



SPOKANE POLICE DIVISION

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F19-044

Incident Number: 2019-20099324

Date of Incident: 6/1/2019

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

An officer attempted to make a traffic stop for driving a vehicle with expired tabs. The officer explained the reason for the stop and told the driver he was detaining him. He told the male to have a seat on the curb but he started walking away from the officer. The officer requested backup. When the second officer arrived, they attempted to gain arm control and placed his arms behind his back. The suspect tensed up and actively resisted. Officers took him to the ground during the scuffle. The suspect then began assaulting one of the officers by grabbing a hold of his right forearm and squeezing. The suspect continued to be assaultive so the officer placed him in a Level I Lateral Neck Restraint (LNR) to gain compliance. He then transitioned to a Level II LNR application with the intent to render him unconscious due the suspect biting his bicep. The officer was unable to render him unconscious and continued to fight with the suspect. A third officer then arrived on scene to assist in getting the male in handcuffs but the suspect assaulted him by grabbing his left wrist and began twisting it. The third officer advised the suspect to stop resisting and fighting. When he did not, that officer delivered three open hand palm strikes in succession to the suspect's nose. After the third strike, he let go of his grip on the officer. Officers were then able to handcuff the suspect. Officers transported him to the hospital. The suspect was going to be at the hospital for a while due to a broken nose, so he was not booked into jail immediately. He had two warrants and was charged with four counts of Assault. He was also cited for Resisting Arrest, Obstructing, Refusing to Give Information, and Driving with a Suspended License. Two officers who were injured sought treatment for their injuries (stitches for laceration, x-rays) and for exposure to blood.

