



July 13, 2022

Interim Director Grainne Perkins  
Office of Police Accountability  
PO Box 34986  
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Perkins,

Please see the below Management Recommendation response

**Case Numbers:** 2020OPA-0748 / 2021COMP-0035

**Topic:**

Handcuffing Exception

**Summary of the Management Action:**

Officers did not handcuff an arrestee prior to transport as required by SPD Policy.

**Original Recommendation:**

Evaluate whether there should be an exception to the handcuffing requirement where the officer determines that front handcuffs and double cuffs are not possible due to an arrestee's physical condition. If so, consider what alternative methods could be utilized to secure the arrestee.

**Action Taken:**

SPD sent a letter closing for this Management Action in October of 2021. Upon receipt, we were contacted by your office asking if we could reconsider our response, as the original intent of the recommendation was not clearly stated. You clarified that the issue was the placement of the subject into the patrol vehicle while officers waited for the ambulance that they requested to arrive at the scene. This led to her hitting her nose on the vehicle during the ensuing struggle. Even with this set of facts clarified SPD still believes that the current process of requiring AMR to safely transport individuals with medical issues adequately address this issue. When considering the alternatives, the officers had available, their choice to restrain the subject in the patrol car was reasonable.

**SPD Considers this Management Action:**

Fully Implemented (due to existing policy and training that address the recommendation)

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Adrian Z. Diaz  
Chief of Police