



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-0474

Issued Date: 11/21/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued March 1, 2016)
OPA Finding	Sustained
Final Discipline	Oral Reprimand

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

An officer located a known warrant subject, and the Named Employee responded to assist.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, reported that during the course of a felony fugitive arrest, the Named Employee failed to activate his In-Car Video (ICV).

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint memo
2. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
3. Interview of the SPD employee

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The complainant alleged the Named Employee failed to audio and video record police activity as required by policy. The preponderance of the evidence showed the Named Employee responded to attempt to arrest a warrant subject. When the Named Employee got out of the patrol car to stop the subject, he attempted to activate the ICV by starting the emergency lights. The Named Employee only activated the lights which do not start the ICV. The Named Employee in his interview said that he thought the emergency lights activated the ICV and that there was no time to turn them on manually. During the investigation into the use of force, a Sergeant discovered the lack of ICV and referred it to OPA. Based on a preponderance of the evidence the Named Employee failed to activate his ICV as required by policy. There was no exigency to prevent him from starting the recording.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

A preponderance of the evidence showed the Named Employee failed to activate his ICV as required by policy. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

Discipline imposed: Oral Reprimand

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.