



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C17-023 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 3/15/2017

Allegation: Disclosure of Confidential Information

Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

An officer was involved in an Internal Affairs investigation in 2016. In February 2017, the Spokane Police Department received a public records request related to the investigation. The request contained verbiage taken directly from a quotation from the chain of command review in Blue Team. Prior to the request, the investigation had not been released to the public in any manner. The only public document was a summary of the incident was posted on the Office of Professional Accountability's website. The officer was concerned about the wording in the request since the public would not have had access to the document.

COMPLAINT

The officer alleged that an unknown person had "leaked" the investigation to the public and/or media to tarnish his reputation.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs investigation included interviews and written statements from those individuals who had access to the investigation in Blue Team, which included the officer's chain of command, Internal Affairs staff, and Office of Police Ombudsman staff and one Ombudsman Commissioner. All of the individuals stated that they did not provide information to the requestor.

Internal Affairs also audited Blue Team/IA Pro and Evidence.com, where video is stored, not finding any unauthorized use of either system. They reviewed outgoing emails and printer activity. Nothing was revealed.

Internal Affairs was unable to determine who provided information from the Blue Team investigation that was eventually quoted in the public records request.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The investigation was Administratively Suspended, due to exhausting all reasonable investigative leads.