



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number OPA#2016-1386

Issued Date: 05/25/2017

Named Employee #1	
Allegation #1	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.001 (9) Standards and Duties: Employees Shall Strive to be Professional at all Times (Policy that was issued April 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Training Referral)
Allegation #2	<u>Seattle Police Department Manual</u> 5.140 (2) Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias Based Policing (Policy that was issued August 1, 2015)
OPA Finding	Not Sustained (Lawful and Proper)
Final Discipline	N/A

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The Named Employee made an arrest in a Domestic Violence (DV) incident.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleges the Named Employee arrested her for DV, despite her being the initial 911 caller for an assault, because she was a homeless white woman. Additionally, she felt that the Named Employee was unprofessional and demeaning in his communications with her.

INVESTIGATION

The OPA investigation included the following actions:

1. Review of the complaint memo
2. Search for and review of all relevant records and other evidence
3. Review of In-Car Videos
4. Interviews of SPD employees

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The Named Employee made statements to the complaint regarding how he would wait with her at the hospital, which she perceived as unprofessional. As indicated in the complaint referral to OPA, it was recommended the Named Employee receive counseling and training from his supervisor.

This incident was a mandatory DV arrest situation. Based on the initial call by the complainant, she was treated as a victim of DV, but subsequently, based on information gathered by the Named Employee and other witness officers, her status changed to being the suspect, and was thus arrested under the mandatory arrest law.

FINDINGS

Named Employee #1

Allegation #1

The evidence showed that the Named Employee would benefit from additional training. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Training Referral) was issued for *Standards and Duties: Employees Shall Strive to be Professional at all Times*.

Required Training: The Named Employee should receive counseling and training from his supervisor to address his well-documented habit of making statements that others perceive to be disrespectful, flippant and unprofessional.

Allegation #2

A preponderance of the evidence showed the allegation to have no basis. Therefore a finding of **Not Sustained** (Lawful and Proper) was issued for *Bias-Free Policing: Officers Will Not Engage in Bias Based 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.