



Seattle Office of Police Accountability

November 15, 2018

Chief Carmen Best
Seattle Police Department
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

RE: MANAGEMENT ACTION RECOMMENDATION

Dear Chief Best:

Please see the below Management Action Recommendation.

Case Number(s)

- 2018OPA-0129

Topic

- In-Car Video

Summary

- It was alleged that the Named Employee failed to activate his In-Car Video when he was following an ambulance to the hospital.

Analysis

- SPD Policy *16.090* is unclear as to whether officers are expected to record ICV when following an ambulance. While the policy requires recording transports of subjects, the officers were not actually transporting the subjects and were merely following the ambulances. Moreover, once the subjects were put inside of the ambulances, they would then be taken directly to the hospital, an area officers are not permitted to record in without a direct law enforcement purpose.
- However, a mandate to record in such circumstances may protect against unexpected occurrences that would need to be recorded; for example, if the subjects attempted to escape from the ambulance.

Recommendation(s)

- Consider if the intent of the ICV policy is to require officers who are not themselves transporting a subject, but are following another vehicle that is transporting the subject, to record that activity.
- Evaluate the current list of law enforcement activities that are required to be recorded and determine whether that list needs to be amplified or clarified.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

AM

Andrew Myerberg
Director, Office of Police Accountability