



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

KEVIN HALL

Closed Case Summary

Complaint Number: C25-016 OPO Number: N/A

Date of Complaint: 1/29/2025

Allegation: False Arrest

Chain of Command Finding: Closed

Final Discipline: Verbal Counseling

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS:

A Spokane Police Officer was conducting routine patrol in Downtown Spokane when they encountered a group of more than forty persons loitering and blocking a sidewalk in violation of Pedestrian Interference. The officer verbally warned the gathering of persons that they needed to move because they were blocking the sidewalk. One person decided to remain and chose to not follow the directions of the officer. After several warnings, the person was eventually arrested for Pedestrian Interference and was booked into jail.

COMPLAINT:

The complainant alleged the officer issued them a citation and booked them into the jail for Pedestrian Interference without probable cause. The complainant claimed the officer stated (seen on body cam) "I don't know what the jail is going to do with him. I have no reason to keep him" showed the arrest was unlawful and lacked probable cause because, at the time of arrest, they were engaged in conduct similar to other individuals nearby who were neither cited nor arrested, indicating selective enforcement.

INVESTIGATION:

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

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION:

The allegation of selective enforcement was determined to be not sustained. Selective enforcement in this investigation referred to the decisions made by the officer to arrest and book the complainant.

In this investigation, it was determined the complainant decided to remain in place and did not leave, walk, or do anything else to suggest their compliance with the officer's direction. Additionally, the officer's comment of, "I don't know what the jail is going to do with him. I have no reason to keep him", was



was in response to a question from an acquaintance of the complainant who asked when the complainant would be released from jail. In this context, because it was a citation release eligible offense, the officer's reply meant there was no reason to hold the complainant in jail after being booked.

Regarding the allegation of demeanor, the officer made a comment about drug use and then engaged in banter with the complainant. While the comment and banter were not considered misconduct, the banter was unnecessary. This allegation was referred to the officer's supervisor for informal follow up.

