



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C16-058 OPO Number: 16-23
Date of Complaint: 8/8/2016
Allegation: Inadequate Response
OPA Finding: Inquiry
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant's vehicle was stolen and they incurred towing fees when it was recovered.

COMPLAINT

On August 5th, an unidentified officer called the complainant, the registered owner of a stolen car, to let her know the car was spotted outside Kohl's at the Northtown Mall. The officer requested permission to search the vehicle and reported drugs were in the vehicle. The complainant's husband arrived on scene to find the car was missing. Then on August 7th, the car was impounded because the person in possession of it was arrested. The complainant feels the cost to retrieve the car from impound could have been avoided had the officer stayed with the car until the complainant arrived, or provided the complainant notice he was leaving the car.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs Investigator found that it was Northtown Security that had located the vehicle. An officer was en-route to recover the vehicle. Northtown Security did not remain with the vehicle and it was re-stolen prior to police arriving. The complainant authorized towing if the vehicle was recovered at the time the officer completed a report. The vehicle was later recovered by the Spokane County Sheriff's Office and impounded.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

No Spokane Police Officers were involved in this complaint. The case was closed as an Inquiry.