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Report of Police Intelligence Audit Pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code 14.12

David Boerner, Police Intelligence Auditor

On August 12, 2014, 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. **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.

5. **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.

6. **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.

7. **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 13-A02. 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 11-A01

This authorization was approved on February 16, 2011 and renewed on May 13, 2011, August 4, 2011, October 28, 2011, January 17, 2012, April 11, 2012, May 24, 2012, August 17, 2012, November 16, 2012, February 2, 2013, April 29, 2013, July 25, 2013, October 28, 2013, January 10, 2014, April 3, 2014, and July 1, 2014. Infiltration was authorized on February 16, 2011 and additional suspects were added on October 28, 2011. It will be effective until September 23, 2014. This authorization and the infiltration appears to have been appropriately granted.

Authorization 13-A02

This authorization was approved on July 31, 2013 and renewed on October 23, 2013. Infiltration was authorized on July 31, 2013. It expired on January 17, 2014. This authorization appears to have been appropriately granted.

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 25th day of August, 2014.

David Boerner
Police Intelligence Auditor