



CLOSED CASE SUMMARY

ISSUED DATE: JUNE 20, 2018

CASE NUMBER: 2018OPA-0046

Allegations of Misconduct & Director’s Findings

Named Employee #1

Allegation(s):		Director’s Findings
# 1	15.100 - Kidnapping I. Procedures	Not Sustained (Unfounded)

This Closed Case Summary (CCS) represents the opinion of the OPA Director regarding the misconduct alleged and therefore sections are written in the first person.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Complainant alleged that an Unknown Employee assigned to the investigation of her sexual assault and abduction case ignored the Complainant, accused her of being a liar, and disregarded evidence.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Named Employee #1 - Allegations #1 15.100 - Kidnapping I. Procedures

The Complainant alleged to OPA that she had been sexually assaulted over a period of time in late 2007 through early 2008 by several men. She further alleged that she had been held against her will. She stated that she reported this matter to SPD and that the assigned officer (who she described as a White male, possibly over 30, with a mustache and short grey hair) was dismissive of her allegations, engaged in victim-blaming, did not collect evidence, and did not substantively investigate or take action on her allegations.

The Complainant told OPA that she had been living in Seattle Public Housing (SPH) at the time and that the crimes occurred on the eighth floor of a SPD building, but did not provide a specific address for that location. She stated that she did not know whether the officer took a report and she could not recall the date that she met with the officer to discuss the crimes.

SPD Policy 15.100 involves the responsibility of officers who receive information concerning an alleged kidnapping. The officers are required to “immediately notify the commanding officer of the Criminal Investigations Bureau, Violent Crimes Section, and the Homicide/Assault Unit.”

As part of its investigation into this case, which was 10 years old at the time the Complainant initiated this matter, OPA checked SPD databases for the Complainant’s name, which yielded negative results. OPA determined that there were approximately 20 SPH buildings that were higher than eight floors and which could have been consistent with the location identified by the Complainant. Without more detailed information, however, OPA was unable to link any prior rape or kidnapping to this case.



While the conduct that the Complainant described is certainly concerning, the evidence in the record is insufficient to establish that it, in fact, occurred and who the involved Department employee was. Moreover, even if this could be proved, this incident occurred over 10 years ago, and, pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement between the City and the police unions, discipline could not be imposed. For these reasons, I recommend that this allegation be Not Sustained – Unfounded.

Recommended Finding: **Not Sustained (Unfounded)**