



Seattle Office of Police Accountability

November 8, 2019

Chief Carmen Best
Seattle Police Department
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Chief Best:

Please see the below Management Action Recommendation.

Case Number

- 2019OPA-0168/2019COMP-0032

Topic

- Ruses

Summary

- It was alleged that the Named Employee used a ruse that was inconsistent with Department policy.

Analysis

- *SPD Policy 5.001-POL-11* governs the circumstances when employees may use a ruse or deception for a specific and lawful purpose, such as to acquire information for a criminal investigation.
- The named employee used a ruse to acquire information for a misdemeanor investigation following a hit and run. The ruse ultimately contributed to the subject's subsequent suicide.
- During its investigation, OPA found that SPD does not include ruses in regular in-service training.

Recommendation(s)

- Add ruses to an existing in-service training module, including when they are appropriate and when they shock fundamental fairness.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

AM

Andrew Myerberg
Director, Office of Police Accountability