

Seattle
Community
Police Commission

Our city. Our safety.
Our police. Better together.

April 9, 2019

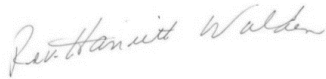
Dear Chief Carmen Best,

The Seattle Police Department (SPD) recently filed the final results of an audit on stops and detentions with the Court as part of the City of Seattle's sustainment responsibilities. In reviewing the results, the Community Police Commission (CPC) writes to provide the following feedback on the audit:

1. The CPC values the opportunity to read such a comprehensive analysis of the articulation of reasonable suspicion in stops and detentions, and being able to review interesting data points like the articulation of reasonable suspicion by:
 - Precinct and Watch
 - Assignment
 - Subject age, gender, and race
 - Officer age, gender, race, and experience
2. The CPC wants to acknowledge the transparency with which SPD reports on data points of interest, such as the precinct and watch that accounted for most of the stops that lacked insufficient information, despite the fact the small numbers in the analysis meant that statistical analyses did not determine any significance for those data points.
3. Most of all, the CPC greatly appreciates that despite the audit finding that SPD continues to be in systemic compliance with Consent Decree requirements to adequately articulate reasonable suspicion, SPD proactively establishes next steps within the audit report to continually improve its practices. Some of these next steps include:
 - Meeting with precinct captains for the three squads that owned the highest number of stops deemed to lack articulation of reasonable suspicion to review documentation requirements;
 - Implementing a new record management system that will contain major improvements to Terry reporting including requiring officers to have entered text to justify a stop or frisk in order to submit the report; and
 - Offering two training modules, "Legal Updates" and "Search and Seizure" to officers in 2019 to address issues highlighted by the audit.

The CPC hopes that throughout the remainder of the sustainment period and beyond, SPD will continue to conduct critical self-assessments of policies and practices, much like the stops and detentions audit, and identify and act upon opportunities for improving policing practices in Seattle above meeting the requirements of constitutional policing.

Sincerely,



Rev. Harriett Walden, Co-Chair
Community Police Commission



Isaac Ruiz, Co-Chair
Community Police Commission



Emma Catague, Co-Chair
Community Police Commission

Cc:

Lesley Cordner, Assistant Chief, Seattle Police Department
Becca Boatright, Executive Director, Seattle Police Department
Pete Holmes, City Attorney
Community Police Commission