



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2015-1900

Issued Date: 07/07/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activities (Policy that was issued 02/01/2015)
OPA Finding	Sustained
Final Discipline	No Discipline, supervisor counseled employee at time of incident

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employee drove past an incident involving three SPD officers who were attempting to enter a car by breaking its window. Recognizing an emergency may be in progress, the Named Employee, a supervisor, parked his police car and got out to assist the officers.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, the Force Review Unit, alleged that the Named Employee did not record his response and activity related to the incident with the In-Car Video (ICV) system as required by SPD policy.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint memo
2. Review of In Car Video (ICV)
3. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
4. Interview of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The OPA investigation documented that the Named Employee did not activate his In-Car Video (ICV) system as required by policy before exiting his car, nor did he activate it any time after he left the car via the remote microphone switch. As a result, the Named Employee did not video or audio record during the entire time he was at the scene of this incident. In addition to assisting the officers, the Named Employee had a supervisory role at the scene with respect to the force used by the officers. The Named Employee told OPA he was not able to activate the ICV prior to exiting his police car due to the emergent nature of the situation. However, the activation of ICV only requires the push of one button (either in the car or on the remote microphone).

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The weight of the evidence showed that the named employee did not record his response or activity on his In-Car Video (ICV) system as required by policy. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activities*.

Discipline imposed: No Discipline, supervisor counseled employee at time of incident

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.