



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-0009

Issued Date: 07/13/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual 5.140 (2) Bias- Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing</u> (Policy that was issued 01/01/2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

Named Employee #2	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual 5.140 (2) Bias- Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing</u> (Policy that was issued 01/01/2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

Named Employee #3	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Bias- Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing (Policy that was issued 01/01/2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employees were a block away from a grocery store when they heard multiple gunshots. The officers responded on foot and observed people running away frantically from the scene. They also encountered a gunshot victim and windows shot out of the grocery store. Upon arriving, an unknown witness pointed in a direction and told the officers that the shooter went that way. The Named Employees started searching for a possible suspect. The officers located a vehicle with four males inside and one male standing outside the vehicle. The group was acting in a way which raised the officers' suspicions. The Named Employees detained the five males for approximately 15 minutes but released them when there were no further updates to corroborate that the males were involved.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, identified a possible bias complaint violation by the Named Employees who conducted a stop on a vehicle while investigating a shooting incident.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

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

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The complainant alleged the Named Employees may have stopped, frisked and detained several subjects based, in part, on bias related to the race of the subjects. The OPA investigation produced a preponderance of evidence that showed the officers' decision to contact and briefly detain the subjects was based on a partial description of a suspect vehicle, a direction of travel provided by a witness and close proximity to the crime in both time and location. No evidence of bias was discovered.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1, #2 and #3

Allegation #1

There was no evidence to support the allegation against the Named Employees. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Unfounded) was issued for *Bias- Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing*.

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.