would notify her home state's DOL when it was time to renew her license to have them retest her.

## **INVESTIGATION**

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint
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**

This was either a traffic or an Investigative Terry Stop. Either way the Named Employee was required to document the detention with a citation, Traffic Contact Report (TCR) or a Terry Template.

In-Car Video (ICV) captured the Named Employee stating to the complainant, "You can't drive by braille, that's not okay," and then making a "parking by braille" comment over SPD radio. The use of the term "braille" was ill advised and could be seen by some as disrespectful to those with limited vision.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Named Employee #1**

#### Allegation #1

The evidence showed that the Named Employee would benefit from additional training. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *Issuing Tickets and Traffic Contact Reports: Officers Document All Traffic Stops*.

**Required Training:** The supervisor for Named Employee #1 should remind him of his obligation to document all detentions.

#### Allegation #2

The evidence showed that the Named Employee would benefit from additional training. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *Standards and Duties: Employees Shall Strive to be Professional at all Times*.

**Required Training:** The supervisor for Named Employee #1 should remind him that his actions reflect on all SPD personnel and he has an obligation to treat all people with dignity and to refrain from language, demeanor and actions that may result in the individual feeling belittled, ridiculed, or intimidated.

*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.*