



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C17-042 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 7/31/2017

Allegation: Inadequate Response

Chain of Command Finding: Not Sustained

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant alleged that the officer failed to document injuries of a child when he responded to a call.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged Inadequate Response, as she felt that the officer should have initiated a Child Protective Services intake at that time, due to the child's injuries.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs investigation contained a review of reports from the officer and Child Protective Services, and interviews with the complainant, witnesses, and the officer. There was no bodyworn camera video of the incident, due to a malfunction of the equipment. Email documentation of the officer's request to the Technical Assistance Response Unit to fix his camera confirmed that the camera was not working at the time.

The officer wrote a report stating concerns about the pregnant woman's alcohol use and flagged it for Child Protective Services' review. His report mentions one child, but did not mention the child in question or any injuries to that child. When interviewed by Internal Affairs, the officer said he was not informed of an assault to the child.

One witness said that she told the officer about the second child's injuries. Another witness said he was not sure if that child was on scene when the officer was there, and that the child received the injuries from roughhousing with another child at the location.

There were no compelling third party statements or actual evidence whether the child in question was present or not present at the time of the call. Based on the statements of those present that evening, including the officer's statement and report, there was not enough evidence to make a determination.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The chain of command found there was insufficient evidence to determine a finding of Exonerated or Sustained. The allegation was determined to be Not Sustained.