



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2017-0025

Issued Date: 07/12/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 15.260 (2) Collision Investigations: Officers Take Collision Reports for All Mandatory Reportable Collisions (Policy that was issued December 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Lawful and Proper)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employee arrived at the scene of a two vehicle collision involving the complainant's wife. Afterwards, the complainant attempted to obtain the report for the collision.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that the Named Employee didn't write a report for an accident involving the complainant's wife, and during intake, OPA was not able to find an associated collision investigation for this incident.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

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

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The preponderance of the evidence from this investigation supported the conclusion that the Named Employee completed a collision report through the Statewide Electronic Collision & Ticket Online Records (SECTOR) system. The evidence supporting this conclusion included the In-Car Video (ICV) video and audio recording made by the Named Employee at the time of his collision investigation and his own statements to OPA. On the ICV, the Named Employee took all the normal steps to gather the information he needed to conduct a collision investigation and complete a collision report. The Named Employee made statements to the involved parties indicating he would be completing and submitting a collision report and the Named Employee could later be heard inside his police car making typing sounds that would be consistent with him completing the collision report. The evidence not supporting this conclusion was the fact that no collision report of this collision investigation could be located. Finally, the OPA investigation indicated that the SECTOR system has had instances of data loss in the past. Taking all the evidence into account, the OPA Director found it more likely than not that the Named Employee completed and submitted a collision report as required and that it was subsequently “lost” through some unknown cause.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

A preponderance of the evidence showed that it more likely than not that the Named Employee completed and submitted a collision report as required. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Lawful and Proper) was issued for *Collision Investigations: Officers Take Collision Reports for All Mandatory Reportable Collisions*.

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.