



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number 2017OPA-0143

Issued Date: 08/07/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing (Policy that was issued August 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employee was working in the traffic unit.

COMPLAINT

The complainant stated that the Named Employee told her she was going to give her a warning for the violation. When the complainant arrived home, she realized she was given a citation, not a warning. The complainant felt the Named Employee lied to her and that she received a citation instead of a warning because she looked Mexican and her sister, a passenger in her car at the time, was Black.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of written statement of Complainant
2. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
3. Review of In-Car Video (ICV)
4. Interview of SPD employee

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The evidence from the OPA investigations clearly showed that the Named Employee was unable to determine the race or gender of the driver at the time the Named Employee began to move her police car in order to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle driven by the complainant. Other than the complainant's statement that the officer may have been motivated by racial bias in her decision to issue the complainant a citation, the OPA investigation produced no evidence to support the allegation of bias.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The OPA investigation produced no evidence to support the allegation of bias. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Unfounded) was issued for *Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias-Based Policing*.

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.