



Office of the Police Ombudsman

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May 21, 2019

Public Safety & Community Health Committee Report

Reporting Period: April 1-30, 2019

Snapshot of Activities		Monthly	Year to Date
Community Outreach			
OPO	Total community events and meetings	6	25
OPOC	Community outreach / activities	1	26
Commendations		0	1
Complaints			
	Received complaints	8	28
	Referred complaints	8	33
Contacts		112	444
Case Review			
	Request for further investigation	2	11
	Investigations certified / concurred	10	37
	Declined certifications	0	0
	Special cases reviewed	8	50
Interviews			
	OPO interviews	10	52
	Internal Affairs interviews	9	32
Training		2	8
Critical Incidents		0	2
Mediations			
	Recommended	0	3
	Conducted	1	3
	Declined	0	0
Recommendations		0	0
Other Activities			
SPD Related	Meetings / contacts	43	158
	Review boards	3	3
	Closing meetings	1	2

1. Outreach

a) OPO

- i. Meeting with Walter Kendricks of SCAR (4/1)
- ii. Phil Tyler Campaign kick-off (4/11)
- iii. Leadership Spokane Service Project with the Red Cross and Spokane Fire Department (4/13)
- iv. NAACP Centennial Celebration (4/15)
- v. OPOC Meeting (4/16)
- vi. Leadership Connections at Gonzaga (4/23)

b) **OPOC Actions** – Commissioners attended the following events, some events were attended by multiple Commissioners:

- i. OPOC Meeting (4/16)

2. Commendations / Complaints

a) Received Complaints

- i. **OPO 19-11 – Demeanor / Inadequate Response:** Complainant was assaulted at their place of employment. When police arrived, they continued to refer to the complainant with the wrong preferred pronoun, even after being corrected. The police did not view security footage yet continued to say the complainant was in the wrong.
- ii. **OPO 19-23 – Biased Policing:** Complainant was cited during a traffic accident even though the other party admitted they went through the red light. Complainant believes they were cited because of the complainant's race.
- iii. **OPO 19-24 – Inadequate Response / Demeanor:** Complainant's family member was assaulted. The officer had allegedly already made up his mind about who was right and who was wrong and denied their request to view camera footage.
- iv. **OPO 19-25 – Demeanor:** Complainant was told by an officer they had to move from an area in the City Council Chambers, but allowed another person to sit there. When the complainant asked the officer about it, the officer did not give a specific reason.
- v. **OPO 19-26 – Demeanor:** Complainant alleges that they are being targeted by their NRO because of the past nuisance complaint on their property.
- vi. **OPO 19-27 – Demeanor:** Complainant alleged that during a conversation with their NRO, the NRO continuously talked over them and told them they were what was wrong in the neighborhood.
- vii. **OPO 19-28 – Demeanor / Inadequate Response / False Arrest:** Complainant alleges that officers made up charges against their significant other and tried to convince the complainant to say they were being abused in order to file a Domestic Violence charge.
- viii. **OPO 19-29 – Demeanor / Inadequate Response:** When officers arrived at a local shelter to remove the complainant, the complainant alleges they

were not given safe alternatives (ie: warming shelters) and ended up having to spend the night on the street.

b) Referred Complaints

- i. **IR 19-26** – Frustrated that their case was not assigned to an investigator; SPD/IA
- ii. **ER 19-27** – Unsatisfied with response regarding an abandoned vehicle; Code Enforcement
- iii. **ER 19-29** – A minority refugee high school student was trespassed from a family member's elementary school; Center for Justice
- iv. **ER 19-30** – Concerned with the amount of animal feces on local trails; Code Enforcement
- v. **ER 19-31** – Parking violation report; Code Enforcement
- vi. **ER 19-32** – Concerns with Sit and Lie ordinance; City Council
- vii. **IR 19-33** – Unsatisfied with the lack of response from detectives regarding money stolen from their backpack; SPD/IA
- viii. **ER 19-34** – Concerned with citizens being banned from shelters for 30 days or more if they call 911 for assistance; City Council

3. Case Review

- i. **C19-010 / OPO 19-12**– Investigation certified
- ii. **C19-004** – Investigation certified
- iii. **C19-018 / OPO 19-16** – Investigation certified
- iv. **C19-004 / OPO 19-04** – Investigation certified
- v. **C19-012 / OPO 19-14** – Investigation certified
- vi. **C19-019 / OPO 19-17** – Request further information / Investigation certified
- vii. **C19-025** – Investigation certified
- viii. **C19-027 / OPO 19-26** – Investigation certified
- ix. **C19-013 / OPO 19-15** – Investigation certified
- x. **C19-002** – Investigation Certified
- xi. **C19-020 / OPO 19-19** – Requested further information

4. Special Cases Reviewed

- i. **5** Use of Force
- ii. **1** Pursuit
- iii. **0** Collision
- iv. **2** K9 Deployment

5. Activities

- a) OPO staff members participated/engaged in the following other activities:
 - i. NACOLE Strategic Planning Committee (4/2)
 - ii. PSCHC meeting (4/4)
 - iii. SPD Collision / Pursuit Review Board (4/9)
 - iv. SPD Use of Force Review Board (4/9)
 - v. Leadership Spokane Interviews (4/11 & 4/22)
 - vi. Leadership Spokane SCAN Team Meeting (4/22)
 - vii. COPS Shop Board Meeting (4/24)

- viii. SPD Deadly Force Review Board (4/24)
 - ix. Training – NACOLE Webinar, Strategies for conducting compelled interviews with officers (4/17)
 - x. Training – City of Spokane Active Shooter online course (4/25)
 - b) SPD related
 - i. 25 meetings/contacts with IA
 - ii. 18 meetings/contacts with SPD
 - c) OPO met with/had contact with OPO Commissioners/staff:
 - i. Commissioner Rose on (4/11, 4/25)
 - ii. Commissioner Smith on (4/25)
 - iii. Commissioner Wilburn (4/9)
 - iv. Commissioner Kelley (4/16)
 - d) OPO met with/had contact with City Council members/staff:
 - i. Council President Stuckart (4/8)
 - ii. Council Staff Jake Fraley on (4/11)
 - iii. Council Member Stratton (4/15)
 - iv. Council Staff Adam McDaniel (4/24)
 - v. Council Member Fagan (4/25)
- 6. **Next Steps**
 - a. Annual Reports for OPO and OPOC