



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C17-002 OPO Number: 17-1
Date of Complaint: 1/6/2017
Allegation: Inadequate Response
Chain of Command Finding: Inquiry
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant experienced a fire at his home. Police and Fire responded but no arrests were made. He felt that the police did nothing when they responded.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that his house was fire bombed and Police and Fire took evidence. They raided the house, yet did not arrest anyone.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs investigator reviewed the complaint and reports. He saw that there were two incidents at the complainant's home within a few hours of each other, a malicious mischief incident and a fire. After researching the incidents, he interviewed the complainant. He explained the situation to the complainant. The officer completed a probable cause report and affidavit for the first incident. A detective worked the second incident, an arson case, and conducted follow-up interviews. Unfortunately, she was unable to establish probable cause for the arson suspect because the witness could not make an identification of the suspect. After talking with the investigator, the complainant said he understood why no arrest occurred with the second incident. He was satisfied that the other incident was handled.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

After speaking with the complainant, the investigator suggested the case be closed as an Inquiry. The Internal Affairs Lieutenant and Police Ombudsman agreed.