



January 3, 2023

Director Gino Betts  
Office of Police Accountability  
PO Box 34986  
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Betts,

Please see the below Management Recommendation response

**Case Numbers:** 2021OPA-0223 / 2021COMP-0045

**Topic:** Canine Deployment

**Summary of the Management Action:**

An SPD supervisor reported that the named employee (NE) deployed his canine in a manner that was inconsistent with SPD policy or the result of unclear policy.

**Original Recommendation:**

- Modify 8.300-POL-1(3) to either eliminate “completed” or provide additional guidance as to what this means.
- Have the Canine Unit chain of command assess how it would like off-lead building searches to be conducted. Once a consensus is reached, ensure all unit employees receive appropriate training and understand the policy.

**Action Taken:**

SPD agrees that there was some confusion regarding the language in this policy. Under the revisions currently awaiting approval from the Seattle Police Monitoring Team and the Federal Courts, the word “completed” has been removed.

Additionally, the leadership of the Canine Unit has changed since the writing of this Management Action. The Chain of Command has provided officers with clear expectations regarding the policy issues as they relate to this incident. Removing the word “completed” from the policy and clear, confident articulation of expectations from the K9 chain of command has mitigated this issue. Further, off lead applications for building searches is clarified in policy and has been addressed it in unit training. If proposed language is approved, ambiguity regarding this issue has been resolved.

**SPD Considers this Management Action:**

Completed

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.



**Seattle**  
Police Department

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Diaz".

Adrian Z. Diaz  
Chief of Police