



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C17-054 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 11/3/2017

Allegation: Demeanor

Chain of Command Finding: Unfounded

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant reported that he received a letter from the Spokane Police Department that he had questions about. He called the Public Safety Building and his call was directed to Volunteer Services. He spoke with an officer who had been assigned there for light duty. He stated the officer was rude to him during the phone call.

COMPLAINT

The complainant received a questionnaire in the mail about some property that had been stolen the year prior. The questionnaire was asking if he had transferred ownership of the property to his insurance company and was address from the Police Department. He called to contact the person whose name was at the bottom of the form. That person was a senior volunteer at the department. He was transferred to Volunteer Services where he spoke with an officer who had placed there on light duty. The complainant said the officer was "was very short, irritable, not wanting or willing to assist me".

INVESTIGATION

I interviewed the complainant at his home and he was clearly irritated about the demeanor of the officer. He categorized her questions as interrogating and said she was rude to him. I also interviewed the officer, a civilian witness and another civilian records supervisor.

The complainant gave me a form I had never seen before, and did have a name at the bottom as to who sent the letter out. I would later find out that the name at the bottom of that form was put there in anticipation of that Senior Volunteer moving to the records department. However, she never went to records, and never sent out any of those forms. The officer who called the complainant asked that Senior Volunteer if she knew anything about the form and of course she did not. It was surmised by the records

supervisor that another light duty officer had sent that form out, and the Senior Volunteer did not know anything about it.

The officer told me that she did not think she was rude to the complainant. She was not familiar with the form the complainant was talking about and the Senior Volunteer had no idea about what the complainant was talking about. The officer said she was questioning why the complainant needed to talk to that specific volunteer and was asking questions about how to contact her especially since the volunteer did not know what form he was talking about. The officer however denied being rude.

I also spoke with another civilian employee who was in the room with the officer when the phone call was made. The civilian employee said she did not think the officer was rude to the complainant at all.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

This case was sent to a chain of command review. Ultimately the complaint was deemed unfounded.