



CLOSED CASE SUMMARY

ISSUED DATE: MARCH 31, 2018

CASE NUMBER: 2017OPA-1159

Allegations of Misconduct & Director’s Findings

Named Employee #1

Allegation(s):		Director’s Findings
# 1	16.090 - In-Car and Body-Worn Video 5. Employees Recording Police Activity b. When Employees Record Activity	Not Sustained (Training Referral)

This Closed Case Summary (CCS) represents the opinion of the OPA Director regarding the misconduct alleged and therefore sections are written in the first person.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Complainant, a Department supervisor, alleged that the Named Employee self-reported not having his In-Car Video activated during a dispatched call.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Named Employee #1 - Allegations #1

16.090 - In-Car and Body-Worn Video 5. Employees Recording Police Activity b. When Employees Record Activity

SPD Policy 16.090-POL-5(b) requires that employees record police activity and sets forth various law enforcement actions that must be recorded.

Here, Named Employee #1 (NE#1) engaged in law enforcement activity that needed to be recorded; namely, a dispatched response to a domestic violence call, which included taking a statement from the victim. However, he failed to record this activity on his In-Car Video (ICV) system as required. NE#1 self-reported his failure to record to his supervisor. He further noted his failure to record in the General Offense Report; however, he did not specifically explain the reason for the lack of video as required by the policy.

There was no justification for the failure to record ICV in this case. NE#1 told OPA that it was simply an oversight and a mistake. I appreciate NE#1’s candor, both with his supervisor and with OPA. That NE#1 was accountable for his actions and recognized his error informs my conclusion that a Sustained finding, even if supported by the facts, is not warranted. Instead, I recommend that this allegation be Not Sustained – Training Referral.

- **Training Referral:** NE#1 should receive additional training concerning the requirement that he record his law enforcement activity on ICV as required by this policy. In addition, NE#1 should be instructed that, when he does not record, SPD Policy 16.090-POL-7 requires him to document the reason for the lack of video, not just to simply note that none exists on an appropriate report. NE#1 should further receive counseling from his chain of command concerning the Department’s expectations that he will endeavor to comply with this policy in the future. This re-training and associated counseling should be memorialized in a PAS entry.



Seattle
Office of Police
Accountability

CLOSE CASE SUMMARY

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Recommended Finding: **Not Sustained (Training Referral)**