

Amendment B, Version 1, to CB 120549 – Relating to crime of Obstructing a Public Officer to include obstructing firefighters and fire department personnel.

Sponsor: Councilmember Mosqueda

Requesting a policy for on-scene coordination

Effect: This amendment would request the Seattle Police Department (SPD) and Seattle Fire Department (SFD) to develop a joint inter-departmental operational policy to establish processes, procedures and protocols for the on-scene enforcement of 12A.16.010, as amended. This policy, when safe and feasible may include:

- a) a request for SPD personnel to remain off-site in a stand-by mode until specifically requested by SFD commanders; and
- b) a requirement for SPD personnel to consult with SFD personnel before engaging with any subjects that are present on a fire or emergency response scene.

On page 3, after Section 2, add a new Section 3 as follows:

Section 3. The Seattle Police Department (SPD) and Seattle Fire Department (SFD) are requested to develop a joint inter-departmental operational policy, or update an appropriate existing operational policy, to establish processes, procedures, and protocols for the on-scene enforcement of Seattle Municipal Code Section 12A.16.010, as amended. This policy shall ensure that any and all enforcement of Section 12A.16.010 is, when safe and feasible, provided with deference to SFD commanders in charge of fire or emergency medical response scenes, and may include:

A. A request for SPD personnel to remain off-site in a stand-by mode until specifically requested by SFD commanders; and

B. A requirement for SPD personnel to consult with SFD personnel before engaging with any subjects that are present on a fire or emergency response scene.

Nothing in this policy shall supersede a department's Charter authority or responsibility to directly and timely deliver fire, medical or public safety services. The Council recognizes that the development of new on-scene protocols, while discretionary to SFD and SPD management, may result in a need for collective bargaining with represented employees.

The Executive should provide a draft copy of the policy to the Public Safety and Human Services Committee Chair, and the Central Staff Director by August 31, 2023.

DOSS
Full Council
May 9, 2023
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Renumber the remaining subsection(s) accordingly.