Seattle Office of Police Accountability

June 10, 2024

Robert Kettle
Councilmember/Public Safety Committee Chair
City Hall
600 Fourth Avenue (2nd floor)
Seattle, WA. 98104

Chair Kettle and Public Safety Committee Councilmembers—

Please accept this letter as my input as the Office of Police Accountability's (OPA) director regarding Inspector General Lisa Judge's reappointment, as required by 3.29.230(B) of the *Police Accountability Ordinance* (125315). Since I joined OPA in August 2022, IG Judge has proven to be a committed and innovative partner. Her four-part sentinel event review reports, covering the Seattle Police Department's (SPD) response to the 2020 protests, demonstrated both. Similarly, her award-winning research and recommendations concerning SPD's consistency in issuing youth *Miranda* rights when required, police surveillance, crowd management, traffic enforcement, SPD employee discipline, collective bargaining agreements, and oversight of chief of police complaints highlight some of IG Judge's contributions to Seattle's police accountability partnership.

Moreover, IG Judge is a proven asset in ensuring high-quality OPA investigations and decision-making. Her office provides meaningful reviews and feedback concerning OPA's classification of complaints and investigations. That collaboration resulted in 94% of OPA investigations being disposed of within mandated timelines and over 92% being certified as timely, thorough, and objective in 2023. These outstanding outcomes are a direct reflection of IG Judge's work ethic and leadership and should instill confidence in her reappointment. Thank you for your leadership and for considering my perspective. Please feel free to reach out if I can assist you further.

Sincerely,

Gino Betts
OPA Director