



## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

### Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-0027

Issued Date: 07/20/2016

Named Employee #1	
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	<b>Not Sustained</b> (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

#### **INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

The Named Employee was working his regular duties.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The complainant alleged that the Named Employee did not objectively review a case and treated victims and parents in a disparate manner because of racial bias.

#### **INVESTIGATION**

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint letter
2. Interview of the complainant
3. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
4. Interview of witnesses
5. Interview of SPD employees

## **ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION**

The complainant originally sent a letter to another agency complaining about the conduct of a detective she believed was employed by that agency. The other agency informed the complainant that they had no detective by that name in their employ and suggested she contact the SPD. The other agency also forwarded the complaint letter to OPA. OPA conducted a full intake interview with the complainant and she alleged the Named Employee had acted with racial bias in the conduct of his investigation into a report of child sexual abuse. The complainant, a civil attorney representing the family of the children reporting the abuse, cited a number of statements and actions by the Named Employee as evidence of bias. OPA conducted a full investigation into this allegation. The OPA investigation found no evidence to support the complainant's allegation of bias-based policing. The investigation determined that some of the actions and statements cited by the complainant as evidence the Named Employee was acting out of racial bias did not occur as reported by the complainant.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Named Employee #1**

#### Allegation #1

The preponderance of the evidence does not support this allegation against the Named Employee. 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.*