



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C23-007 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 1/19/2023

Allegation: Failure to Identify as Officer

Chain of Command Finding: Exonerated

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS:

Officers were working as a visible presence in the downtown area of Spokane during “bar patrol,” which is usually on the weekends during the evening when there are large crowds enjoying the downtown bars.

The complainant drove up to officers and demanded they identify themselves to him. This was while he was blocking the flow of traffic in his vehicle. He filed a complaint.

COMPLAINT:

The complainant spoke with a supervisor that evening after the officer requested the supervisor. The complainant stated the officers didn’t immediately provide their name and badge number to him.

INVESTIGATION:

SPD conducted an internal investigation into the allegation. The investigator viewed officers’ body worn camera footage, listened to the complainant’s intake interview, and reviewed the report written for this incident. The investigator also viewed applicable portions of the Revised Code of Washington.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION:

The officer’s actions were justified, lawful, and proper. The officer did not initiate the contact with the complainant. The complainant was asked to move out of the street and to stop blocking traffic, which the complainant refused. The officer requested a supervisor who spoke with the complainant. It was determined to be unreasonable for the officer to immediately provide the requested information upon demand while the complainant was blocking the flow of traffic on a public roadway.

