



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C17-011 OPO Number: 17-5
Date of Complaint: 2/9/2017
Allegation: Biased Policing, Harassment and Demeanor
Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant in this case was arrested for making a fraudulent police report regarding stolen items. He was disturbed about his arrest and felt it was due to his race.

COMPLAINT

The complainant also alleged poor demeanor and harassment by the arresting officer. He was familiar with the officer as he had responded to noise complaints at the residence.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs investigator reviewed documentation of the incident, including body worn camera footage. Body camera footage showed officers being helpful rather than showing poor demeanor. As far as the harassment and biased policing allegations, the investigator contacted the Prosecutor's Office to discuss the validity of the arrest. The Prosecutor's Office also confirmed that they thought there was sufficient probable cause to arrest the complainant. However, the Prosecutor's Office and the City Attorney's Office advised the Internal Affairs investigator not to speak with the complainant until the criminal case was completed. The investigator communicated that message with the complainant's attorney, explaining that when the criminal case was completed, SPD could move forward with the investigation. The Police Ombudsman concurred to administratively suspend the investigation, pending criminal litigation.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The case was Administratively Suspended due to the active criminal case.