



**Seattle**

Police Department

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February 15, 2022

Interim Director Grainne Perkins  
Office of Police Accountability  
PO Box 34986  
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Perkins,

Please see the below Management Recommendation response

**Case Numbers:** 2020OPA-0303 / 2020COMP-0016  
2017OPA-1085 / 2021COMP-0041

**Topic:** High Risk Vehicle Stops

**Summary of the Management Action:**

**2020COMP-0016** - It was alleged that officers improperly stopped him because of his race, drew guns on him, and lied about their reasons for their actions.

**2021COMP-0041** – It was alleged that officers engaged in threatening and improper behavior when they conducted a high-risk vehicle stop (HRVS) of a van with a license plate that had been reported stolen.

**Original Recommendation:**

- Create a policy under SPD Manual Title 6 governing HRVS to provide guidance on the requirements and limitations of such stops, including when it is appropriate for officers to conduct felony-level stops.
- Amplify HRVS training to provide examples of stops in which it may be unnecessary to draw firearms or where alternate tactics exist that ensure both officer and public safety.
- Expand SPD Manual 15.190-TSK to include guidelines for confirming and contacting possible occupied stolen vehicles.

**Action Taken:**

As stated in the previous Management Action 2018-0024 the department believes that providing guidance on High-Risk Vehicle Stops (HRVS) is a training issue, not a policy one. SPD training regarding the display of a firearm when initiating a stop remains consistent with the policies and training previously approved by the Monitor, DOJ, and the federal court, and with the training that is provided by the State, particularly in the context of the BARK felonies (burglary 1, assault, robbery, and kidnapping). SPD's data bears out that such instances comprise the overwhelming majority of incidents involving the pointing of a firearm. SPD will continue to stress the decision-making aspect involved in all interactions involving high risk to both officers and subjects, as well as the importance of strong and respectful communication following any interaction.



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**SPD Considers this Management Action:**

Declined

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AD" with a flourish.

Adrian Diaz  
Chief of Police