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SPD CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE

Report of Police Intelligence Audit Pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code 14.12

David Boerner, Police Intelligence Auditor

On July 10, 2013, I reviewed material in the Seattle Police Department criminal intelligence section. As with previous audits I arranged with the head of the section, Eric Barden for access to the material necessary to complete the audit. When I arrived at the Seattle Police Department all the material I requested was available for my review. Lt. Barden cooperated fully with my audit. I was given access to all the files I requested to see.

The following is a summary of the categories of information reviewed for this report. These categories are the same as those inspected during previous audits.

1. **Request for information memorandum** – These documents are created when a law-enforcement agency or officer requests information on a given individual or group. All involved either criminal activity or background check requests that are not covered by Seattle Municipal Code 14.12.
2. **Bulletins** – The Intelligence Section issues bulletins to members of the Seattle Police Department concerning criminal activity, gang activity, visiting dignitaries and public events. All involved information regarding criminal activity. There is no indication of political or religious activities, beliefs or opinions in the disseminated information.
3. **Investigation files** – These files reflect ongoing investigations being conducted by the department – these investigations do not involve the collection of restricted information.
4. **Subject files** – This is an investigation file documenting suspected criminal activity by subject matter-for example, burglary, robbery or other

crimes. As with previous audits, I conducted a random review of the investigation/subject files.

5. **Public information file index** – This is essentially a library containing public information and documents on areas of concern to law-enforcement. This file is open to review by members of the public. I reviewed the entire index of documents maintained in this library.

6. **Law-enforcement journals/literature index** – This file contains a library of law-enforcement publications. This library is not open to the public. I reviewed the entire index of documents maintained in this library.

7. **Seattle Shield** – The Intelligence Unit entered into a cooperative information sharing endeavor with other federal state and local law enforcement agencies and the chiefs of security for private organizations which serve the public. These public and private entities share information concerning suspicious activities they have observed which raise security concerns. In my opinion, none of the information shared through Seattle Shield is "restricted information" under Seattle Municipal Code 14.12.030K or "private sexual information" under Seattle Municipal Code 14.12.030H and thus does not require an authorization under Seattle Municipal Code 14.12.150 - .200.

8. **Authorizations for the collection of restricted information/related files** – (Seattle municipal code 14.12.160). The last audit ended with a review of authorization number 11-A04. I reviewed all authorizations and extensions signed after the last audit.

All of the information described in categories 1-8 above appears to have been appropriately collected, distributed and/or maintained within the

guidelines set out in the ordinance. I will briefly summarize each authorization for the collection of restricted information that was reviewed during this audit.

Review of Authorizations:

Authorization 10-A02

This authorization was approved on July 6, 2010. It was renewed on September 20, 2010, March 21, 2011, September 15, 2011, November 11, 2011, January 25, 2012, April 24, 2012, October 18, 2012, December 19, 2012, May 31, 2013, and July 26, 2013. It will be effective until July 26, 2013. This authorization appears to have been appropriately granted.

Authorization 11-A01

This authorization was approved on February 16, 2011 and renewed on May 13, 2011, August 4, 2011, January 17, 2012, April 11, 2012, May 24, 2012, August 17, 2012, November 16, 2012, February 2, 2013, and April 29, 2013. Infiltration was authorized on February 16, 2011 and additional suspects were added on October 28, 2011. It will be effective until July 25, 2013. This authorization and the infiltration appears to have been appropriately granted.

Authorization 12-A01

This authorization was approved July 12, 2012 and renewed on September 21, 2012 and December 19, 2012. It expired on March 15, 2013. This authorization appears to have been appropriately granted.

Authorization 13-A01

This authorization was approved on June 21, 2013. Infiltration was authorized on July 3, 2013. It will be effective until September 13, 2013.

Conclusion

The authorizations for the collection of restricted information appear to have been appropriately approved, and a review of the files connected with these

authorizations has not uncovered the collection of inappropriate or illegal information. It appears from the files reviewed that there is no evidence of a pattern, practice or incident involving the collection of information in a manner prohibited by the ordinance. Based on the available information, the auditor concludes that the authorizations for the collection of restricted information and the files related to those authorizations are in compliance with the Seattle Municipal Code.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2013.

David Boerner
Police Intelligence Auditor