



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2014-0708

Issued Date: 03/04/2016

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.001 (2) Employees Must Adhere to Laws and Department Policy (Policy that was issued 07/16/2014)
OPA Finding	Sustained
Allegation #2	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.002 (9) Responsibilities of Employees Concerning Complaints of Possible Misconduct: Employees Will Report Certain Events (Policy that was issued 07/16/2014)
OPA Finding	Sustained
Final Discipline	12 days suspension without pay

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The named employee was not at work when police officers from another jurisdiction knocked on her door asking if her adult son was at her residence.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, received information originating from an incident outside of the City of Seattle in which the named employee allegedly obstructed police from arresting her son. Charges were filed the other law enforcement agency for Obstructing a Public Servant against the named employee. The criminal case against the named employee was resolved with a stipulated order of continuance which was satisfied and the charges were dropped.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint email
2. Other law enforcement agency police report
3. Other municipal court documents
4. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
5. Interview of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The OPA investigation included two in-person interviews of the named employee. In the interviews OPA questioned the named employee about the circumstances of the event. She stated that when the police stopped by her apartment looking for her son, she was not aware that he was there and said that he was not there. It was determined that her son was at her apartment and he surrendered. The named employee stated that she had no idea that she was listed on the police report or that they had requested that charges of obstructing be filed against her. When she received a notice in the mail about two months later she retained a criminal defense attorney and did not notify anyone from the Seattle Police Department.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The evidence supports that the named employee obstructed the police in another jurisdiction. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *Employees Must Adhere to Laws and Department Policy*.

Allegation #2

The evidence showed that the named employee did not report this event to her supervisor or anyone at SPD. Therefore **Sustained** finding was issued for *Responsibilities of Employees Concerning Complaints of Possible Misconduct: Employees Will Report Certain Events*.

Discipline imposed: 12 days suspension without pay

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.