



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C16-019 OPO Number: N/A
Date of Complaint: 2/25/2016
Allegation: Ethical Standard 9.5
Chain of Command Finding: Sustained
Final Discipline: Suspension

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officer was criminally charged with rendering criminal assistance and obstructing as part of the SCSO's investigation of sexual assault against another employee.

COMPLAINT

Ethical Standard 9.5 - Members of the Spokane Police Department shall treat as confidential all matters relating to investigations, internal affairs, and personnel.

INVESTIGATION

A Police Department employee was charged with sexual assault stemming from an alleged incident of non-consensual sexual contact with another department employee while at a party. The accused officer in this internal investigation reportedly contacted that employee, advising him of details of the criminal investigation that should have been kept confidential.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The officer in this investigation was tried in criminal court for the charges of rendering criminal assistance and obstructing; however, jury deliberations resulted in a hung jury. The Prosecutor's Office declined to re-try the defendant officer. An internal investigation into the alleged violation of Ethical Standard 9.5 resulted in a sustained finding. The officer subsequently faced a suspension of 160 hours without pay.