



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE
CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C21-062 OPO Number: 21-29
Date of Complaint: 9/28/2021
Allegation: Inadequate Response
Chain of Command Finding: Administratively Suspended
Final Discipline: Closed

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS:

The complainant called in a traffic accident between himself and a semi-truck driver. They were blocking traffic and the complainant's vehicle was not able to be driven. The complainant alleged he was told SPD was too busy and unable to respond. When the complainant left the scene approximately one hour later, he said he noticed two officers sitting in a parking lot two blocks away.

When the complainant contacted the police desk the following day he asked for assistance with some RCW's and the officer wouldn't answer the questions. When he stated that it was typical to not get assistance from the police, the officer hung up on him.

COMPLAINT:

The complaint stated the police did not show up at the collision even though two officers were two blocks away, and when he called to ask legal questions the following day, the officer hung up on him. The complainant alleged inadequate response by the police department and inappropriate demeanor by an officer he spoke with by phone.

INVESTIGATION:

Spokane Police Department Internal Affairs investigated this complaint. Recordings of 911 calls from complainant, CAD record of active calls, dayshift roster of officers working on 09/16/21 were examined.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION:

After a lengthy investigation, it was determined the SPD response to the collision followed established guidelines and best practice regarding calls for service, officer availability, and priority levels (no policy violations noted). Regarding the demeanor of the unidentified police desk employee who answered the complainants phone call, due to the number of officers and volunteers who could have answered the call from the complainant, they were not able to be identified.

