

OFFICE OF THE POLICE OMBUDSMAN

OFFICE OF THE POLICE OMBUDSMAN 2017 Annual Report





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STAFE

Bart Logue, Police Ombudsman

Bart Logue began serving in this capacity in February 2016. Bart retired from the United States Marine Corps after more than 25 years of active service. Career highlights included accreditation as a Military Diplomat and serving as the Marine Attaché and American Legation United States Naval Attaché to Amman, Jordan, and serving as the Provost Marshal (Chief of Police) for MCAS Beaufort and MCRD Parris Island, South Carolina.

Luvimae Omana, Analyst

Luvimae Omana has dual degrees in Business Administration and Political Science from the University of California, Riverside and a Juris Doctorate from Gonzaga University School of Law. Luvimae is licensed to practice law in Washington.

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Tim works in the Civil Division of the City Attorney's Office and currently represents the Ombudsman Office and other departments within the City of Spokane. Tim is licensed to practice law in Washington and Arizona.

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OFFICE OF THE POLICE OMBUDSMAN

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Mission

The Office of Police Ombudsman exists to promote public confidence in the professionalism and accountability of the members of the Spokane Police Department by providing independent review of police actions, thoughtful policy recommendations, and ongoing community outreach.

Office of the Police Ombudsman Commission

Debra Conklin, Chair (5/15-10/17)
Ladd Smith, Vice-Chair (8/15-10/17); Interim Chair (10/17-12/17)
Colleen Gardner, Vice-Chair (10/17)
Elizabeth Kelley
Jenny Rose
James Wilburn
Scott Richter



LETTER FROM THE OMBUDSMAN

February 12, 2018

Mayor David Condon Council President Ben Stuckart City Council Members Office of Police Ombudsman Chief Craig Meidl

This report covers the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. Oversight efforts in 2017 proved to be tumultuous with numerous contributing causes. However, the year ended with the Office of Police Ombudsman (OPO) and relationships with the City, the City Council, the Office of Police Ombudsman Commission (OPOC), and the Spokane Police Department (SPD) becoming more aligned and focused on overcoming the obstacles and setbacks of 2017.

In early 2017, City Council provided temporary funding for an unfunded 2016 OPO budget request for the OPOC Coordinator, a project employee position, while the Ombudsman worked with Civil Service to establish the position permanently. The City Council also passed Special Budget Ordinance C35512 on June 26, 2017. This established the funding stream for the Administrative Specialist position as a permanent part-time employee (.6). The City Administration provided the OPO requested funding for an increase to our training budget as well as provided increases for administrative expenses. Professional Services will be revisited once a contract with the Police Guild is in place. Increased funding was significant and indicates a growing awareness and appreciation of my concern that the OPO is appropriately staffed and resourced to fulfill the requirements of Spokane Municipal Code (SMC) §04.32. In 2018, I look forward to submitting proposals, with the OPOC's guidance, to request the Administrative Specialist position be increased to a full-time position, eliminating the need for a Clerk II position, and beginning the process of requesting consideration of establishing a Community Outreach position.

There were also significant efforts placed into the revision of SMC §04.32. The OPO found this process to be laborious, lacking in transparency, and nearly impossible to track and account for minor and significant changes. This added substantially to the work load of the OPO. There was a significant push for removing the OPO from actively monitoring all police department internal investigations and focusing solely on independent investigations of complaints. In Article XVI, §129(B) of the City Charter, the OPO is given both of these tasks. The OPOC could not come to agreement on this issue, but did unanimously agree in a letter sent to the City Council on April 10, 2017, that they believed it is imperative that we not lose the ground that was gained in the last round of bargaining. In particular, the OPOC believed that it is critical that we retain the ability for the OPO to be present in Internal Affairs interviews and have the ability to ask questions.

A step forward in future ordinance revisions would be to give the ability to the OPO to write reports, if we feel it would be impactful. There are times when the community is looking for answers that the OPO readily has, yet the OPO is prohibited from speaking openly on these matters. In 2018, I look forward to working with City Council in a collaborative effort to align SMC 04.32 with the City Charter to provide the OPO with the authority to independently investigate any matter necessary to fulfill its duties; in addition to giving the authority to the OPO publish reports which reflect the independent views of the OPO as provided by Article XVI, §129(C) of the City Charter.

In 2017, the OPO's relationship with Internal Affairs and the Police Department was filled with tension and growth. Highlighting the obstacles endured by the OPO with Internal Affairs in 2017: accusations, investigation, restrictions, improper notifications, and distrust. An outgoing Internal Affairs investigator falsely accused the Ombudsman of leaking internal police documents relating to the exposure of a demeanor concern within the department. Numerous investigative probes and investigative documents designed to push blame and discredit the Ombudsman were conducted despite numerous oral statements and a signed written statement provided to them. Those efforts added a palpable layer of distrust in early 2017. Interestingly enough, this distrust of persons and process have positively contributed to the Ombudsman's critical oversight over Internal Affairs actions. It has widened the lens of scrutiny over actions that may have previously not been considered. Additionally, this case provided the OPO with significant insight into how the police department can operate and it provided a clear view that the road to true public transparency will be rocky. It added to my resolve to be critical, but also reiterated how important being fair and objective is.



Towards that end, the quality of Internal Affairs investigations has steadily improved and chain of command reviews of community complaints have increased nearly 38% since 2015. Classification of allegations as "Inquiry" or "Administratively Suspended" is down 20% from last year. The OPO also established an Internal Referral program for lack of service types of complaints and have sent them to the appropriate departments for follow up instead of classifying them as inquiries and closing them which has resulted in increased customer service. In 2018, I will continue my efforts to push SPD towards greater transparency and public accountability; including a continued push for SPD to reestablish posting properly redacted cases on their website. I look forward to establishing mechanisms with Internal Affairs which will provide the OPO with more timely insight into ongoing cases and investigations of critical incidents; establishing common sense protocols for notifications and input; and continuing to work towards greater accountability of the complaint process with increased chain of command reviews.

A significant indicator of a change in this momentum occurred late in 2017 when Chief Meidl appeared before the OPOC to announce a collaborative effort between SPD and the OPO to reform SPD's use of force policy. Our goal is to look at progressive policing policies, tactics, and procedures to see if there is a way to impact the things which occur leading up to a use of force. In this manner, Chief Meidl is willing to look at alternative methods that will reduce the utilization of force, particularly deadly force, while simultaneously increasing the safety of the officers within his department. I recognize that opportunities of this significance are rare in the world of civilian police oversight, and I look forward to working closely with SPD on this endeavor in 2018.

In our other endeavors, we had 955 citizen contacts; attended or participated in 116 community meetings and events; and generated 84 total community complaints and referrals, an increase of 64% from 2016. Also, I completed the requirements to become a Certified Practitioner of Oversight through NACOLE, and I look forward to completing the Reserve Academy as required by SMC §04.32.070 in 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Bart Logue

Police Ombudsman



ACTIVITIES

	OPO Activities in 2017
955	Citizen contacts
116	Participation or attendance in community meetings and events
4	Letters of officer appreciation/commendation
30	OPO generated complaints
54	Referrals to other agencies / departments
3	Cases offered to SPD for mediation
18	Cases Ombudsman declined to certify
29	Interviews of citizens with ongoing or potential complaints
72	Oversight of IA interviews
179	Special cases reviewed
257	Meetings with SPD
20	SPD review boards attended

The Ombudsman declined to certify 18 cases in 2017.

Reasons for declination:

- IA failed to route 12 complaints in 2016 to the OPO for certification, including one OPO generated complaint. This was not discovered until 2017.
- Lack of documentation
- Lack of investigation of all complaint concerns
- Inadequate investigation
- Undocumented investigation
- Administrative error
- Lack of investigative effort

TRAINING

Per SMC §04.32.070(C), highlights include:

- SPD's Crisis Intervention Training
- Spokane Police In-Service
- · Principles of Deadly Force
- NACOLE Annual Conference and Regional Seminar
- US Ombudsman Association Conference
- Los Angeles Police Department Auditor Course

The Ombudsman went on 2 ride-alongs with SPD and completed the 45 hours of study necessary and achieved the Certified Practitioner of Oversight status through NACOLE. SMC §04.32.070(A) & (D).

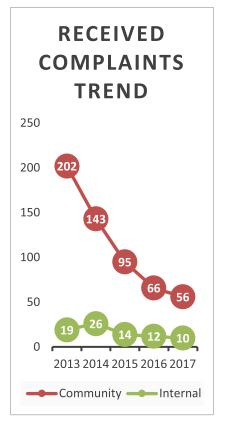
REPORTING

The OPO reports, on a monthly basis, to the Public Safety & Community Health Committee, the Mayor, the City Council, the City Administrator and the Chief of Police. In 2017, the Ombudsman completed 1 annual report for 2016 and 12 monthly reports. Per SMC §04.32.110(C), the Ombudsman briefed City Council on June 12, 2017.

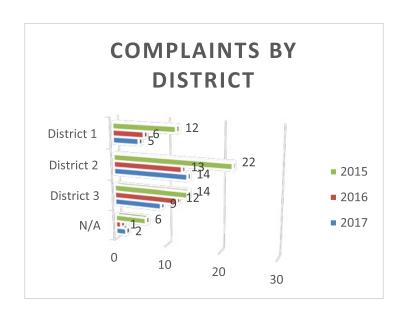


COMPLAINTS

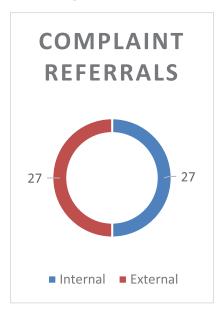
RECEIVED COMPLAINTS



In 2017, the OPO filed **30 citizen complaints.** Referred complaints significantly grew by 64%. 50% of referred complaints were internal referrals for increased customer service or process issues, which would have formerly been categorized as inquiries.



REFERRALS

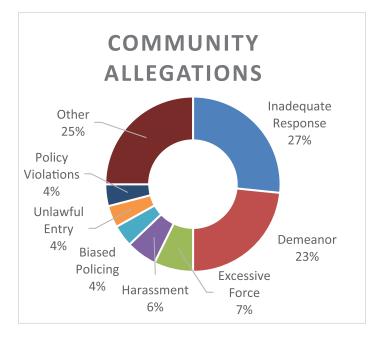


	External Referrals	
911 Shift Supervisor	Long Term Care Ombudsman	Virginia Mason Memorial Hospital
Better Business Bureau	Royal Park Health & Rehab	Washington Department of Financial Institutions
COPS Shop	Spokane County Sheriff's Office – Complaints	Washington State Bar Association
Crime Check	Spokane County Detention Services	Washington State Patrol
Federal Drug Administration	Spokane Transit Authority Ombudsman	Yakima Police Department
Frontier Behavioral Health	Spokane Valley Permits	
Global Credit Union	Spokane Valley Police Department	

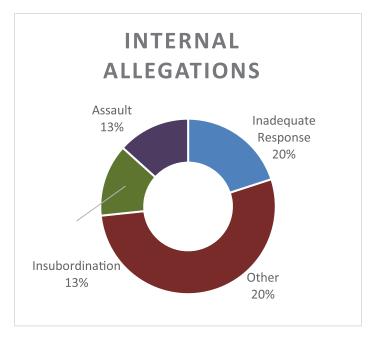
The OPO received 54 complaints outside its jurisdiction. Internal referrals, previously classified as complaints, were forwarded to other departments within the City or SPD or as external referrals to outside agencies.



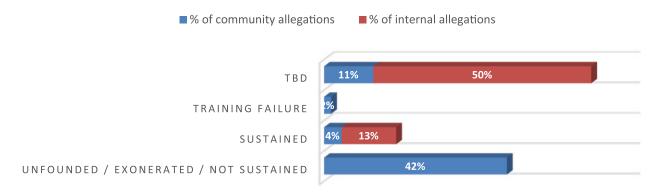
CLASSIFICATION AND DISPOSITION OF ALLEGATIONS



2 of the TBD cases are pending completion of the criminal case with the Prosecutor's Office for determination of charges before an IA investigation can be initiated. Internal complaints are generated by police officers and forwarded directly to Internal Affairs. Similar to previous years, the most common community allegations were **Inadequate Response** and **Demeanor.**

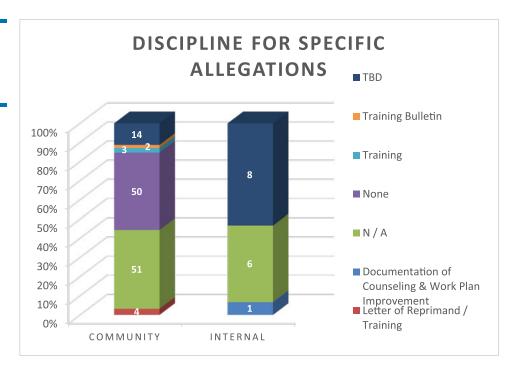


CHAIN OF COMMAND REVIEW





Of the sustained allegations, the most serious discipline issued was a Letter of Reprimand / Training.



Source of Complaint	Classification of Allegation	2015	2016	2017
	Suspended	82%	58%	38%
Community	Unfounded / Exonerated / Not Sustained	14%	29%	42%
	Sustained	5%	14%	4%
	TBD	-	-	11%

- ↓20% Inquiry and Suspended allegations
- 38% of allegations were classified as an Inquiry or Administratively Suspended
- ↓10% sustained allegations from 2016
- \\$\psi\$13% allegations that were Unfounded, Exonerated, or Not Sustained from 2016

- 50% of internal allegations are still TBD
- Allegations that were suspended have grown from 6% (2015) to 19% (2016) to 38% (2017). Of the cases that have been closed in 2017, 6 of the 8 allegations have been suspended. The other 2 allegations were sustained.

Source of Complaint	Classification of Allegation	2015	2016	2017
	Inquiry / Suspended	6%	19%	38%
Internal	Unfounded / Exonerated / Not Sustained	44%	28%	0%
	Sustained	50%	50%	13%
	TBD	-	-	50%



STATISTICS OF INTEREST

	2016	2017	Change
Non-Deadly Use of Force	105	109	↑4% ¹
Deadly Use of Force (Critical Incidents)	3	7	个133%
Pursuits Outside Policy	10	8 ²	↓ 20%
Preventable Collisions	22	21 ³	↓ 5%

CRITICAL INCIDENTS

SPD officers were involved in a total of 7 officer involved shootings.

Date	Location	Race	Survived / Deceased	Summary
1/16/17	5th and Maple	Native American	Deceased	An officer conducted a suspicious person stop. The individual pulled a knife on the officer and a foot pursuit ensued, with several officers joining in the pursuit. After numerous unsuccessful TASER deployments, an SPD officer fired a shot as the individual approached an occupied vehicle still armed with the knife.
5/11/17	Perry and Dalton	Native American	Survived	An officer pursued the individuals of interest's vehicle after the individual ran a stop sign and began driving recklessly. There was a foot pursuit and unsuccessful TASER deployments. The individual threatened officers with a knife and ran with numerous civilians nearby. An officer fired a shot at the individual when the individual appeared to prepare to strike a nearby officer with the knife.
7/3/17	57th and Mt. Vernon	White	Deceased	Officers were dispatched to a residence for a Person with a Weapon call. Officers arrived to the location to find the individual within a close proximity holding a semi-automatic handgun. The individual ignored commands, pointed the handgun at the officers, and began raising it to the firing position. Officers fired at the individual.
9/18/17	Monroe and Sinto	Black	Survived	After confronting a known wanted felon, the individual fled. After a short vehicle pursuit, the individual crashed and attempted to flee on foot before turning and confronting the officer. The officer subsequently fired his duty weapon.
10/4/17	2301 W. Wellesley	White	Deceased	Officers located a stolen vehicle taken during a shooting from a few days prior. When the officers tried to take the suspects into custody with a blocking technique, one of the individuals pulled out a gun and put it to his own head. Officers fired at the individual when he refused to comply with commands.
11/28/17	2934 E. Rowan	White	Deceased	Officers were dispatched to a possible DV call. While waiting outside in their vehicle, the individual of interest returned and fired a shot(s) at the officers inside of their vehicle. Officers exited their vehicle and subsequently fired their duty weapons.
12/26/17	1100 W. Sharp	Native American	Deceased	Officers responded to an armed robbery at Safeway. The suspect fired a shot(s) from his handgun in the parking lot and left the area. Once the individual was located and confronted by officers, a vehicle and foot pursuit ensued. An officer fired his duty weapon.

³ There were 56 total collisions. The other collisions were classified as 25 non-preventable and 10 legal interventions in compliance with policy.



¹ While the incidents of use of force increased from the previous year, the total interactions SPD officers had with citizens (calls for service and officer initiated) were 199,916. Use of force accounted for .05% of all citizen interactions.

² There were 25 total incidents involving multiple officers and supervisors. The actions of 28 officers were found within policy and 1 pursuit is still under review as of 12/31/17.

RECOMMENDATIONS

UPDATES ON 2016 RECOMMENDATIONS

1)	Citizens need to be able to easily contact the Police	Completed/Ongoing. Calls to SPD are now routed through the City's 311 system. The Ombudsman has continued to receive concerns citizens are still unable to contact a live person in the police department.
2)	Released body camera videos should include closed captioning or an alternate format, to be incompliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act	Completed. Due to the high cost of this endeavor, SPD is not planning to implement this recommendation.
3)	OPO should receive access to body camera footage, not just the Ombudsman	Completed.
4)	Parents of juvenile suspects should be provided with information of the juvenile after arrest	Ongoing. The Chief of Police supported this recommendation, and SPD is in the process of updating their policy.
5)	Complaints should be properly classified and reviewed by the chain of command	Ongoing. Chain of command reviews increased by nearly 38% since 2015.
6)	Officers should radio in every traffic stop	Completed.
7	Officers should have fully charged batteries for their body cameras at the start of every shift	Completed.

2017 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Ombudsman provided nine recommendations to SPD related to policy and/or training. The subject matter of recommendations made included:

RECOMMENDATION #1: UTILIZING THE POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Summary: SPD utilizes the Police Advisory Committee (PAC) for feedback prior to releasing information and BWC footage in cases of Officer Involved Shootings. The Ombudsman recommended that SPD further utilize the PAC in community impact cases. This can be done by providing examples from the Use of Force Review Board, the Collision Review Board, and the Pursuit Review Board. This will highlight the amount of scrutiny and due care that SPD shows to specific cases. This will also enhance communication and relationships between the public and the police department.

Status: Action may be considered. Chief Meidl is not opposed to this; however, it is not something that was implemented in 2017. This will be considered for implementation in 2018.

RECOMMENDATION #2: CHANGE TO BODY-WORN CAMERA FOOTAGE RELEASED

Summary: SPD's current Body Camera policy restricts review of video by supervisors, IA investigators, and the Police Ombudsman to the specific complaint(s), and it cannot be used as the basis to randomly search for other possible violations. The Ombudsman recommended that the SPD policy be modeled after the best practice for this policy; access to the entire video for review, in order to audit officer actions, improve transparency between SPD and supervising officers, improve training, and increase early intervention of potential problems. While the Ombudsman concurs that randomly searching for policy violations which could lead to discipline should be discouraged, the Ombudsman fully supports random audits by supervisors which could lead to mentorship opportunities.

Status: No action currently being considered. The ongoing bargaining cycle is prohibiting further action on this topic. It may be considered in 2018, when the department meets to review their body camera program.



RECOMMENDATION #3: CRITICAL GAP IN ARSON INVESTIGATION

Summary: In the course of an IA investigation, the Ombudsman discovered a critical gap, a lack of arson investigation, in SPD's services that citizens would reasonably expect. A citizen made a complaint against SPD for failing to remove squatters from the citizen's home. During the investigation, the citizen's home was severely damaged by fire, due to suspected arson. It was discovered that neither SPD nor the Spokane Fire Department (SFD) conduct criminal investigations of arson cases. SFD only investigates the cause and origin of fires and are unable to conduct a criminal investigation. In order to criminally investigate arson, a SPD detective would need to be assigned. However, SPD does not have any trained arson investigators. In order to meet community expectations and provide efficient services to the citizens of Spokane, the Ombudsman recommended that SPD address this gap in available police services.

Status: Action completed. SPD is now responsible for handling arson investigations, aside from cause and origin, pursuant to an agreement that the City signed with the Fire Department. SPD has been working with the Fire Department for a seamless transition of these duties. SPD has identified the detective positions that will be assuming these responsibilities and they are currently in the process of being trained. SPD is committed to providing victims of arson with a high level of service and investigating these crimes to the best of their ability and capacity.

RECOMMENDATION #4: ADDING TRAINING REFERRAL TO COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATION

Summary: The Ombudsman came across a complaint that could not be tied to a specific officer. Typically this would be closed as an 'Inquiry' or 'Administratively Suspended.' In this particular complaint, department roll call training was recommended to supervisors and the speeding concern was addressed through the Spring in-Service training. The department went beyond what policy required and took proactive measures to address an officer/citizen safety concern from the community. Closing this case with the current classifications does not adequately reflect the positive initiative the department took. The Ombudsman recommended that training referral be added as a formal category in the classification and disposition of complaints. Classifying complaints as "Inquiry, Training Referral," will aid in tracking the number of instances the department took such action for reporting functions.

Status: Completed, effective January 1, 2018. The Director of Strategic Initiatives acknowledges that the fact that closing certain cases as an "Inquiry" or "Administratively suspended" not adequately capturing the positive initiative taken by the department is a concern. Therefore, effective in 2018, IA will work with the OPO to establish a "Closed" category for complaints. This category will be used only in consultation with your office and will hopefully address some of your concerns in this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION #5: DEPARTMENT POLICY FOR TRANSGENDER INDIVIDUALS

Summary: Law and policy regarding transgender individuals are still unclear. SPD should address this in its policy as it applies to equal protection for employees as well as how officers interact with transgender individuals. The Ombudsman recommended that SPD review and amend its Discrimination Policy. In keeping with Community Policing principles, consulting with the LGBT-Q community can help diffuse a potential volatile situation and it may provide feedback on policy development. The Department should conduct a review process that involves the LGBT-Q community as well as opponent groups to yield a mutually agreeable policy. Thus, the Department can reduce future potential liability by amending its Discrimination Policy prior to an actionable cause.

Status: Action may be considered. Although SPD has not yet updated policy 340.3.3, they have updated policy 1000, Employee Selection and Hiring Standards, with the following language after consulting with Human Resources for the preferred language: "The employment policy of the Spokane Police Department shall provide equal opportunities for both department employees and applicants regardless of race, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), age (40 or older), religion, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, familial status, genetic information, veteran or military status and shall not show partiality or grant special favors to any applicant, employee or group of employees."

RECOMMENDATION #6: UNIFORM POLICY FOR RELEASE OF COMMUNITY IMPACT CASES TO THE PUBLIC

Summary: In the past year, the Ombudsman review of citizen complaints has yielded examples of cases that should be considered for release to the public. While cases of officer misconduct are of particular interest to the community when the alleged misconduct is directed at community members, the details of the cases and related body worn camera footage were only released after the public made a public records request. The first case was filed with Internal Affairs in January 2016 but was released to the public in February 2017. The second case was filed within the OPO in January 2017 and released to the public in May 2017. To the average citizen, who may only pay attention to news headlines, it would appear that SPD had two newsworthy cases of misconduct only three months apart which could easily be averted should SPD release community impact cases to the public in a timely manner. This will foster trust between the public and SPD and signal to the community that SPD's leadership will act accordingly when these instances arise. The Ombudsman recommended SPD create a uniform policy that provides guidance to SPD on when and how to publicly release community impact cases.

Status: No action being considered. Chief Meidl has shown resolve in reaching out to impacted communities following community impact cases. While the intention is to be transparent in regards to these matters, there are many interests that need to be considered regarding the timing of any release. Release to the public will occur on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the myriad of interests involved.



RECOMMENDATION #7: UNIFORM POLICY FOR COMPLAINTS GENERATED THROUGH A PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

Summary: The OPO is beginning to see citizen complaints generated after a citizen receives documents or BWC footage through a Public Records Request (PRR). In one case, IA considered concerns over the officer's demeanor to be de minimis due to the second-hand nature of the concern. A review of SPD's Policy §1020 does not specifically provide how SPD shall address these second hand complaints. However, §1020.2.2(d) does provide, "anonymous and third party complaints should be accepted and investigated to the extent that sufficient information is provided." Historically, "third party" has been interpreted to mean a person who witnessed the incident first-hand but is neither the complainant nor the aggrieved party. Under the current practice, it is unclear whether SPD should accept complaints based on BWC footage viewed through a PRR. At that point, the complainant is no longer a first-hand witness but a second-hand witness making a third party complaint. The Ombudsman recommended SPD consider amending its Personnel Complaints Policy to include a provision for how to respond to second-hand complaints received from materials from a PRR.

Status: Action will be taken. Although SPD has not updated their policy in regards to public records requests generated through someone viewing body worn camera, it has been a topic of discussion. SPD is not opposed to updating our policy to match their current protocol. Director MacConnell will work to update policy 1020, Personnel Complaints.

RECOMMENDATION #8: REESTABLISH PRACTICE FOR POSTING IA CASES ONLINE

Summary: The Ombudsman has received feedback from several community members in addition to comments made in public meetings for additional information on case summaries posted on the Internal Affairs' webpage. Based on community expectations, the Ombudsman recommended that SPD reinstate the practice requiring entire IA cases that are properly redacted and posted on its web page again, once the case has been closed. Furthermore, the Ombudsman recommended posting any accompanying BWC footage as part of the file. Two points of emphasis are included as a follow up to the recommendation. First, the posted complaints are not up to date. Internal Affairs cases from C16-060, completed on August 22, 2016 and later do not have associated case summaries on the SPD web page. There are zero cases posted prior to 2016 either by full case or in summary format. Second, most of the summaries are generic and do not adequately communicate the complaint to the public.

Status: Discussion is on-going. Chief Meidl is committed to public transparency and SPD is working with City Legal to receive guidance on what SPD can post. SPD will continue to post summaries of complaints on their website and will work to bring them up to date.

RECOMMENDATION #9: UPDATE USE OF FORCE POLICY

Summary: Several of the officer involved shooting cases have generated conversations on how to improve safety and distinction between when force is permitted and when it is necessary. The Ombudsman recommended SPD's Use of Force policy be updated to reflect progressive policing that promotes safety of both officers and the community they serve. Various law enforcement agencies across the country have begun to adopt more progressive policies that have resulted in less uses of force and positive feedback from the community. Catalysts for policy change should not hinge on whether the prosecutor decides to bring charges on an officer. Policy directs training, which in turn affects culture. Police departments that question the legitimacy of its policies and the impact on the community it serves are positively received by the community. The Ombudsman recommended OPO and SPD collaborate efforts to update SPD's use of force policy to reflect the most progressive techniques in de-escalation and tactical considerations available to increase officer safety in the course of performing their duties as well as the safety of the community members they interact with.

Status: Action is ongoing. Chief Meidl has established a Use of Force Policy Review Committee and they are currently collaborating with the OPO to update the policy.



COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

0PO #	≰ #	Complaint Summary ⁴	Incident Date	Receipt Date	District	Status	Ombudsman Findings	Chief's Findings	Officer Discipline
17-1	C17- 002	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by OPO via walk in. Citizen claims home was raided by the SWAT team, evidence taken, but no arrest made and SPD has refused to investigate.	12/23/2016	1/6/2017	1	Inquiry	Certified	N/A	N/A
17-2	C17- 003	An Unlawful/Improper arrest complaint was received by OPO via web form. Citizen alleges being wrongfully arrested at STA bus plaza.	1/6/2017	1/10/2017	2	Completed	Certified	Exonerated / / Unfounded	N/A
17-3	C17-	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by OPO via web form. Citizen alleges SPD refused to assist landlord in removing squatters.	1/0/1900	12/15/2016	1	Completed	Certified		Exonerated
17-4	C17- 008	A Harassment and Abuse of Authority complaint was received by OPO via intake. Citizen alleges being harassed by SPD officer over a traffic accident that occurred 5 days prior.	1/24/2017	2/7/2017	2	Mediated	N/A	N/A	N/A
17-5	C17- 011	A Demeanor , Harassment , and Biased Policing complaint was received by the OPO via email. Citizen alleges an officer made false accusations against the citizen, the officer did not look at evidence on his person, and did not provide notice of reason for arrest.	1/16/2017	2/9/2017	e .	Administratively Suspended	Concur	N/A	V/N
17-6	C17- 013	A Demeanor complaint was received by the OPO via email. Citizen was pulled over because their license plate and last name matched that of a person with the same last name with a warrant issued for arrest. Citizen alleges being wrongfully stopped and the officer's demeanor was combative.	2/20/2017	2/20/2017	2	Completed	Certified	Sustained / Unfounded / Sustained	Letter of Reprimand / Training
17-7	C17- 014	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by the OPO via email. Citizen alleges the police report following an incident contained inaccurate statements. Further, citizen claims to have contacted police on several occasions to try and remedy mistakes on report but has seen no changes.	12/19/2016	2/27/2017	ဇ	Inquiry	Certified	N/A	N/A
17-8	C17- 016	A Negligent Driving complaint was received by the OPO via email. Citizen was upset by seeing two units allegedly traveling at extremely high speeds. Citizen is concerned for the safety of others.	2/16/2017	3/2/2017	2	Administratively Suspended	Concur	N/A	N/A
17-9	C17- 018	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by the OPO via web form. Citizen complainant is the widow of a deceased male. The deceased's death was investigated by SPD and deemed an accident. The investigation was suspended pending additional information within 1 year from the complainant's filing of this complaint. The complainant disagrees with the primary investigator's determination and SPD's refusal to reopen the case.	1/26/2016	3/3/2017	ന	Administratively Suspended	Concur	V/N	A A

4 The allegations provided herein are as entered by the OPO. They are subject to change during the IA investigation process.



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Officer Discipline	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A/S	Z/Z	N/A
Chief's Findings	Exonerated / / Unfounded	N/A	A/N	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded / / Exonerated	N/A	A/A	Unfounded
Ombudsman Findings	Certified	Concur	Certified	Certified	Certified	Certified	Certified	Certified	Certified
Status	Completed	Administratively Suspended	Inquiry	Completed	Completed	Completed	Inquiry	Inquiry	Completed
District	t t	м	2	т	က	2	N/A	2	m
Receipt Date	3/14/2017	3/22/2017	3/21/2017	4/4/2017	4/17/2017	3/28/2017	4/26/2017	5/18/2017	6/9/2017
Incident Date	3/13/2017	Various	3/21/2017	4/4/2017	4/17/2017	3/7/2017	10/30/2016	10/17/2016	6/12/2016
Complaint Summary⁴	A Demeanor and Harassment complaint was received by the OPO via web form. Complainant encountered 2 officers. The complainant perceived one officer to have an attitude toward him during their interaction and based on that interaction, believes the officer will continue to harass him in the future.	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by the OPO via intake. Citizen alleges due to the officer's inadequate response, the legal issues the citizen faces has escalated. The citizen also brings several inadequate response complaints related to the same property implicated in a property nuisance issue.	An Unlawful/Improper arrest complaint was generated through an IA complaint.	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by the OPO via intake. Citizen alleges an officer allowed a former roommate entry into the citizen's home using "any reasonable means." The former roommate proceeded to break and enter into the citizen's home causing property damage.	An Improper Driving complaint was received by the OPO via web form. Citizen reported seeing an officer speeding and driving through a red light without sirens.	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by the OPO via web form. Citizen alleges being beat up by a neighbor and police did nothing in response to this incident.	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by the OPO via intake. Citizen has experienced bugging of an electronic device and stalking for the past 5 years. SPD has declined to look into the matter due to a lack of time and funding. Complainant further alleges SPD made disparaging comments on the complainant's mental health.	A Harassment complaint was received by the OPO via intake. Citizen alleges SPD officers showed up to the citizen's home to enforce a Veteran's Administration related matter when SPD should not enforce VA related matters. Citizen further alleges officers viewed a posted "No Trespassing" sign but an officer denied seeing the sign.	A Harassment and Biased Policing complaint was received by the OPO via USPS. Citizen called for police services following an ongoing dispute with a neighbor. Citizen makes numerous allegations of the officer's bias in favor of the neighbor and inadeduate resoonse.
<u>₹</u> #	C17- 017	C17- 019	C17- 020	C17- 024	C17- 025	C17- 026	C17- 030	C17- 034	C17- 037
0PO #	17-10	17-11	17-12	17-13	17-14	17-15	17-16	17-17	17-18



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Officer Discipline	TBD	A/N	A/N	A/A	TBD	N/A	∀
Chief's Findings	ТВD	N/A	N/A	Z/A	TBD	N/A	N/A
Ombudsman Findings	TBD	N/A	Certified	Concur	180	Certified	Certified
Status	Pending	Mediated	Inquiry	Administratively Suspended	Pending	Inquiry	Inquiry
District	2	1	2	7	м	2	2
Receipt Date	8/15/2017	8/21/2017	8/18/2017	8/22/2017	9/6/2017	9/11/2017	9/28/2017
Incident Date	8/15/2017	8/15/2017	8/10/2017	7/19/2017	9/6/2017	9/11/2016	9/20/2017
Complaint Summary ⁴	A Racial Profiling complaint was received by the OPO via intake. Citizen alleges being profiled and stalked by an officer.	A Demeanor and Harassment complaint was received by the OPO via web form. Citizen alleges the officer claimed to know where the citizen lived, what car the citizen drove, and would give the citizen a DUI every time. Citizen asserts the citizen has no driver's license or insurance due to previous health concerns.	An Unlawful Detention complaint was received by the OPO via email. Citizen alleges being unlawfully detained for a speeding violation when the officer's method of measuring speed was unusual/unreliable. Furthermore, the citizen alleges operating a vehicle with a governance that does not allow the vehicle over 60mph, the speed limit. Thus it is not possible the citizen was speeding.	An Unlawful Detention complaint was received by the OPO via email. The complainant reported Sacred Heart Medical Center to the Department of Health for its practices in the Emergency Room. The email was forwarded to SPD. Complainant alleges an officer locked down the hospital, sent 5 squad cars to the citizen's home, removed the citizen with assault rifles at gun point, and then detained the citizen for an involuntary treatment act evaluation.	An Excessive Force complaint was received by the OPO via intake. The complainant was involved in a domestic dispute with his mother when SPD responded. He reluctantly agreed to be taken to the hospital. At the hospital, he alleges excessive force because he was forced into restraints and have his blood was drawn against his will.	An Unlawful / Improper Search / Seizure complaint was received by the OPO via intake. The complainant alleges officers improperly interrogated him on his front porch for half an hour following a domestic dispute in his home that was reported to SPD.	An Inadequate Response complaint was received by the OPO via email. The complainant's wife was at the Franklin Park Mall when their vehicle was smashed in and her purse was stolen. Despite having identification of the suspect and surveillance footage from a nearby business, SPD informed the complainant that he would receive no follow up despite being a solvable crime due to a lack of resources.
<u>₹</u> #	C17- 043	C17- 045	C17- 044	C17- 046	C17- 050	C17- 051	C17- 052
0PO #	17-19	17-20	17-21	17-22	17-23	17-24	17-25



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FAQ Office of Police Ombudsman Frequently Asked Questions

1. What do I do if I'm stopped by the police?

The ACLU of Washington State has a created a publication with tips on how to handle a police encounter. The handy wallet-sized "What to do if You're Stopped by the Police" card can be printed and carried with you or you can view the information in a larger format. This can be found on our website or at our office.

2. How do I file a complaint?

You can file a complaint in writing, via fax, online or by visiting our office in person.

3. Is there a time limit?

The Office of Police Ombudsman has adopted a one-year statute of limitations and must receive complaints within twelve months of the alleged misconduct.

4. Is there a cost involved?

There is no charge for using the services of the Office of Police Ombudsman.

5. Can I compliment an officer?

Yes, you can file a commendation in writing, via fax, online or by visiting our office in person.

6. How is the investigation handled?

When you contact our office, details of your complaint will be received by the Ombudsman and forwarded within 3 days to the Internal Affairs Unit of Spokane Police Department for investigation. After a timely, thorough and objective investigation by the police department, the investigation will be returned to the Ombudsman to certify within 5 days of receipt that the report is thorough and objective. Once certified, the report is returned to the Office of the Chief of Police for disposition.

This process is outlined in the Office of Police Ombudsman Complaint Flow Chart, which can be found online.

7. Will I know the results?

Yes. You will be contacted in writing by the Ombudsman or the Chief of Police once the investigation is completed.

8. What problems does the Ombudsman deal with?

If you feel an employee of the Spokane Police Department did not treat you properly or violated a policy, you may contact our office with your concerns.

9. Are there matters that cannot be investigated?

The Ombudsman has jurisdiction regarding the City of Spokane Police Department and cannot investigate complaints outside this jurisdiction.

10. Can the Ombudsman get my charges dropped?

The Ombudsman's office cannot give legal advice or assist with a person's criminal defense.

11. What if I have a concern or want to ask a question?

The OPO is ready to answer any question a person might have about Spokane Police Department activities.

12. What if I have already filed a complaint with the Spokane Police Department?

If you filed a complaint with the Spokane Police Department before contacting the Office of Police Ombudsman, we ask that you wait until the Police Department has completed their investigation into your complaint. Once you receive notice that the Police Department has closed your case and if you are not satisfied with the outcome of their investigation, you may contact the Office of Police Ombudsman to discuss your concerns.

City of Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman



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