



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-1170

Issued Date: 04/03/2017

Named Employees #1 and #2	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued March 1, 2016)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Inconclusive)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employees were dispatched to a disturbance involving a Domestic Violence assault.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged that the Named Employees failed to activate In-Car Video (ICV).

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

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

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The OPA investigation showed that the police activity of Named Employees #1 and #2 in this particular incident had not been audio and video recorded as required. The backup video without audio was subsequently recovered from the vehicle. Named Employees #1 and #2 thought the ICV system had been activated and had no explanation for why it was not. An examination of the ICV system installed in the police vehicle assigned to the two-officer unit of Named Employee #1 and Named Employee #2 revealed unexplained technical irregularities that may have impeded the Named Employees' ability to activate the system and appear to have made it difficult for either Named Employee to know whether or not the recording function was active. There was no preponderance of the evidence to either prove or disprove that Named Employees #1 and #2 had the ability to activate the recording function.

FINDINGS

Named Employees #1 and #2

Allegation #1

There was not a preponderance of the evidence either supporting or refuting the allegation. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Inconclusive) was issued for *In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

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.