



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C18-058 OPO Number: 18-31
Date of Complaint: 7/30/2018
Allegation: Inadequate Response
Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant reported his truck stolen. During the initial reporting of the theft, the complainant declined to authorize a tow in the event the vehicle is recovered. The vehicle was later recovered in a parking lot at about 1 o'clock in the morning, and Police Radio attempted to call the complainant, but there was no answer. The vehicle was left in the parking lot, as is standard procedure if there is not one available to come pick it up and no tow is authorized. The vehicle was subsequently stolen a second time from the parking lot.

COMPLAINT

No voicemail was left on the complainant's phone when it was originally recovered. He felt frustrated about the lack of communication, and frustrated at an apparent lack of follow-up by the police department in the theft of his vehicle.

INVESTIGATION

Internal Affairs contacted the complainant and he indicated that things have changed between the time he filed the complaint and the time he was contacted by Internal Affairs. He said that a suspect had been identified and arrested for the vehicle theft and is being prosecuted. He stated that he did not wish to file a complaint for the lack of a voicemail as he would not have received it until the next morning, and the vehicle was stolen again before that anyway. He was initially frustrated at the lack of investigation, but later learned that the case was being looked at and that ultimately led to the arrest.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

This complaint was administratively suspended as the complainant did not wish to pursue the matter any further. Internal Affairs contacted the Lieutenant assigned to the Communications Center. That Lieutenant sent out a reminder to the Radio Supervisors, communicating his expectations regarding matters such as this for future reference.