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OPA Releases its 2022 Annual Report

Seattle, WA — The Seattle Office of Police Accountability (OPA) released its [2022 Annual Report](#) today highlighting the office's data trends and police accountability work from the previous year. The report includes a summary of OPA's complaint, investigation, and discipline data as well as information about its policy work.

2022 was a transition year for OPA. The office saw major changes in leadership and capacity, with three directors within a year, operational vacancies, increased workloads, and roughly two-thirds of staff having less than a year on the job.

Despite these challenges, OPA achieved notable wins in 2022, including:

- Raising awareness about OPA and police accountability throughout Seattle's BIPOC and other marginalized communities.
- Hiring a complaint navigator to educate complainants about OPA's processes, provide case updates, and guide complainants through the complaint process.
- Completing over 95% of investigations within the statutory and bargained 180-day timeline.
- Expanding OPA's leadership to include a general counsel and assistant general counsel to increase OPA's capacity and efficiency for Director Certification Memo processing.
- Issuing a Management Action Recommendation for Seattle Police Department's (SPD) response to subjects with edged weapons, which SPD fully implemented.

The report also includes a letter from OPA's new director, Gino Betts Jr., detailing his vision for the office:

"I am fully committed to making OPA the national standard for police accountability and earning public confidence in our work," Betts said. "With bold leadership and an engaged community, there is no place better than Seattle to demonstrate excellent policing and meaningful police accountability. Together, as One Seattle, I am convinced we will reimagine policing and improve police oversight."

Check out the report's "Facts at a Glance" below and read the full report here: seattle.gov/opa/news-and-reports/reports

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2,252 contacts
received



454 cases
opened



60% of complaints
went to investigation



13% of
investigations
had sustained
allegations



60% of investigations
were initiated by
community members



Zero findings
overturned by
the chief



Force allegations
down **36%**
from 2021



18% of allegations
about professionalism



857 findings
issued