



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-0112

Issued Date: 07/28/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued 02/01/2015)
OPA Finding	Sustained
Final Discipline	Written Reprimand

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employee was responding to a major incident involving a domestic disturbance where the suspect had barricaded himself.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged that the Named Employee deactivated his In-Car Video (ICV) before arriving at an incident.

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 employee

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The Named Employee was responding to a barricaded subject, domestic violence incident in his capacity as a member of the SPD Hostage Negotiator Team (HNT). While driving to the scene, the recording function of the In-car Video (ICV) system was activated by the speed of his police car. Before arriving at the scene of the incident, the Named Employee manually and intentionally turned off the ICV recording function. The Named Employee did not record any portion of his police activity while present at the scene. There was no known technical or mechanical reason why the Named Employee's ICV system would have been unable to record the Named Employee's police activity at the scene. SPD policy in force at the time of this incident required the Named Employee to record all police activity from when he was dispatched to the incident until he had concluded his activity related to the incident and no exception for the Named Employee's activity with HNT was in place at the time.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The preponderance of the evidence supports that Named Employee #1 violated the policy. Therefore a **Sustained** was issued for *In Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

Discipline imposed: Written Reprimand

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.