



10/9/19

Director Andrew Myerberg  
Office of Professional Accountability  
PO Box 34986  
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Myerberg,

Please see the below Management Recommendation response

**Case Numbers:**

OPA 18-0353; COMP 18-0101

**Topic:**

Search Warrant Exception

**Summary of the Management Action:**

Allegation that employees violated SPD Policy 6.180 – Searches General by entering a residence without a warrant.

**Original Recommendation:**

Modify policy 6.180-POL-2 to include the community caretaking/Emergency Doctrine exception to search warrant requirement as set forth in caselaw (State v. Holeman)

**Action Taken:**

Guidance related to warrantless community caretaking searches has been incorporated into the draft for 6.180, Searches – General. Additionally, in the revisions to the Crisis Intervention Policy 16.110-POL-5(8) the following new language was added to provide clarity:

- \*NOTE – A court order for detention or verbal order from a DCR does not grant legal authority to enter a constitutionally protected area. An order may add to the overall exigency of an incident, but should not be used as the only motivator to force entry into a protected area.

**SPD Considers this Management Action:**

Fully Implemented

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Lesley Cordner, Assistant Chief  
Professional Standards Bureau