



# SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

**CRAIG N. MEIDL**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**

## Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C18-073 OPO Number: 18-45  
Date of Complaint: 9/8/2018  
Allegation: Demeanor and Inadequate Response  
Chain of Command Finding: Multiple  
Final Discipline: N/A

### INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant called 911 for assistance during an altercation with an alleged squatter in a vacant property. The complainant was unhappy with police response.

### COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged that when the officer arrived, he took the squatter's statement, but was not interested in hearing the complainant's side. The officer accused the complainant of harassing behavior and threatened to arrest the complainant if he did not leave people alone.

### INVESTIGATION

The investigation included a review of available documentation, including police reports, audio recordings of 911 calls, the complainant's home security video, and body worn camera video. Internal Affairs interviewed the complainant and the involved officer.

The investigation did not show any misconduct on the part of the officer. The officer had a brief encounter with the complainant. He was familiar with the complainant and the issues at the location. There had been dozens of calls for service at the location in the months prior and he had responded to several calls involving the complainant. On this call, the complainant's allegations were not enforceable or substantiated and were the result of the complainant acting on more authority than he was actually in possession. The only criminal allegation that the officer could investigate was an alleged assault by the complainant on a third party. The third party showed no injuries and did not give information or corroborating testimony that the officer could investigate. The chain of command determined there was no law, policy, or expectation that the officer would take any other official action under these circumstances.

The officer issued a stern warning to the complainant that approaching people with a weapon would result in his arrest. The chain of command noted that the officer's warning was reasonable, based on the complainant's behavior and his report to Crime Check/911 that he had been armed in the encounter with the squatter.

#### ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The Inadequate Response allegation was determined to be Exonerated and the Demeanor allegation was Unfounded.