



# Seattle Office of Police Accountability

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March 15, 2019

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

Dear Chief Best:

Please see the below Management Action Recommendation.

**Case Number**

- 2018OPA-0751

**Topic**

- Detainee Checks

**Summary**

- The Complainant alleged that the Named Employee did not treat him properly when held at the precinct.

**Analysis**

- *SPD Policy 11.010-TSK-1* requires that officers visually check detainees every 30 minutes while they are in Department holding cells and document the checks on a log sheet.
- The Named Employee believed he followed this policy because he visually inspected the Complainant by viewing his image and condition on the holding cell camera.
- The Named Employee told OPA that it was the widespread practice of officers in his precinct to conduct checks via the holding cell camera.
- OPA interprets the policy to require visual, in-person checks, but this is not clearly defined in the policy.

**Recommendation(s)**

- Clarify *SPD Policy 11.010-TSK-1* to state whether “visual” checks include monitoring the detainee via a holding cell video feed or whether in-person checks are always required.

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

Sincerely,

*AM*

Andrew Myerberg  
Director, Office of Police Accountability