

SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C19-110 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 12/28/2019

Allegation: Conduct Unbecoming, Excessive Force and Demeanor

Chain of Command Finding: Multiple

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

On 12/22/19, multiple Spokane Police officers responded to a downtown business to investigate a reported felony assault. While officers were at the scene another fight occurred in their presence. Members of the downtown business were determined to be offenders, witnesses, and victims. Officers took enforcement action.

COMPLAINT

A manager from the downtown business alleged the following misconduct on the part of one officer:

- Excessive Force The officer used excessive force on an employee of the business when breaking up a fight.
- Demeanor The officer caused the complainant to feel threatened and intimidated when the officer attempted to collect the business's surveillance video as evidence.
- Conduct Unbecoming On 11/22/19, the officer had conducted an unlawful traffic stop on an employee of the business. After the date of the stop the officer had followed the employee.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs investigation consisted of a review of all related police reports and body camera videos; a review of the business surveillance videos; interviews of the complainant, alleged victim, witnesses, and the accused officer. The alleged victim of the unlawful traffic stop had no complaint concerning the legality of the stop or of the officer's conduct.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The accused officer's actions were lawful and proper. The officer was EXONERATED for the allegation of Excessive Force. The Demeanor and Conduct Unbecoming allegations were deemed to have been UNFOUNDED. No discipline was imposed.