



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C19-076 OPO Number: 19-67
Date of Complaint: 10/2/2019
Allegation: Inadequate Response
Chain of Command Finding: Inquiry
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

On September 15th 2019, the complainant called 911 reference an aggressive pit-bull that had attacked and killed her dog. After the attack, the pit-bull ran off and was quarantined in a house. The complainant requested law enforcement respond, and due to the danger subsiding, SCRAPS was notified and responded. Police were never dispatched as it was an animal call that SCRAPS has jurisdiction over. During the subsequent investigation, the pit-bull became loose again and bit a citizen. 911 was called a second time and law enforcement was requested. The call was transferred to the Spokane Fire Department due to the dog bite. The pit-bull was apprehended and police were disregarded as SCRAPS was in control of the dog.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleges the police never responded at their request, and SPD's lack of response was inadequate.

INVESTIGATION

A thorough investigation was completed, to include an interview of the complainant. After reviewing all the evidence and speaking to several people involved in the incident, it was apparent that police were needed at the scene of the attack. Although most dog issues fall under SCRAPS, there are incidents that require a law enforcement response.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

This complaint was classified as an inquiry, but we discovered some deficiencies in the dispatch process when dealing with aggressive dogs. A new procedure was implemented to respond to these types of calls in the future.