

March 30, 2020

Chief Carmen Best
Seattle Police Department
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Chief Best:

Please see the below Management Action Recommendation.

Case Number

- 2018OPA-0395 / 2020COMP-0006

Topic

- Special Commission Permits

Summary

- It was alleged that two former SPD employees working in a Special Commission capacity did not report serious misconduct to SPD and OPA.

Analysis

- In OPA investigation [2017OPA-1036](#), an SPD employee working off-duty flagging traffic made racist statements to Seattle City Light employees.
- Two retired SPD officers who held Special Commissions that permitted them to work certain secondary employment heard or became aware of the statements but did not report them to SPD or OPA.
- The Special Commission employees told OPA that they did not believe they were obligated to report the misconduct to SPD or OPA because of their retired status. They further did not believe they had such a duty as a requirement of the Special Commissions they held.
- OPA [issued a similar MAR](#) in 2017OPA-0370 requesting that SPD rework its Special Commission program. Included in this recommendation was OPA's suggestion that the Department provide training to Special Commission holders on fundamental SPD policies and communicate the expectation that they uphold SPD policies and report serious misconduct.

Recommendation(s)

- Create guidelines to govern the approval, training, monitoring and recordkeeping for Special Commission employees. OPA has had meetings with SPD HR and Legal Affairs to discuss the progress in developing these new processes; however, as OPA's previous MAR on this matter is still active, OPA renews this recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

AM

Andrew Myerberg
Director, Office of Police Accountability