



November 21, 2025

Director Bonnie Glenn
Office of Police Accountability
PO Box 34986
Seattle, WA 98124-4986

Dear Director Glenn,

Please see the Management Recommendation response below:

Case Numbers: 2024OPA-0350 / 2025COMP-0008

Topic: Barricaded Subjects

Summary of the Management Action:

- It was alleged that the named employee failed to de-escalate by entering the basement of a building in which a subject was allegedly barricaded.

Original Recommendation:

- SPD should develop a new policy focused on barricaded subjects. This policy should clearly define what constitutes a barricaded subject and offer officers specific guidance on how to make this determination.⁹

Action Taken:

The SPD Training Unit provides thorough training on barricaded subjects. Annual Tactics related training incorporates barricaded subjects in real world scenarios- vehicles, structures, rooms etc. Concepts taught to officers when responding to barricaded or non-compliant subjects include: to slow down the scene (absent imminent threat to life), maintain cover, adequately deploy resources, establish dialogue, call for additional resources and a supervisor, assign roles, etc. Also, SPD Training Digest *TD14-00018 Hostage-Barricaded Persons Guidelines* discusses concepts for barricade-subject situations. As such, SPD respectfully declines the development of a new policy focused on barricaded subjects. With that said, the Policy Unit has defined Barricade Subject as a *“person who is the object of a legitimate police action, who has taken a position in a physical location, most often a structure or vehicle, that does not allow immediate police access—whether fortified or not—and who is refusing police orders to exit. A barricaded subject may be known to be armed, thought to be armed, have access to weapons in the location, or have an unknown weapons status”* in the policy.

SPD Considers this Management Action:

Partially Implemented

Please contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Shon F. Barnes Ph.D.
Chief of Police
Seattle Police Department