



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2015-0374

Issued Date: 10/19/2015

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.001 (10) Employee Shall Be Truthful and Complete in All Communications (Policy that was issued 07/16/14)
OPA Finding	Sustained
Final Discipline	No Discipline – Employee already had resigned

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The named employee, a student officer, along with his Field Training Officer (FTO) arrested a suspect and transported him to a precinct holding cell. Department policy requires arresting officers visually check on detainees in the holding cell every thirty minutes. The FTO asked if the named employee had performed the prisoner check and the named employee said that he had. The named employee also had written in the prisoner log book that he had checked on the prisoner.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged that the named employee falsified a booking sheet showing he had conducted a prisoner 30-minute time check without actually checking the prisoner in the holding cell. The named employee is also alleged to have been dishonest to his FTO when asked whether he had conducted the prisoner check, to which he had replied "yes" when he had not done so.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint email
2. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
3. Review of holding cell video
4. Interviews of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

It is of the utmost importance to the Department and the public it serves that police reports are truthful, accurate and reliable. The evidence showed that the named employee entered the holding cell area and immediately proceeded to the prisoner log book, logged the check, and left the area. The named employee did so without looking at the prisoner, approaching the cell door, or taking any action to check on the prisoner's well-being. The statements made to the named employee's FTO were untruthful. The statements made by the named employee to investigators were contradictory. The evidence showed that the named employee had not been truthful in all communications, including both written and verbal statements.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The evidence showed that the named employee was not truthful and complete in all communications. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *Employee Shall Be Truthful and Complete in All Communications*.

Discipline imposed: No Discipline – Employee already had resigned

NOTE: The Seattle Police Department Manual policies cited for the allegation(s) made for this OPA Investigation are policies that were in effect during the time of the incident. The issued date of the policy is listed.