



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C20-053 OPO Number: 20-35
Date of Complaint: 6/23/2020
Allegation: Policy Violation – 340.3.5 (m)
Chain of Command Finding: Closed
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

An article was written in the Spokesman Review regarding the owner of a local coffee shop posting some comments on social media. Some perceived his posts to have racial undertones and criticized his statements. In the same article the owner made a comment about support from law enforcement, and handing out 640 gift cards to local police. Two Spokane citizens questioned SPD's acceptance of the alleged gift cards.

COMPLAINT

The complainants allege that by accepting gift cards from a local coffee shop the Spokane Police Department would be accepting a gratuity violating our Policy.

INVESTIGATION

A thorough investigation was completed to include an interview of the complainants and the General Manager of the business in question. It was discovered that the article written was not factual, and the local business owner did not give out gift cards as reported. A local church purchased the coffee cards and included them in a gift bag for law enforcement. There was no violation of SPD policy.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

This complaint was Closed.