



## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

### Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-1429

Issued Date: 05/10/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued March 1, 2016)
OPA Finding	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Lawful and Proper)
Final Discipline	N/A

#### **INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

The Named Employee responded to a Domestic Violence (DV) incident.

#### **COMPLAINT**

During a review of a Use of Force, the complainant, a supervisor within the Department, noted the Named Employee did not activate her In-Car Video (ICV) until after she had arrived on scene.

#### **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. Interview of SPD employee

## **ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION**

The preponderance of the evidence from this investigation showed that during the Named Employee's third return to the scene of a DV incident, the mobile data terminal (MDT) in the Named Employee's vehicle shut down for some unknown reason while the Named Employee was en route. This MDT shut down automatically caused the ICV in the Named Employee's vehicle to also shut down. The record also showed that the Named Employee quickly re-started the MDT and the ICV. It appeared most likely that the ICV on the Named Employee's vehicle began recording as soon as it was completely functional again, but that this was after the Named Employee arrived at the DV scene. It appeared the Named Employee made every reasonable effort to begin ICV recording prior to arriving on-scene the third time, but was blocked in this effort by a technical problem beyond the control of the Named Employee.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Named Employee #1**

#### Allegation #1

A preponderance of the evidence showed that the Named Employee made every reasonable effort to begin ICV recording, but was blocked in this effort by a technical problem beyond her control. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Lawful and Proper) was issued for *In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

*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.*