



# Seattle Office of Inspector General

**To:** Gráinne Perkins, Interim OPA Director  
**CC:** Nelson Leese, Interim OPA Assistant Director of Investigations and Legal Affairs  
**From:** Nicolette Lattanzio, OIG Public Safety Audit and Investigation Specialist  
**Date:** July 25, 2022  
**Re:** Partial Certification Memo for Case Number: 2020OPA-0534

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## Partial Certification Memo

OIG has reviewed the investigation for case number 2020OPA-0534. OIG can certify this case as objective and thorough, but this case cannot be certified as timely.

Under section 3.29.260 (B) of Seattle's Accountability Ordinance, initial investigations shall be submitted, "to OIG for OIG's review sufficiently in advance of investigation deadlines in order to allow the deadlines to be met in the event OIG directs additional investigation."

In this case, 2020OPA-0534 was submitted to OIG for initial review on June 27, 2022, while the 180-day investigation period expired on February 15, 2021.

Although, it is not just that the 180-day investigation period expired, OIG also takes issue with the number of times this case seems to have been overlooked throughout its investigatory lifespan. The case was originally submitted to OPA in August 2020; but was left unassigned until July 2021. Similarly, while the investigation was submitted for supervisory review in December 2021, it was again overlooked until March 2022.

Such oversights could impact the ability to acquire and preserve evidence. Here, NE employment status changed during the lifespan of this case, and with the passage of time, memories fade. When these types of issues impact the ability for community members to have their complaints processed, it becomes a notable issue of public concern.

Accordingly, and as mentioned, while OIG can certify this case as objective and thorough, it cannot be certified as timely.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicolette Lattanzio".

Nicolette Lattanzio, OIG Public Safety and Investigation Specialist