



Seattle Office of Inspector General

To: Bonnie Glenn, OPA Interim Director
CC: Mary Opler, OPA Investigations Supervisor
From: Payton Schenck, OIG Lead Investigative Specialist
Date: February 14, 2025
Re: OIG Expedited Investigation Certification for 2024OPA-0446

OIG EXP INV Certification Memo

OIG has reviewed the expedited investigation request for case 2024OPA-0446. The remaining allegations in the investigation are certified as thorough, timely, and objective.

During our second review of the case OIG noticed the Supervisor Action added by OPA contained the statement "Per OIG request, OPA is issuing a Supervisor Action for [the Named Employee] for professionalism." However, OIG specifically directed the following: "The Complainant alleges, and body-worn video supports, [the Named Employee] slapped the Complainant's phone from the Complainant's hand. While the allegations related to bias-free policing and duty to provide identification provided by the Complainant do not initially appear to be supported by OIG's review, OIG is concerned about the professionalism of the action, when viewed by the public in a highly populated area. OIG requests this allegation be evaluated by OPA, as this might be suited to a supervisor action or additional investigation. That said, OIG acknowledges OPA reviewed additional cell phone footage of this event which is not currently in the IAPro file for OIG's review, and this may provide further clarification on the circumstances surrounding this incident that could make further review of professionalism allegations unnecessary."

OIG does not have the authority to direct OPA resources, and it is OPA's decision whether they wish to issue Supervisor Actions. OPA's decision might impact OIG's certification decisions, however, the authority to issue a Supervisor Action is ultimately lies with OPA. While OIG disagrees with this language, it ultimately does not reflect OPA's overall investigation quality and the case is still certified as thorough, timely, and objective.

Respectfully,

Payton Schenck

Payton Schenck, OIG Lead Investigative Specialist