



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number 2017OPA-0107

Issued Date: 08/07/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing (Policy that was issued August 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employee was working in the traffic unit.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that the Named Employee engaged in biased policing when he issued her an infraction for speeding.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of written statement of Complainant
2. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
3. Interview of SPD employee

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The evidence from this investigation clearly showed that the Named Employee was unable to see the race or gender of the person driving the car when he obtained a speed check on the complainant's car using his Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) device. As an officer assigned to the motorcycle traffic unit, the Named Employee's primary duty is to find traffic violators and issue them citations. Once the Named Employee determined the complainant's vehicle was travelling in excess of the posted speed limit, his job was to stop the vehicle and, in most cases, issue the driver a citation. This was what the Named Employee did and there was no evidence, other than the complainant's allegation, to support the conclusion that the Named Employee's decision to stop and cite the driver was motivated by bias of any kind.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

There was no evidence to support the conclusion that the Named Employee's decision to stop and cite the driver was motivated by bias of any kind. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Unfounded) was issued for *Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing*.

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.