Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C18-047
Date of Complaint: 7/12/2018
Allegation: Inadequate Response
Chain of Command Finding: Multiple
Final Discipline: Document of Counseling

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS
On 07/05/18, two Spokane Police Officers responded to a fight involving a group of approximately 40 adults and teenagers in an alley in Northeast Spokane. Prior to the officers arrival on scene, police dispatch advised that the fight had broken up and that a few teenagers in the area that were bleeding and one was complaining of arm pain.

COMPLAINT
The complainant alleges inadequate response by the investigating officers. She alleges that the victim pointed out the suspect to the officers but no arrest was made.

INVESTIGATION
The investigating officers interviewed the victim and multiple witnesses. This incident was not a simple, single action of an assault. There were numerous individuals involved, multiple issues identified, and numerous other potential assaults. The victim himself appears to have been an actual combatant and his level of criminal culpability was not clearly identified. In the end, the officers determined there was not an independent witness available that could confirm the nature of the assault referenced in this complaint.

The primary investigating officer spoke with three juveniles involved in the incident but failed to document their names and statements in the report.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION
The allegation of inadequate response was sustained for the primary investigating officer, and a document of counseling was administered. The allegation of inadequate response was unfounded for the back-up officer resulting in no discipline.