



# SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CHIEF OF POLICE

### CRAIG N. MEIDL

## Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F23-015  
Incident Number: 2023-20024647  
Date of Incident: 2/6/2023  
Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

### INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers responded to an Argument call. When officers arrived on scene, they could clearly hear a female and a male yelling at each other through the closed door. The argument sounded very elevated; the officers on scene made the determination that they needed to knock before waiting for the third unit to arrive. When the female finally opened the door, she continued to yell at her boyfriend, despite being asked to step outside of the apartment. At one point, the female had stepped out of the apartment, but turned back around and started walking aggressively towards the male. Based upon her behavior, and the behavior of the male, officers feared an assault was imminent. An officer took arm control of the female's right arm and started to escort her out of the apartment. The female attempted to pull her arm away from the officer, but he pulled her completely away from the door and pinned her against the wall. The officer then immediately released his control of the female's arm. After both parties were detained, the officers concluded their investigation and determined that it was an argument only – no crime had occurred. The female requested to speak to a supervisor, who responded and interviewed her. She reported she had a preexisting injury to her left shoulder, and she had reinjured the shoulder when the officer took arm control. She was transported to the emergency room, where she was treated for an injury to her left shoulder. The Chain of Command determined that the officer's use of arm control and escort technique to separate her from the male was reasonable, as it was to prevent a possible assault and allow responding officers to conduct the necessary investigation.

