



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C17-041 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 7/26/2017

Allegation: Conduct Unbecoming

Chain of Command Finding: Not Sustained

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant had a conversation with an officer and felt that the officer was inappropriate.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that while socializing with the officer when he was not working, the officer showed her his duty firearm tucked into his waistband and that he made several unacceptable comments. He made comments about rioters at Gay Pride month. The officer spoke about tackling a naked Black woman while working at Hoopfest and said he was known for that. She had third-hand information as well. A friend had advised her that the officer had referred to Mexicans as “beaners” at an event.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs investigation contained an interview of the complainant and the officer. There was no bodyworn camera video of the conversation. The investigator searched for an instance in which the officer may have tackled any Black/African-American women and was unable to find any instances. The investigator checked the officer’s bodyworn camera video while he worked Hoopfest and reviewed his use of force history. The officer had detained a naked white woman during Hoopfest but had not used force.

The investigator interviewed the officer, who denied using the term “beaner” or making anti-gay remarks. He denied discussing Gay Pride month, and said he had a family member who was gay and had a good relationship with that person. He said they had discussed detaining a naked White woman at Hoopfest. His wife thought the story was funny and had told it in vague detail. They were not speaking about a Black woman and did not make any comments about Black women.

He said he had secured his firearm in a Kydex holster in his waistband, the same color as the gun. He had remarked he was happy to have the gun back because he had been out of state and was used to having his gun with him. The officer said that he and the complainant had discussed her father’s employment, specifically about him not being a police officer, and that had irritated the complainant. The investigator

was unable to interview the third-party source, as the complainant did not provide the person's contact information.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The chain of command found there was no credible evidence to establish any violation of policy. There was insufficient evidence to fully exonerate the officer or refute the allegation. The allegation was determined to be Not Sustained.