



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C23-045 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 6/28/2023

Allegation: Biased Policing and Inadequate Response

Chain of Command Finding: Multiple

Final Discipline: Additional Training

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS:

SPD Officers responded to a complex call where a male was armed with a knife. There were conflicting reports about the incident and how it progressed. Officers handcuffed the juvenile male armed with a knife and detained him during their investigation. The officers later released the male. No charges were filed stemming from this incident.

COMPLAINT:

A family member of the juvenile male (who is a person of color) contacted SPD Internal Affairs. He alleged that the juvenile male was only detained because of his skin color. He also alleged that officers failed to investigate criminal allegations the juvenile male made against the other parties involved in the call.

INVESTIGATION:

The investigator reviewed police reports and body worn camera footage. The investigator interviewed the juvenile male involved. The investigator called and emailed the complainant multiple times, but the complainant never contacted the investigator.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION:

The investigation determined that the officers were within SPD Policy and did not engage in Biased policing. The officers' detention of the juvenile male was reasonable given the circumstances of the call. This allegation was classified as "Unfounded".

The allegation of inadequate response was "Not Sustained". The officers received follow up training to more adequately handle a similar call in the future.

