

SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF OF POLICE KEVIN HALL

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C24-076 OPO Number: 24-46

Date of Complaint: 9/24/2024

Allegation: Excessive Force

Chain of Command Finding: Unfounded

Final Discipline: None

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS:

On 7/31/2024, Spokane Police arrived at a residence to enforce a protection order violation. The complainant called 9-1-1 because the restrained person was at their home in violation of the order. The complainant is the protected party. The person in violation found was hiding in the garage and arrested after being directed to exit the garage.

During the arrest, the person challenged officers verbally and was moving toward the protected person who was standing nearby, and the home with children and uninvolved persons inside. The arrested person had to be physically restrained from moving closer to the protected party and the house.

COMPLAINT:

The complainant stated that the police arrived at their residence to enforce a protection order violation. The complainant stated that when the person found was hiding in the garage and they were compliant with the officers' commands.

The complainant said that during the arrest the person was on their knees when the officer placed handcuffs on them. The complainant alleged that during the arrest the officer put their arm around the person's neck (described a choke hold) to lift them to a standing position while handcuffed. In addition, the complainant alleged another officer grabbed a hold of the arrested person's hair "aggressively" in what the complainant deemed to be an excessive amount of time, approximately 45 seconds, after the handcuffs were applied.

INVESTIGATION:

Spokane Police Internal Affairs investigated the complaint which included an interview with the complainant and extensive analysis of the responding officers' body worn camera video footage. The arrested person did not respond to attempts to interview them. Additionally, during the analysis of the



incident, the Spokane Police Department Defensive Tactics Lead Instructor was consulted for their technical expertise in police defensive tactics.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION:

The investigation concluded the officer's conduct was reasonable and in accordance with SPD policy, considering all the facts and circumstances known at the time.

