



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C20-059 OPO Number: N/A
Date of Complaint: 7/7/2020
Allegation: Inadequate Response and Demeanor
Chain of Command Finding: Closed
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers were called to assist a motorist with his pickup that was disabled. The officers discovered the front passenger wheel torn off and the driver exhibiting signs of impairment. Their investigation did not develop probable cause to arrest him or evidence that he'd just been involved in an accident. The next day a resident living nearby called and reported her parked vehicle had been sideswiped and the suspect vehicle was still on scene in the same place as when the first officers investigated. An officer responded and found a pickup owned by the complainant parked just down the street from the victim's vehicle. She contacted the complainant and through her investigation, developed probable cause to charge him with Hit and Run Unattended and Improper Lane Usage. The complainant denied all the accusations and claimed the responding officer was very rude to him.

COMPLAINT

The complainant alleged poor Demeanor and Inadequate Response by the involved officer.

INVESTIGATION

The Internal Affairs investigator reviewed photos of vehicle damages, officer bodyworn camera videos, and police reports. He also interviewed the complainant. He did not interview the officer, as her BWC video and police report were consistent with each other. She appeared to be very thorough in contacting all witnesses, victims, and locating the suspect. She had sufficient evidence to arrive at the fact that the complainant's pickup struck the other car. She was able to develop probable cause and spoke in a direct manner to the complainant about how she arrived at that conclusion. The video did not show any rude, condescending, or false accusations by the officer.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The complaint was Closed as allegations of misconduct were disproven upon initial review.