



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C19-071 OPO Number: 19-56
Date of Complaint: 8/15/2019
Allegation: Inadequate Response
Chain of Command Finding: Inquiry
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

SPD Officers responded to a report of a disturbance at a residence involving a landlord, who went to evict the tenants. Upon arriving, the officers contacted the landlord and several men who were armed and wearing camouflage clothing. The landlord claimed he currently also resided there and the armed men were his friends and there for his protection. The tenants claimed they were threatened by the landlord and the armed men when they brandished their weapons. In addition it was also reported the complainant was pushed against a wall and suffered an injury. The officers' investigation revealed inconsistent stories from the people directly involved and no independent witness to corroborate either account. The officers also determined the complainant and the landlord had legal standing to be there as well. In regards to the allegation of an assault, there was no probable cause at the time, but a report was taken and forwarded to an investigative unit.

COMPLAINT

The complainant in the Internal Affairs case alleged the responding SPD Officer's investigation was inadequate.

INVESTIGATION

A review of the Officer's BWC (Body Worn Cameras) showed the SPD Officer's conducting a lengthy investigation, interviewing everyone who was present when they arrived. Additionally, the BWC footage documented the differences in the statements made regarding the issue of legal standing to reside there and the allegation of an assault. The summary of this investigation was brought to a supervising SPD Sergeant who was also on scene. Based upon that information it was determined the Officer's investigation was thorough and documented accordingly.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The SPD Officers involved conducted a thorough investigation and based on that determined there was no probable cause to make an arrest at that time. The incident was documented and the case was left active for further investigation in the event additional information was learned.