



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C16-044 OPO Number: 16-16
Date of Complaint: 06/15/2016
Allegation: Demeanor
Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant sent correspondence to the Office of the Police Ombudsman stating that an SPD Background Investigator, was berating him and using profanity during a telephone call on 06/12/16. The Ethical Cannon that is alleged to have been violated is Standard 4.11 (Demeanor).

INVESTIGATION

Internal Affairs investigator interviewed both the complainant and the background investigator.

The complainant said that he was to provide additional information to background investigator by a specific deadline. He was also asked about a conviction for an assault and malicious mischief that he claimed to have no knowledge of. He stated that the background investigator berated him and he was asked to describe this in detail. He said that background investigator used the word "bullshit", one time. The complainant said that the background investigator did not yell, but had an angry tone.

The background investigator said that the complainant did not provide the required information to complete his background report. He denied using any profanity. He said he did inform the complainant of the need to be complete and truthful. He also told the complainant that he had a deadline to complete his background report and that applying for the Spokane Police Department was a competitive process.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

Based upon interviews, Internal Affairs was not able to find any evidence to support either version of their interactions. The complainant provided a context to the allegation of the use of the word "bullshit". The Internal Affairs Investigator did not feel that it would have risen to the level of a sustained policy violation, in this context, even if it had been proven. The case was administratively suspended.