

March 14, 2025

## **OPA Bias Reviews**

SEATTLE – On March 13, 2025, the Office of Police Accountability (OPA) notified the Office of Inspector General (OIG) that a significant number of bias-review documents sent by the Seattle Police Department (SPD) to OPA as required had not been addressed. When OPA staff first recognized these reports apparently had not been handled, they took steps internally to ascertain the extent of the issue and identify potential sources of relevant information. OPA then notified OIG, SPD, and the Mayor’s Office. OPA will participate in a cooperative effort with OIG for a full audit of the situation.

The proper handling of bias allegations is of critical importance in building and maintaining community trust, and in ensuring SPD serves the Seattle community in a fair and professional manner. OIG, in cooperation with OPA, will assess every report to ensure any matter raised is properly addressed and proper internal controls are put in place to prevent any future occurrence. More information will be provided at a later date, and a public report will be produced when the matter has been fully investigated and rectified.

The Office of Inspector General is part of Seattle’s independent police oversight system and provides systemic oversight to help ensure the fairness and integrity of Seattle’s police system. Visit <https://www.seattle.gov/oig/reports> to view a full list of OIG reports and other work.

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