

1 THE HONORABLE JAMES L. ROBERT

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6 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7 FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
8 AT SEATTLE

9 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

10 Plaintiff,

11 vs.

12 CITY OF SEATTLE

13 Defendant.

CASE No. C12-1282-JLR

**MEMORANDUM SUBMITTING  
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL  
ACCOUNTABILITY INTERNAL  
OPERATIONS AND TRAINING  
MANUAL AND SPD POLICIES  
5.001 AND 5.002**

**AND ORDER APPROVING**



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17 Pursuant to ¶ 167 of the Settlement Agreement, the Parties and the Monitor hereby  
18 submit the Seattle Police Department's Office of Professional Accountability ("OPA"), Internal  
19 Operations and Training Manual (the "Manual") and the related SPD Policies, 5.001 and 5.002  
20 (the "Policies").

21 Similar to the policies previously reviewed and approved by this Court, the Manual and  
22 the Policies resulted from a collaborative effort between the Parties and community stakeholders.  
23 OPA Director Pierce Murphy initially drafted and submitted the Manual to the Monitor and the  
24 DOJ on December 31, 2013. Although the Consent Decree requires an OPA Manual "update,"  
25 the Monitor and Parties confirmed that no such formal manual had previously existed. The

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTING OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL  
ACCOUNTABILITY INTERNAL OPERATIONS AND  
TRAINING MANUAL AND SPD POLICIES 5.001 AND 5.002

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Police Assessment Resource Center  
PO Box 27445  
Los Angeles, CA 90027  
(213) 623-5757

1 ensuing work of the OPA Director and his staff in drafting a Manual, especially after having  
2 been in their positions for only a few months, is laudable.

3 The Manual actually includes two manuals—(i) a shorter, more general description of  
4 OPA's purpose and process intended for the public's use, and (ii) a much longer, detailed  
5 description of the procedures and requirements, for OPA's internal use, that guide and govern  
6 receiving complaints and conducting investigations.

7 The Policies protect the OPA complaint process to ensure that it is accessible to the  
8 public, free from retaliation or the appearance of bias, and utilized when appropriate. Several  
9 provisions specifically empower the Department to self-initiate the OPA process and ensure  
10 cooperation by all employees during the course of OPA investigations.

11 The DOJ and the Monitor have closely reviewed and provided revisions to the Manual  
12 and the Policies. The CPC, including key sub-groups of commissioners, have actively and  
13 constructively provided important recommendations to each. It is possible that, as the Parties,  
14 Seattle community, and political stakeholders consider changes in the overall police  
15 accountability structure in the coming months, some portions of the Manual may need to be  
16 revised at a future date. Nonetheless, because the Manual and the Policies provide essential  
17 guidance to the execution of OPA's mission to ensure that SPD officers and non-commissioned  
18 employees abide by the spirit and letter of the laws and policies governing their actions, the  
19 Monitor recommends that the Manual and the Policies are adopted.

20 DATED this 30th day of June, 2014.

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22 Merrick J. Bobb, Monitor  
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ACCOUNTABILITY INTERNAL OPERATIONS AND  
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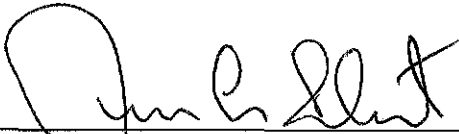
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1 The Court hereby approves the Office of Professional Accountability Internal Operations  
2 and Training Manual and the SPD Policies filed herewith as Exhibits A and B.

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4 DONE IN OPEN COURT this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2014.

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8 THE HONORABLE JAMES L. ROBART  
9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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