



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRAIG N. MEIDL
CHIEF OF POLICE

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C20-079 OPO Number: 20-52
Date of Complaint: 10/21/2020
Allegation: Unlawful Arrest and False Statements
Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers were dispatched to a report of male acting disorderly and operating his vehicle in a hotel parking lot. The male was sitting in his car and exhibited signs of intoxication. He was arrested for Physical Control (while intoxicated) and processed for breath and blood testing. The male made a formal complaint afterward that officers made an unlawful arrest and falsified their police reports when they claimed he refused to submit to blood alcohol testing.

COMPLAINT

The investigation involved allegations of two policies: SPD Policy 340.3.5 E (Unlawful Arrest) and SPD Policy 340.3.5 H (False Statements).

INVESTIGATION

Internal Affairs investigators reviewed the police report, officer bodyworn camera, and interviewed the complainant. A review of the BWC showed no misconduct by the officers, but Internal Affairs recommended that the case be Administratively Suspended as the complaint involved the elements of a crime pending prosecution and the administrative investigation could adversely impact the criminal case.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The case was Administratively Suspended as the complaint involved the elements of a crime pending prosecution and the administrative investigation could adversely impact the criminal case. The Office of the Police Ombudsman concurred.