



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C16-023 OPO Number: 16-10
Date of Complaint: 3/13/2016
Allegation: Conduct Unbecoming/Demeanor
Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant alleges that an officer harassed him for over an hour, put him down for being sick with cancer, for being poor, and felt made fun of. As a result of complainant's fragile health, his stressful interaction with the officer caused him to be physically ill and vomit multiple times.

INVESTIGATION

Officers were called to a domestic standby. In the hour delay from when the call first came in, and the dispatch of officers to the scene, there were several alleged threats going back and forth between the involved parties. Officers were on scene for nearly two hours and the contact was captured on body camera. Internal Affairs reviewed the body camera footage to reach a conclusion on this case.

At 15:54 the officer sees a notice on the counter in the kitchen that the water or power was going to be shut off to the house. The female in the living room said that another resident took their money, presumably for that bill, and didn't pay it. The complainant reiterated that story to the officer and he commented that hopefully once the other resident was out of the house, they could get that rectified and get back on their feet again. Approximately 5 seconds goes by and the complainant sarcastically thanked the officer for bringing up the issue of the water being shut off and told him he was going to add that to "the report". The officer said, "You have to write reports too?" The complainant told him he was filing a complaint on him to which the officer asks if he would like his name and badge number, which he then gave to the complainant along with the incident number. The complainant asked the officer if there was anything else he would like to make fun of them about. He characterized that the officer was "rubbing it in their faces" referring to them being poor to which the officer responds with "I didn't know you were poor."

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

At 20:36 the officer left the house as the complainant was still trying to argue with him. The officer was as patient as he could be with him. At no time did the officer belittle the complainant for having cancer or for being poor. There was no misconduct on the part of the officer.