



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2017-0121

Issued Date: 06/30/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 16.090 (6) In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity (Policy that was issued March 1, 2016)
OPA Finding	Sustained
Final Discipline	Oral Reprimand

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employee responded to a disturbance as the primary officer.

COMPLAINT

The complainant, a supervisor within the Department, alleged that the Named Employee was dispatched to an incident and did not activate her In-Car Video (ICV) until she was several minutes into the call.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint memo
2. Review of In-Car Videos (ICV)
3. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
4. Interview of SPD employee

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The OPA investigation revealed that the Named Employee did not activate her ICV as required by policy. The Named Employee told OPA she believed she had pressed the start button on her screen to activate the ICV when she arrived on-scene. Later, while standing outside her police vehicle, the Named Employee noticed that the red recording light on the camera was not on. She pressed the button again to activate the ICV and heard it beep. The Named Employee told OPA she was wearing protective gloves when she first touched the screen in her car to activate the ICV and thought this may have interfered with its activation. OPA contacted the Information Technology Section (ITS) who reported that the touch screen is pressure sensitive and will respond to a touch even if made by gloved hands. ITS also confirmed that the Named Employee's ICV had no known technical problems on the day of the incident. It was also noted that the Named Employee did not document her failure to ICV record all of her police activity in the General Offense Report, nor did she report this failure to her supervisor. It was only discovered by the complainant while reviewing a Type II Use of Force.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

A preponderance of the evidence showed that the Named Employee did not activate her ICV as required by policy. Therefore a **Sustained** finding was issued for *In-Car Video System: Employees Will Record Police Activity*.

Discipline Imposed: Oral Reprimand

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.