



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F23-004
Incident Number: 2023-20023735
Date of Incident: 2/5/2023
Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers responded to a Stabbing call. The suspect had fled the scene prior to law enforcement arrival. Interviews of witnesses and victims determined that the suspect had stabbed his nephew in the neck and arm with a large knife. Probable cause was developed to arrest the suspect for 1st Degree Assault. During the investigation, a call of a disorderly male was received at another residence. The complainant reported that an unknown male had broken a window and was cutting his throat with the glass. The stabbing suspect was quickly identified as the involved person. Officers arrived and attempted de-escalation techniques, which were unsuccessful. The suspect refused all commands and continued to cut on his throat with the glass. A contact team was established with a shield, less lethal, and lethal alternatives. Multi-force options were in place to include a TASER and a bean bag shotgun if the suspect continued to harm himself or attempted entry into the occupied home. Officers deployed the TASER and bean bag rounds, but they were both ineffective. The contact team changed locations and quickly re-evaluated the effectiveness of their deployment. The suspect then appeared to charge at the officers, causing an immediate second use of force. The TASER deployment was ineffective, but the bean bag rounds had the desired effective, causing the suspect to drop the glass and fall to the ground. The contact team moved in and took him into custody. Medical staff on standby quickly provided emergency medical care to the suspect for his self-inflicted injuries. The suspect spent several days in the hospital under SPD watch while he received treatment for self-inflicted injuries. Once cleared by medical staff, he was booked into Spokane County Jail for 1st Degree Assault.

