



Office of Police Ombudsman
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April 21, 2014

March Public Safety Committee Report

Reporting Period: March 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014

2014 OVERVIEW

Complaints Received: Since January 1, 2014, 17 complaints have been received by the Office of Police Ombudsman and forwarded to Internal Affairs. The complaints were for:

- 1 Driving
- 1 Racial Profiling
- 2 Demeanor
- 13 Inadequate Response

To view a four-year snapshot graph of OPO complaints received by month, see Attachment 1.

Complaints Referred: Since January 1, 2014, 8 complaints have been referred to the following agencies:

- 5 complaints have been referred to the Spokane County Sheriff's Office
- 2 complaints involving STA Security were referred to the STA Ombudsman.
- 1 complaint has been referred to the Cheney Police Department

CONTACTS

Between March 1, 2014 and March 31, 2014 the Office of Police Ombudsman was contacted 73 times.

Since January 1, 2014 there have been 230 contacts received by the Office of Police Ombudsman.

COMPLAINTS

To assist in identifying where complaints are occurring, the Office of Police Ombudsman has divided the City into four quadrants. The north-south borderline is Sprague Avenue and the east-west borderline is Division Street.

Complaint outcomes are updated regularly and can be viewed at the Office of Police Ombudsman website at www.spdombudsman.org under the headings "Documents and Reports" and "2014 Received Complaints."

Between March 1, 2014 and March 31, 2014, 5 complaints were received.

1. Monday, March 17, 2014: An **Inadequate Response** complaint was received through the Office of Police Ombudsman website. The complainant was upset that they were directed to leave the St. Patrick's Day Parade because they had their service animal dog with them. The complainant felt that they were the victim of selective enforcement by the officer. (OPO # 14-17), (N/W)
2. Monday, March 17, 2014: A **Driving** complaint was received through the Office of Police Ombudsman website. The complainant advised that they observed an officer fail to yield for pedestrians crossing the street. The complainant advised that when they contacted and questioned the officer, the officer told the complainant they didn't stop because they were responding to a call. (OPO # 14-16), (N/E)
3. Tuesday, March 11, 2014: An **Inadequate Response** complaint was received by the Office of Police Ombudsman. The complainant called police to report that they were being harassed. The complainant was advised an officer would respond but never did. The complainant in # 3 and #4 are the same person. (OPO # 14-15) , (S/W)
4. Tuesday, March 11, 2014: An **Inadequate Response** complaint was received by the Office of Police Ombudsman. The complainant was not satisfied with the police response to an accident the complainant was involved in and the complainant believes that the officer's report is inaccurate. (OPO # 14-14), (S/W)
5. Friday, March 7, 2014: A **Racial Profiling** complaint was received by the Office of Police Ombudsman. The complainant alleged that they were stopped by an officer because they are African American. The complainant advised that the officer was responding to the STA Main terminal on a disturbance call, and the officer thought the complainant looked like the Hispanic person causing the disturbance. (OPO # 14-13), (S/W)

Between March 1, 2014 and March 31, 2014 2 complaints were referred.

1. Thursday, March 13, 2014: A complaint involving the STA Security was referred to the STA Ombudsman.
2. Friday, March 07, 2014 a complaint involving the STA security was referred to the STA Ombudsman for follow up.

INVESTIGATIONS CERTIFIED

Between March 1, 2014 and March 31, 2014, 3 completed investigations were certified as timely, thorough and objective:

1. Friday, March 14, 2014: An **Inadequate Response** complaint was received by the Police Department on December 6, 2013. The complainant was dissatisfied with

an officer's action during a civil standby during a domestic split up. The Ombudsman confirms that the complaint was investigated through a timely, thorough and objective process. (SPD IA # 13-110), (OPO # N/A)

2. Tuesday, March 11, 2014: A **Demeanor** complaint was received by the Office of Police Ombudsman on January 6, 2014. The complainant advised that an officer was rude and refused to take a threat report from the complainant. The Ombudsman confirms that the complaint was investigated through a timely, thorough and objective process. (SPD IA # 14-001) (OPO # 14-02)
3. Monday, March 10, 2014: A **Racial Profiling** complaint was received by the Internal Affairs Unit on December 16, 2013. The complainant advised that they were contacted by an officer at a convenience store because they are African American. The Ombudsman confirms that the complaint was investigated through a timely, thorough and objective process. (SPD IA # 13-111), (OPO # N/A)

DECLINED CERTIFICATIONS and APPEALS

There were no declined or appealed certifications during the reporting period.

INTERVIEWS

- Internal Affairs, Officer Interviews: 7
- Internal Affairs, Complainant Interviews: 1
- Internal Affairs, Witness Interviews: 2
- Office of Police Ombudsman Complainant Interviews: 3
- Office of Police Ombudsman Witness Interviews: 0
- Closing (Complaint Closure) Interviews: 0

OTHER DUTIES

Critical Incident Response: On Wednesday March 26, 2014, at 8:34 pm IA Lieutenant Lundgren called the Ombudsman and advised of an Officer involved shooting at 1527 W. Grace in Spokane. The incident involved members of the SWAT team and Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU). As a result of the altercation, the individual died. The Ombudsman was out of town at the time of the incident and did not respond, but was briefed via telephone. A site visit was conducted on April 4, 2014.

Cases Resolved Through Mediation: There were no cases resolved through mediation during the reporting period.

Recommendations: No recommendations were made during the reporting period.

NEXT STEPS

- Recruitment of Student Interns

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Wednesday, March 26, 2014: The Crosswalk Teen Shelter Outreach (OPO Intern 12n-1245p)
- Wednesday, March 19, 2014: The Crosswalk Teen Shelter Outreach (OPO Intern 12n-1245p)
- Wednesday, March 19, 2014: The House of Charity (745a-830a)
- Tuesday, March 18, 2014; Logan Neighborhood Council meeting, OPO presentation of 2013 Annual Report (730p-8p)
- Tuesday, March 18, 2014; East Central Neighborhood Council meeting, (630p-715p)
- Monday, March 17, 2014: NAACP meeting, OPO presentation of 2013 Annual Report (7p-915p)
- Monday, March 17, 2014: Spokane City Council meeting, OPO presentation of highlights from the February OPO Report to the Public Safety Committee meeting (6p-630p)
- Friday, March 14, 2014: STA Main Terminal (Intern 10a)
- Thursday, March 13, 2014: Minnehaha Neighborhood Council meeting, OPO presentation of 2013 Annual Report (7p-815p)
- Wednesday, March 12, 2014: West Central Neighborhood Council meeting (7p-830p)
- Wednesday, March 12, 2014 : SPARC meeting (530p-645p)
- Tuesday, March 11, 2014: N. Indian Trail Neighborhood Council meeting (7p-830p)
- Monday, March 10, 2014: Spokane City Council meeting (6p-630p)
- Friday, March 7, 2014: The Community Assembly, OPO presentation of 2013 Annual Report (4p-6p)
- Friday, March 7, 2014: The NATIVE Project (130p-330p)
- Friday, March 7, 2014: STA Main Terminal (OPO Interns 10a -12n)
- Friday, March 7, 2014: House of Charity (9a-10a)
- Wednesday, March 5, 2014: Browne's Addition Neighborhood Council meeting, OPO presentation of 2013 Annual report (630p-8p)
- Tuesday, March 4, 2014: Chief Garry Park Neighborhood Council meeting, OPO presentation of 2013 Annual Report (630p-830p)
- Monday, March 3, 2014: Spokane City Council meeting (6p-630p)

The Office of Police Ombudsman has presented the 2013 Annual Report to:

- Four of the 27 Neighborhood Councils
- Community Assembly
- NAACP, Spokane Branch #1137

OTHER

- Tuesday, March 18, 2014: Southwest Rotary Club, Luncheon Guest Speaker, Airport Ramada (1145a-145p)
- Monday, March 17, 2014: Public Safety Committee meeting (130p-230p)
- Saturday, March 15, 2014: SPD Ride Along (6a-3p)
- Friday, March 14, 2014: Spokane Police Department Youth Police Imitative class monitoring (4p-630p)

- Thursday, March 13, 2014: Spokane Police Department Youth Police Imitative class monitoring (4p-630p)
- Monday, March 10, 2014: Spokane Police Department Youth Police Imitative class monitoring (4p-530p)
- Saturday, March 8, 2014: PJALS Peace and Economic Justice Conference (Ombudsman and 3 Interns 8a-4p)
- Saturday, March 1, 2014: 2013 SPD Volunteer Services Award Ceremony (10a-12n)

ATTACHMENT #1

- Five-year snapshot graph of OPO complaints received by month

