



# LATINA/O BAR ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON

ASOCIACIÓN DE ABOGADOS LATINOS DE WASHINGTON

P.O. BOX 21134 ♦ SEATTLE, WA ♦ 98111-3134

[www.lbaw.org](http://www.lbaw.org)

*"Representing the Concerns and Goals of Latino Attorneys and the Latino Community"*

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Fé Lopez, President-Elect

Latina/o Bar Association of Washington

Cell: (206) 683-5090

*fe.f.lopez@lbaw.org*

## **The Latina/o Bar Association of Washington condemns Seattle Police brutality and demands an explanation for the events of April 17, 2010.**

Seattle Police Officers stopped three Latino men who were walking in the Lake Union area. According to KIRO news, at least six squad cars responded and a video of the incident captured a Seattle Police Officer yelling at a young man lying face down on the ground. The Latina/o Bar Association has learned that the incident had taken place on April 17, 2010.

Another officer is heard yelling, "You got me? I'm going to beat the f\*\*\*ing Mexican piss out of you homey. You feel me?" The same officer, after the man moved his hand to wipe his eye, then delivered a violent kick to the man's head. The videotape also shows that moments later, a female officer walked over to the same man and kicked him on the back of the knee or calf. Shortly thereafter, police realized they mistakenly detained the wrong man and let him go.

This police brutality is an outrage to all citizens, in particular, the Latino community. Moreover, the incident occurred 19 days before the public learned, from a local television report, of the racially charged beating.

The Seattle Police Department's three sentence statement, essentially saying it's "aware of possible officer misconduct" and an internal investigation is underway is NOT a sufficient explanation. The Latino community deserves better and demands answers.

Seattle citizens, the Latino community and LBAW members need to contact the Mayor's office and the Interim Police Chief John Diaz now to demand an immediate public response to this incident with an explanation for the City's failure to disclose and address this disturbing event. Additionally, we need more information as to what measures are being taken to ensure the safety of its citizens by the city's law enforcement agency. Answers are owed to the public in a timely manner.

**Please contact Mayor Mike McGinn: (206) 684-4000 and  
Interim Police Chief John Diaz: (206) 684-5577**