



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C16-009 OPO Number: N/A
Date of Complaint: 2/8/2016
Allegation: Excessive Force
Chain of Command Finding: Exonerated
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The officer responded to a report of a DV with a weapon (gun). He stated he believed a female and child were in the home with the male who was armed with a gun. As he and other officers attempted to set up containment, a female exited the house and advised officers the male was still inside with a gun. It was determined that she was the complainant. The officer stated he did point his patrol rifle at the male, deployed his TASER in probe mode, struck the male with a closed fist in the face and delivered a single knee strike to the male's side.

COMPLAINT

Policy 300.C - Any force used by an officer must be objectively reasonable based on the totality of the facts and circumstances known to the officer at the time the force is used.

INVESTIGATION

The officers who were on scene were interviewed and they indicated that when they arrived on scene, the distraught female exited the house and indicated using a finger motion that the male was still inside and was armed with a gun. Officers entered the house and attempted to take the suspect, who was 6'0" and 300 lbs, into custody. The suspect resisted arrest and officers used multiple force options to take him into custody. The suspect was interviewed by a responding supervisor. He stated that he was not compliant in getting on the ground due to a previous back injury. He stated his only injury from this incident was a bloody nose.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The officers in this case encountered an uncooperative, very large male, who was reportedly armed with a gun. An internal investigation into the incident was conducted and underwent a chain of command review up to the Assistant Chief of Police, who deemed the officer's actions to be objectively reasonable and within policy.