



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F18-068
Incident Number: 2018-20211868
Date of Incident: 10/30/2018
Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers responded to a Disorderly call. Several callers had reported a disorderly male near a grocery store. An officer arrived and observed a man acting aggressively towards other citizens, throwing his hands out and squaring off in a challenging stance. He seemed to be intoxicated. The officer wanted to check on the male's welfare, so he approached him and asked if he was okay. The male squared his shoulders and asked the officer if he wanted to fight. The officer stayed calm, told him he wanted to make sure he was okay, and asked if the male could go home or to a friend's house. After the officer declined to fight him, the male said he was okay and walked away. Two citizens stopped the officer and said they had seen the male cut a man on the arm. The officer decided there was likely a felonious assault that needed to be investigated, and based on the male's behavior, he would likely remain disorderly and a threat to the community. He asked for SPD assistance, relaying the information about the potential assault, and kept the male in his sight as he walked down the street. He saw the male blocking traffic. Backup officers arrived to address and detain the male. They made numerous announcements for the male to exit the street. Officers saw he had a folding knife clipped to his pants pocket. At a distance of 10-15 feet from officers, the male pulled the knife from his pocket and extended the blade. At this point, his actions made the incident a potentially deadly force situation. An officer immediately deployed his TASER device, which worked as intended. The male tensed up and dropped to the ground on his chest. Officers secured his hands, removed the knife from his reach, and placed him in handcuffs. Medics responded to the scene and removed the TASER probes. Officers located the person with a cut to his arm, who explained that the detained male had cut his arm, but it was with his permission, to open an abscess so it could drain. His injury was not from an assault. Officers requested medical attention for the person with the cut. Officers transported the male to jail and booked him for charges of Disorderly Conduct, Interference with Pedestrian or Vehicle Traffic, Unlawful Display of a Weapon, and for an existing warrant.





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