



City of Seattle

Seattle Police Department

April 4, 2016

Director Pierce Murphy
Office of Professional Accountability
720 Third Avenue, 18th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: 2015OPA-1626 Management Action Recommendations

Dear Director Murphy:

Thank you for your March 18, 2016, letter outlining your recommendation for management action to address issues raised by the Force Review Board, which concerned the deployment of a pepper ball during a protest on May Day 2015 for what appeared to be the sole purpose of marking a fleeing suspect for later identification.

You note that SPD policy does not directly address or provide guidance with respect to the use of pepper ball launchers, and you recommend that SPD develop clear policy around this tool. The Department agrees with your recommendation, and will proceed to do so.

As I emphasized in my January 8, 2016 letter concerning other management action recommendations that followed a review of last year's May Day event, the issue of crowd management is of importance to the Department and to the people of Seattle, and we will continue to involve OPA in the development and review of relevant policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen M. O'Toole".

Kathleen M. O'Toole
Chief of Police

cc: Judge Anne Levinson (Ret.)
Deputy Chief Carmen Best
Brian Maxey, Chief Operating Officer
Assistant Chief Lesley Cordner
Rebecca Boatright, Senior Police Counsel