

**From:** OToole, Kathleen [<mailto:Kathleen.OToole@seattle.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 08, 2017 10:32 PM  
**To:** OToole, Kathleen <[Kathleen.OToole@seattle.gov](mailto:Kathleen.OToole@seattle.gov)>  
**Subject:** Monitor's Filing

I am writing to you tonight with regard to the Monitor's filing today concerning the department's progress with the consent decree.

Nearly two years ago, Attorney General Loretta Lynch came to Seattle and lauded the SPD for its remarkable progress in implementing our reforms. Since then, the Department of Justice has regularly referred departments to Seattle to learn from our experience and successes. The SPD has passed 10 of 10 assessments conducted by the Monitor with flying colors. Every one of these assessments has found that members of this department are performing at remarkable levels, including the critical assessment of use of force that found nearly 100% compliance with the rigorous standards of our use of force policy and a reduction in use of force by more than 50%. These results are truly incredible.

Objective measures of the performance of the Seattle Police Department clearly indicate that crime is down, use of force is down, officer productivity is up, Terry stops are fair and well documented, and the department is a model for the nation in crisis intervention and crowd management. The evidence is clear and nobody can take that from you.

Sadly, in our very challenging business, the next controversy or tragic event is always on the horizon. In such cases, we welcome fair scrutiny and accountability. We have institutionalized systems to ensure careful, transparent investigation and analysis. At the same time, you should be commended for the hundreds of thousands of contacts you skillfully and compassionately handle every year.

Each day department members ask me where we stand in terms of compliance. Believe me, I wish I had a definitive answer. Nonetheless, please know that I am incredibly proud of the real, measurable success you have achieved over the past few years. I am humbled to be a part of this department and to see how much you have accomplished.

I recently asked for an objective, internal analysis of the requirements of the consent decree and an assessment of where we stand. I am attaching this analysis for you to read. I am requesting that the Mayor's Office and City Attorney highlight these compelling arguments and conclusions in the City's response to the Monitor's filing.

As the city continues in this legal process, please hold your heads high and continue to serve the people of Seattle with respect, honor, and professionalism. Thank you again for all you do every day.