

Seattle  
Community  
Police Commission

**CPC Statement in response to the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office decision to not charge Officer Dave with a crime related to Jaahnavi Kandula's death**

"Jaahnavi Kandula's life mattered and had immeasurable value to her family, friends, and community. With so many in our community disheartened by the KCPAO's decision that no criminal charges will be filed against Officer Kevin Dave, our deepest sympathies remain with Jaahnavi Kandula's family and the Indian American community.

"While Officer Dave was traveling 74 mph on Dexter Avenue North at night prior to striking Ms. Kandula, the KCPAO determined his conduct did not meet the legal standard of "recklessness" or "disregard for the safety of others" under Washington's vehicular homicide statute. It begs the question: at what speed would Officer Dave have had to drive for his emergency response to be considered reckless or disregarding the safety of pedestrians in the area?

"Last month, the CPC hosted representatives from the Indian American community and, with their input, is currently finalizing recommendations to SPD regarding much-needed changes to their vague emergency vehicle operation policy. SPD must adopt policies that protect life and do not put the community at further risk.

"The CPC will also continue examining the apparent policy of SPD responding to Seattle Fire Department responses to drug overdoses. The community deserves more answers from SPD and SFD as to why Officer Dave was responding to an overdose call in the first place.

"Now that the criminal investigation into Officer Dave is over, the OPA investigation will proceed. The CPC will also carefully review the OPA investigation into Office Dave when it is complete and consider policy recommendations to SPD at that time as well."



Reverend Patricia Hunter, Co-Chair



Reverend Harriett Walden, Co-Chair



Joel Merkel, Co-Chair