



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2014-0574

Issued Date: 03/31/2015

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Bias Free Policing (Policy that was issued 01/30/14)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Unfounded)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

SPD officers responded to a report of an assault occurring in a park and located the victim of the assault (the complainant). The altercation started when the complainant cut an unknown person sleeping on a park bench.

COMPLAINT

The complainant believes that she was assaulted based on either her race and/or her sexual orientation and she alleged that the incident was not documented as a bias crime by the investigating SPD officers. She also alleged that the investigating officers failed to pursue the investigation because of the race of her attackers.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint email
2. Interview of the complainant

3. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
4. Review of In-Car Videos
5. Interviews of witnesses
6. Interviews of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The evidence showed that the assault in the park was likely a response to the complainant's actions and not any sort of bias. Witnesses indicated they knew the man who had been cut but would not identify him to the officers. The complainant was not able to provide details regarding the individuals who assaulted her. The In-Car Video captures the initial investigation and supports the conclusion of the absence of bias.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

The evidence did not show that the named employee conducted the initial or follow-up investigation in a biased manner or made decisions influenced by bias, prejudice, or with discriminatory intent. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Unfounded) was issued for *Bias Free 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.