



Seattle

Police Department

January 7, 2026

Director Bonnie Glenn
Office of Police Accountability
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Glenn,

Please see the Management Recommendation response below:

Case Numbers: 2024OPA-0403 / 2025COMP-0009

Topic: Use of Taser on Fleeing Subjects

Summary of the Management Action:

- It was alleged that the named employee violated policy by deploying their taser at a fleeing subject absent "other factors."

Original Recommendation:

- SPD should revise SPD Policy 8.300-POL-3(6) to provide guidance regarding: (1) when a subject is "fleeing the scene," and (2) what "other factors" should be considered to evaluate whether a taser may be deployed at a fleeing subject.

Action Taken:

Seattle Police Department respectfully declines policy revisions to 8.300-POL-3(6) to address the recommendation "*what other factors should be considered....*" Listing factors for every possibility or incident would be impractical and could also limit incidents to those specific factors. Taser training provides officers with helpful directions and guidance. Training topics include participant discussion related to policy, risk of injury on fleeing subjects and environmental factors.

With that said, the Policy unit will be adding new language to policy that will read something to the effect of "...taser on a fleeing subject must be articulated considering the necessary, reasonable and proportionate use of force, risk to suspect, officers, others, etc.,"

SPD Considers this Management Action:

In Development

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shon F. Barnes".

Shon F. Barnes Ph.D.
Chief of Police
Seattle Police Department