

To:	Gino Betts, OPA Director
CC:	Nelson Leese, Interim OPA Assistant Director of Investigations and Legal Affairs
From:	Nicolette Lattanzio, OIG Public Safety Audit and Investigation Specialist
Date:	December 19, 2022
Re:	Partial Certification Memo for Case Number: 2022OPA-0211

## **Partial Certification Memo**

OIG has reviewed the investigation for case number 2022OPA-0211. In accordance with Ordinance 125315, section 3.29.260(F), OIG can certify this case as objective. Although this case cannot be certified as either thorough or timely.

## **Thoroughness**

Based on the original complaint, allegations were raised against five uniformed officers who entered Cal Anderson Park on Sunday June 26, 2022. The complainant also provided a photo depicting all five officers. While the initial notification went out to unknown employees, all five officers are identified in the Report of Investigation. Unfortunately, after being identified, none of the five officers became named, none received appropriate notifications, nor were any of the officers interviewed by OPA.

Interviewed officers included those who participated in an event in Downtown Seattle, not those present or complained of at Cal Anderson Park. While SPD leadership was also interviewed, including SPD's LGBTQIA+ liaison, OIG cannot consider an investigation that failed to name the identified, complained of officers as thorough.

## **Timeliness**

Under section 3.29.260 (B) of Seattle's Accountability Ordinance, initial investigations shall be submitted, "to OIG for OIG's review sufficiently in advance of investigation deadlines in order to allow the deadlines to be met in the event OIG directs additional investigation."

Here, 2022OPA-0211 was submitted to OIG 12/8/2022, and OPA requested the case back by 12/19/22. This leaves just six business days before the expiration of the 180-day investigation period ending on 12/28/22. Because the time constraints do not allow for additional investigation, namely notifying and interviewing the involved employees, and submitting the case back to OIG for certification, this case cannot be certified as timely.

Respectfully,

Nicolette Lattanzio, OIG Public Safety and Investigation Specialist