



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C20-074 OPO Number: N/A
Date of Complaint: 9/11/2020
Allegation: Policy and Standard Violations
Chain of Command Finding: Multiple
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

This complaint was initiated when a citizen contacted SPD to report that an officer had an inappropriate sexual relationship with his wife following the officer's response to a Malicious Mischief-Domestic Violence call at her residence in 2015.

COMPLAINT

The investigation involved four allegations.

- SPD Policy 1050.2D (Developing and maintaining a personal relationship as a result of an official contact)
- SPD Ethical Standard 4.9 (Members shall conduct themselves in a manner which does not discredit the law enforcement profession or the Spokane Police Department)
- SPD Policy 340.3.2M (Engaging in on-duty sexual relations)
- SPD Policy 340.3.5P (Fail to disclose material facts or making false or misleading statements).

INVESTIGATION

Internal Affairs investigators reviewed all documents and conducted multiple interviews with the complainant, his ex-wife, and the officer. The investigation revealed that the relationship occurred over a period of six months and included a ride-along, shooting at the range, and several visits with the woman. He met her through official contact and developed a personal and sexual relationship with her.

An Administrative Review Panel was convened to review the investigation. The panel recommended a Sustained finding for the first two allegations, as it was clear he initiated the relationship and it brought discredit upon the department. The panel recommended Not Sustained for the third and fourth allegations, as there was not enough evidence to prove that the officer engaged in on-duty sexual relations or continued to engage in a sexual relationship after he stated he had ended the relationship.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

Per the Chief of Police, the following policy violations were Sustained: SPD Policy 1050.2D (Developing and maintaining a personal relationship as a result of an official contact) and SPD Ethical Standard 4.9 (Members shall conduct themselves in a manner which does not discredit the law enforcement profession or the Spokane Police Department).

The following policy violations received a determination of Not Sustained: SPD Policy 340.3.2M (Engaging in on-duty sexual relations) and SPD Policy 340.3.5P (Fail to disclose material facts or making false or misleading statements).

Due to current policy limitations, though misconduct was determined, the Chief was unable to administer sanctions. As the behavior occurred in 2015-2016, it was past the timeline to administer sanctions for non-criminal complaints.