



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

December 13, 2018

Bart Logue, Ombudsman
Office of the Police Ombudsman
808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.
Spokane, WA 99201

RE: Response to R18-01 Crime Scene Shields

Dear Mr. Logue:

On February 7, 2018 I received a recommendation from you in regards to implementing the practice of shielding the bodies of deceased subjects, or, at a minimum, have a policy to divert all traffic in incidents where a deceased body is in public view. This recommendation was as a result of an officer involved shooting that occurred in December of 2017.

Shortly after the shooting occurred I learned of the community's concern regarding the deceased subject in this incident left exposed to public view. At that time, I requested that we order crime scene shields. The shields were subsequently ordered and received in April 2018. These shields are currently housed at the Gardner Building and are deployed when we respond to a scene wherein a body is in a location easily viewed by the public and the use of the privacy screens do not compromise the integrity of the crime scene.

In reviewing your recommendations thus far for 2018, I recognized that I had not yet responded to this recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Meidl".

Craig Meidl
Chief of Police

