



Seattle Office of Inspector General

To: Bonnie Glenn, OPA Interim Director
CC: Mary Opler, OPA Investigations Supervisor
From: Payton Schenck, OIG Lead Investigative Specialist
Date: October 27, 2025
Re: Partial Certification Memo for 2025OPA-0224

Partial Certification Memo

OIG has reviewed the investigation for case 2025OPA-0224. While reviewing the investigation, OIG listened to the Complainant interview recording and was concerned with several questions the OPA investigator asked the Complainant, as well as the challenging of the Complainant's recollection of the incident. At one point the OPA investigator listed conflicts between available body worn video and the Complainant's recollection and pressed the Complainant to provide a reason for the difference, at one point suggesting the Complainant may be deliberately providing untrue information.

The adversarial nature of the interview with the Complainant, which led to the Complainant having to defend her account of the story, is not objective. Complainant recollections commonly differ from body worn video in OPA cases, and this can be addressed in a less confrontational manner. Asking complainants to explain themselves when OPA initially gathers information on a complaint does not contribute trust in the accountability system.

Accordingly, OIG can certify this case as thorough and timely, but not objective.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Payton Schenck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Payton Schenck, OIG Lead Investigative Specialist