SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION
CHIEF OF POLICE
CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F18-058

Incident Number: 2018-20183608

Date of Incident: 9/13/2018

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers contacted a male for a pedestrian violation. The suspect provided a false name. After several minutes of attempting to identify the male, an officer made the decision to detain the suspect in handcuffs for providing false and misleading statements to a public servant. Officers established arm control on each side of the male, who immediately began to resist their attempts to place handcuffs on him. Officers took the male to the ground in an attempt to perform prone handcuffing, but he physically resisted in a manner that prevented them from applying handcuffs. During the struggle, one officer perceived that the suspect was grabbing his right arm, causing his wrist to bend backwards. The officer perceived the male was assaulting him so he applied three knee strikes to the male's left side near his shoulder and ribs. It was later discovered that the other officer had accidently grabbed onto the officer's right arm in the midst of the confusing struggle on the ground. A supervisor arrived on scene just after the application of knee strikes. He attempted to help officers handcuff the suspect. The supervisor received information from officers on scene that a TASER had been dropped on the ground. He observed the male lying on his stomach with both of his hands underneath his chest. The supervisor attempted to pry the suspect's right arm from underneath him with an extended baton, but this attempt was unsuccessful. The supervisor said he was concerned that the suspect had or would have access to the TASER, so he applied several closed fists strikes to the right side of the male's torso area. After the application of the closed fists strikes, officers were able to detain the suspect in handcuffs. The male was booked for False Statements, Obstructing, and a DOC warrant.