



City of Seattle

Seattle Police Department

March 14, 2017

Director Pierce Murphy
Office of Professional Accountability
720 Third Avenue, 18th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Management Action Recommendation (2016OPA-0897)

Dear Director Murphy:

I am writing to follow up on your February 17, 2017, Management Action Recommendation, arising from an investigation regarding an employee's use of an unmarked SPD vehicle while off-duty, but on-call. You recommended that the Department revisit SPD Policy 13.080 with regard to (1) the authorization of non-SPD passengers in Department vehicles during "on call" hours; (2) authorization of temporary overnight use of a Department vehicle; (3) reconciling the inconsistency between authorization of a "take-home" vehicle and the prohibition against taking a Department vehicle outside the city limits; and (4) providing clear guidance regarding the use of vehicles by employees who are expected to be on-call and available to respond to an incident.

Understanding that no policy can cover each and every potential situation, I do recognize that the policy may allow room for confusion depending on the individual circumstances of Department employees and their professional obligations. While drawing a distinction between employees who are on scheduled "on call" status, with concomitant obligations, and those employees who, by virtue of their position may be called to respond during unscheduled hours (24-7) to an incident upon notification or request, I have asked that the Audit, Policy and Research Section add this policy to their queue for review as to these points.

In addition to ensuring that any revisions are consistent with the City's ethics code, we will provide of course provide you with any draft revisions of Section 13.080 for your review and comment. And, as always, please let me know if you would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. O'Toole
Chief of Police

Cc: Deputy Chief Carmen Best
Brian Maxey, Chief Operating Officer
Assistant Chief Lesley Cordner
Rebecca Boatright, Senior Counsel