



December 3, 2020

Director Andrew Myerberg
Office of Police Accountability
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Myerberg,
Please see the below Management Recommendation:

Case Numbers: 2018OPA-0742 / 2020COMP-0003

Topic: Handling Money Evidence

Summary of the Management Action:

OPA received a complaint regarding a large discrepancy in the amount of seized currency reported by officers and the actual amount of currency packaged in the envelope as evidence.

Original Recommendation:

- Create a policy governing the collection, transporting, and counting of large quantities of seized currency. The policy should state that BWV should be used to record the counting of currency. In cases where BWV recording of the incident is not possible, the policy should instruct officers to reactive BWV while handling money and other evidence.
- Units should consider additional steps to ensure the integrity of the money evidence and that an accurate count is completed. Such procedures should be uniform across all units that handle such evidence.

Action Taken:

On September 16, 2020 SPD Audit, Policy, and Research Section published two Directives, 20-00023 and 20-00024 (effective October 1, 2020). Directive 20-00023 notified employees of an update to policy 16.090 In-Car and Body Worn Video. The revisions to Policy 16.090-POL 1(5)(b) **Employees Recording Police Activity-When Employees Record Activity**, include:

- *Handling and counting of currency up to the point it is sealed in a currency envelope or air-dry bag. (See Manual Section 7.080-Money Evidence)*

Directive 20-00024 notified employees of an update to Policy 7.080-POL-1 Money Evidence. The new language added to policy is as follows:

1. Two Sworn Employees Will Document Currency Being Submitted

Two employees will be present to count and verify the amount of currency being submitted.

Employees equipped with BWV cameras will record the handling and counting of currency with BWV up to the point it is sealed in a currency envelope (TSK-1) or air-dry bag (TSK-2). (See also Manual Section 16.090 – In-Car and Body-Worn Video)

As is the practice whenever policy is updated, a corresponding mandatory quiz must be completed to ensure that all employees have read and understand the policy updates.



Seattle

Police Department

SPD Considers this Management Action:
Fully Implemented

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L. CORDNER".

Assistant Chief Lesley Cordner
Professional Standards Bureau