

**From:** [Amy Darling](#)  
**To:** [KCC - Committee Assistants \(Email Group\)](#)  
**Subject:** July 22nd civilian comment regarding Independent Investigations  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 7:42:12 PM

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Dear Council members of the Law & Justice Committee,

As a health care provider, if I committed harm to a patient and was reported to the Dept of Health, which has never occurred in the history of my practice, it would be the DOH that would conduct an investigation of my actions/inaction/neglect. It would not be my colleagues. It would not be other health care providers. It would be the independent entity of the DOH. Likewise, if a restaurant is found utilizing practices that might harm the public, again it is the independent entity of the DOH that investigates and institutes required action steps. The police, even of different jurisdictions, cannot be trusted to thoroughly investigate their own. They are a tribe. Their lives depend on the interwoven fabric of their working relationships, and the affinity extends to all in **Blue**.

Independent Investigations of police misconduct and violence must be exactly that, Independent. Please wield your power in the collective bargaining process to assure OLEO is fully empowered, with adequate resources, to carry out completely independent investigations of police misconduct, particularly cases of lethal force. I commend the gestures you are making in the interest of policing reform to protect all members of King County, including our Black and brown sisters and brothers disproportionately impacted by police profiling and violence.

onward.

Amy

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