



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C16-034 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 04/26/2016

Allegation: Excessive Force

Chain of Command Finding: Inquiry

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant called police because her husband was suicidal. Her complaint is based off a story she was told by her husband. Her own observations of officers on the night of the incident were positive. However, her husband told her that he was left handcuffed for an extended period of time, officers were rough with him and placed a spit mask over his face.

INVESTIGATION

A review of the body camera footage revealed the complaint to be false. The complainant was provided with an opportunity to view the footage with Internal Affairs.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

There is nearly an hour of body camera video with the complainant's husband being verbally abusive to officers. Officers used several de-escalation techniques to try to get him to go to the hospital. This included explaining the situation and asking what they could do to convince him to go peacefully. The officers spoke in a calm manner. He threatened that they would need to use force and they continued to negotiate. Officers called paramedics to the scene to do the transport.

The husband suddenly jumped up and walked forcefully to the door. He is a large man and he was angry. Officers took arm control and handcuffed him. He then appeared to nearly drag them down the stairs out of the house, to where the gurney was waiting. He laid down on the gurney and officers assisted in putting him in four-point restraints. His handcuffs were removed. AMR personnel put a spit mask on him and he is transported to SHMC. This is all captured on body camera.

The complaint appears to be false.