



City of Seattle
Mayor Edward B. Murray

April 1, 2014

Jenny A. Durkan, United States Attorney
Western District of Washington
U.S. Department of Justice
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Jonathan Smith
Chief, Special Litigation Section
Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Ms. Durkan and Mr. Smith:

This letter is written in response to your letter of March 27, 2014. Your acknowledgement of the significance of the All-Party Summit which was held on February 4, 2014 is greatly appreciated. With respect to that meeting, it was my intention to demonstrate my administration's commitment to moving into full compliance with the settlement agreement. This meeting was a logical extension of several major steps we have taken since taking office on January 1.

These steps included the hiring of an outside law enforcement expert to coordinate the efforts of the police department as it works with the federal monitor, reorganizing the police department to ensure that all compliance efforts are centralized with appropriate levels of accountability and expediting the selection of a new police chief who will be tasked with ensuring the continued progress of the reform effort.

Your letter points out two deeply troubling areas which were of great concern to the Department of Justice. I want to assure you that we share your concerns and, even before receiving your letter, we had already undertaken steps to address those issues. The Span of Control document was recently reworked under the direction of the newly formed compliance bureau. In cooperation with members of the monitoring team and members of my staff, the proposed action plan was submitted to the monitor on March 21, 2014. We have received preliminary feedback that this was well received.

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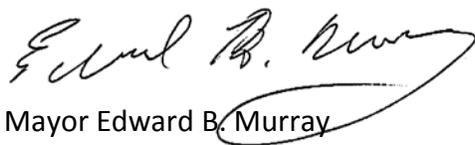
We are also working on an analysis of the accounting issues you raised. We will take steps to ensure that this is quickly resolved. We recognize that there are potentially significant expenses ahead, particularly in the area of technological improvements. Our commitment, both to DOJ and our taxpayers, is to full transparency and sound fiscal management.

I cannot stress how appreciative I am of DOJ's recognition of the efforts we have made in the three months since taking office. Nevertheless, as you rightly point out, there is much work to be done and we are committed to getting it done. From the moment I took office, I have made it clear to the public, my staff and members of the police department that mere compliance was not our goal. Rather it is to institutionalize cultural change within the police department and to ensure that the Seattle Police Department serves as a model for urban policing throughout the country.

With respect to the need for a holistic, systemic review of the accountability system, we are in complete accord. I have asked my law enforcement consultant, in collaboration with the Community Police Commission and the OPA Auditor, to prepare a report for my review by the end of April. I anticipate that there will be a full discussion of that report and an action plan developed shortly thereafter. We will keep you and the federal monitor apprised of our progress in this area.

Again, thank you for your recognition of the challenges we inherited and the steps we have taken to move forward. We view DOJ and the monitoring team as our partners in this worthwhile effort. The City of Seattle will be well served by all of our efforts.

Sincerely,



Mayor Edward B. Murray
City of Seattle

cc: The Honorable Tim Burgess, Seattle City Council
The Honorable Sally Clark, Seattle City Council
The Honorable Bruce Harrell, Seattle City Council
The Honorable Nick Licata, Seattle City Council
Peter Holmes, Seattle City Attorney
Merrick Bobb, Monitor
Anne Levinson, OPA Auditor
Lisa Daugaard, Co-Chair, CPC
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