



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C19-079 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 9/6/2019

Allegation: Inadequate Response

Chain of Command Finding: Inquiry

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

The complainant called 911 to report a suspicious person had come to their door, and after not answering it, a male went around to their backyard. The male appeared to be looking for an opportunity to break into the residence, or commit a theft from the backyard. The homeowner called 911 and explained what was occurring. It appeared there was a misunderstanding on the suspect's location as 911 believed they had fled while on the phone with the complainant. The 911 operator believing the suspects had fled in a vehicle sent the call to police as a trespass, which was broadcasted to patrol officers.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleges the police did not respond to their emergency when summonsed.

INVESTIGATION

A thorough investigation was completed, to include an interview of the complainant. After reviewing all the evidence and listening to the 911 recording, it was clear there was a misunderstanding regarding the suspect's location at the time of the call. Officers were not dispatched as the call was entered as a trespass where the suspects had fled. Had this been properly classified as an attempted burglary or a burglary in process, police would have been dispatched on the priority call.

Spokane Police responded the next day and contacted the complainant. A report was generated, evidence collected, and the suspects were identified. The case was turned over to the Patrol Anti-Crime Team for follow up.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

This complaint was classified as an inquiry.