



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C16-013 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 2/12/2016

Allegation: Inadequate Response

Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant is in a civil dispute with the wife of a police officer. On 02/12/2016 she made an assault report against the officer's wife. An officer took the report. The officer's wife then sent a letter to her attorney that makes reference to the report, that there was no probable cause, and that the incident was on body camera. The complainant believed that the officer's wife may have received some special treatment.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs Investigator did an audit trail check of the OnBase records data system. There was no access by any person that appeared to be improper. The investigator checked for body camera video. There was no video uploaded on this incident. The investigator sent the complainant a copy of this information just as a demonstration of the transparency of the investigation.

The officer did not show a video upload. The investigator contacted the officer, who said that she had uploaded the video. The investigator contacted the Technical Assistance Response Unit (TARU), who is responsible for maintaining the body camera program. They stated that there was likely operator error or that the officer had failed to dock their camera system recently. They said this was a common error. The investigator told the officer to report to TARU with her camera. TARU was asked by the investigator to document what they discovered to be the problem.

The investigator also looked at the officer's (husband) work schedule and log in history to the network. The officer was on vacation during this incident and there was no issues found with unusual access to systems. Internal Affairs reviewed the officer's response to the call, the CAD history and saw that the officer arrived on scene at 1236 hours. She notified a sergeant at 1307 hours and completed a report at

1351 hours. The investigator contacted the sergeant and he said that he was notified by radio about the report. He said he requested that the officer complete her interview on body camera. He said he reviewed her completed report and notified a captain by phone as well as a lieutenant and assistant chief via email.

Internal Affairs had Major Crimes review the case for probable cause to charge the officer's wife. There is no probable cause and no evidence of an assault.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The responding officer notified a supervisor of the nature of the call prior to responding. A supervisor was involved in how the case was handled. The entire chain of command was notified of the allegations. The officer completed a report and referred the case to detectives for follow-up. The supervisors in Major Crimes reviewed the case and found that there was no evidence to move forward with the case. Internal Affairs took several steps to verify that there was no unauthorized access to records and networks. The case was administratively suspended.