



# SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CHIEF OF POLICE

### CRAIG N. MEIDL

## Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C23-070 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 10/17/2023

Allegation: Making a False or Misleading Statement, Policy Violation and Improper Supervision

Chain of Command Finding: Multiple

Final Discipline: Multiple

### INCIDENT SYNOPSIS:

Internal Affairs was contacted by a city employee, who wanted to report a Spokane Police Department vehicle he saw with a "Let's Go Brandon" sticker on it. The complainant said the officer was in uniform and getting work done on the vehicle at the City Fleet facility. The complainant confronted the officer about the sticker, and he said, "he seemed pretty proud of it." The complainant provided the vehicle license plate number and described the officer.

### COMPLAINT:

The allegations of the complaint were Making a False or Misleading Statement, Policy 1020.8.1 – All investigations of personnel complaints shall be considered confidential, and the content of files not revealed other than as required by law, and Policy 1060.4 (a) – Prohibited Speech & Expression and Conduct, and Improper Supervision – Failure of a supervisor to take appropriate action to ensure the employees adhere to policies and procedures.

### INVESTIGATION:

The Spokane Police Department Internal Affairs did a thorough investigation into the allegations. The I.A. investigator reviewed all pertinent material related to the allegations. Internal Affairs also interviewed numerous officers as well as the officer who had the sticker displayed on their assigned patrol vehicle. During the investigation, it was discovered the involved officer made some false or misleading statements to the investigator. The investigation also pointed to the lack of action by several supervisors who were aware of the sticker.



ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION:

The investigation was reviewed by an Administrative Review Panel prior to the Chief's review. The Chief determined the allegations against the accused officer were all sustained. The accused officer was terminated from the Spokane Police Department.

The Chief also sustained the allegation of Improper Supervision on three of the four supervisors associated to the investigation. One received a letter of reprimand and two received a documentation of counseling.

