

Thank you all for your assistance.

My prepared comments were the following.

Background: I submitted a complaint through OLEO in November 2019, which was (somewhat) concluded in March, 2020.

Here are my thoughts on areas of improvement to the process.

1. I would suggest agencies not investigate themselves. By this I mean, individuals within the same precinct or city should not be performing the investigations at IIU. For instance, Seattle could investigate Burien, and vice-versa. I discovered through my process that the objectivity of an “independent investigation” was lost because of this. This lack of oversight allowed a King County sheriff’s deputy to commit perjury. This deputy listed in a legal document before the courts a DIFFERENT “Finding” than what the official concluded “Finding” was listed on the PDF for Completed Incidents IIU, which can be found here <https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/about-us/internal-investigations-unit-reports.aspx> (which should actually trigger a separate IIU investigation given this officers position). The deputy’s listed “Finding” was confirmed to be contradictory by Captain John C McSwain, Commander of IIU, in a phone call I had with him on May 15, 2020. Captain McSwain confirmed I would need to re-file my OLEO complaint, due to this discrepancy.

2. I would recommend OLEO/IIU follow up with individuals submitting complaints to get all additional information before conclusion. The OLEO complaint form references nothing regarding additional information for consideration. There are two pages of general information you fill out, and a third page where it asks you to describe your complaint. This third page does not state anything about adding additional information. In fact, on my submission of the form to OLEO, and in my following up with IIU on 2/27/20 ( with deputy Jesse Bailey), both agencies assured me that an officer would contact me for more information. My complaint specifically stated I had further information to consider, which was not in the complaint, due to the limited amount of space on the form. I was never contacted for additional information which was relevant to this complaint.

3. Lastly, I would recommend that complaints filed WHILE an officer is still an employee, have a follow up investigation performed by OLEO after the concluded findings. I filed the complaint while the officer was still an active employee at KCSO. However, the officer retired two months after my complaint was filed. I was informed by OLEO that they do not review the outcome of IIU investigations for officers no longer with the department. I believe this is a gap that needs closing.

I appreciate you taking the time to consider changes, and I appreciate you allowing me to express a few ideas that might result in better outcomes.

I’m happy to answer any further questions anyone may have.

Regards,

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