



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C21-018 OPO Number: 21-05
Date of Complaint: 5/3/2021
Allegation: Inadequate Response
Chain of Command Finding: Closed
Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

On 5/1/21, Spokane Police Officers were dispatched to a physical altercation between two females. Upon arrival, the officers encountered two females, one of which had injuries. The officers developed probable cause to arrest one of the females for 4th degree assault. The officers chose to cite and release the female rather than book her into Spokane County Jail.

COMPLAINT

The victim of the assault was upset that the suspect was not booked into jail and only cited for the crime. The complainant thought that they overheard one officer say that he didn't want to do the extra paperwork that it would have taken to book the suspect into jail.

INVESTIGATION

Internal Affairs reviewed the complaint, read the police reports and watched the BWC (body worn camera) video from the incident.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

The investigation concluded that the case be closed because the complaint was disproven upon initial review. The officers determined that they had probable cause to arrest the suspect for 4th degree assault. This crime is not a mandatory booking and it is within the officers' discretion whether or not to book. The officers chose to cite and release the suspect. There was no discussion overheard on the officers BWC that revealed them talking about not wanting to book the suspect because of more paperwork. The officers acted appropriately in this incident.

