

SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CHIEF OF POLICE CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F18-052

Incident Number: 2018-20180497

Date of Incident: 9/10/2018

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers responded to a Disorderly call at a local bar. The intoxicated suspect was non-compliant and refused to leave. Officers had lawful authority to remove the suspect. Officers attempted to escort him from the business using arm control, but he used full body tension to resist them. Officers attempted a Takedown Technique but lost balance so the two officers and suspect were all on the ground struggling. Officers radioed for backup. The suspect rapidly progressed from active resistance to assaultive behavior. The suspect began throwing punches at officers and pulling a chunk of hair out of a female officer's head. The male officer delivered a knee strike to the male's midsection but it did not cause a reaction. The female officer deployed her TASER device in probe mode and drive stun mode but it appeared to have no effect. The male officer was unable to reach his baton on his duty belt and grabbed a bar stool, hitting the suspect in the back. He was able to pull the suspect down to the ground, but both officers could not overpower him. The male officer struck the suspect in the face with a closed fist, but did not gain compliance. A third officer arrived to assist, and the struggle continued and the suspect used his head to strike that officer's face. That officer deployed an elbow strike to the chest and the other officer struck the suspect in the face a second time. Finally, the third officer applied a Level II Lateral Neck Restraint, which was effective in gaining compliance. The technique was not effective in rendering the suspect unconscious but it ended the struggle and allowed officers to handcuff him. Officers sought medical clearance at the hospital for the suspect and then booked him into jail for Assault and Commercial Burglary.

