

October 15, 2024

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

Dear Director Betts,

Please see the below Management Recommendation response

Case Numbers:

2022OPA-0033/2024COMP-0002

Topic:

Spit Sock Use

Summary of the Management Action:

• It was alleged that a named employee used a pillow to shield against a subject who repeatedly removed a spit sock and spat at officers.

Original Recommendation:

 OPA recommends SPD consider providing policy, training, or guidance to officers for responding to failed or ineffective spit sock applications. Training should encourage critical thinking and problemsolving and identify acceptable improvised shields.

Action Taken:

Because this is an isolated incident, SPD will decline to alter training or policy but will remind officers to utilize Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Should this matter become more widespread, SPD will reassess the issue.

SPD Considers this Management Action:

Fully Implemented

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sue Rahr

Interim Chief of Police