

SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF OF POLICE KEVIN HALL

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C24-101 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 12/30/2024

Allegation: Demeanor and Excessive Force

Chain of Command Finding: Unfounded

Final Discipline: Not Applicable

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS:

Spokane Police Officers responded to a residence at the request of a behavior health professional to check the welfare of a client. When the officers arrived, the client could be heard inside threatening to harm family members. Eventually, officers convinced two family members to exit the residence, which left the client inside alone with another person who declined to exit. The officers directed the family members to walk down a flight of stairs away from the area of concern.

COMPLAINT:

The complainant contacted SPD Internal Affairs through an online complaint form. The complainant was concerned about how they and their parents were treated when officers responded to their residence on a mental health check for the other parent. The complainant said the officers arrived and asked them to come outside to check on the client. The complainant alleged they and their parents were grabbed by the wrists and pushed down the stairs. The complainant also said one of the officers threatened to take their phone away and take them to jail.

INVESTIGATION:

Spokane Police Internal Affairs investigated the complaint which included an interview with the complainant. The police reports and several body worn camera videos were reviewed.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION:

The allegations listed above were considered to be unfounded. The body worn camera video showed that the officers did momentarily hold the family members' wrists while guiding them away from the area of the concern. At the time this occurred, the client was still nearby and, based upon the threatening comments made, was still considered to be a danger to the family members. The officer's demeanor was not considered to be unreasonable, and no force was used when the officers guided them away from the residence.