



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F20-046
Incident Number: 2020-20188576
Date of Incident: 10/26/2020
Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

An officer responded to a DUI call at a grocery store parking lot. The caller reported a male slumped over the steering wheel of his vehicle, with the car running and in Reverse gear. Upon arrival, the officer located a male passed out in his vehicle, sitting in the driver's seat. The vehicle was parked in the disabled parking spaces, blocking part of the road. As the officer was waiting for his backup to arrive, the male woke up. The officer explained why he was contacting him. He immediately surmised that the male was intoxicated, due to his groggy demeanor, slurred speech, and bloodshot eyes. He could smell the odor of alcohol. The officer requested that the male shut the off the engine and hand him the keys. The male turned off the vehicle at the officer's request and removed the keys. He refused to hand the keys over and refused to exit the car. The officer made numerous verbal orders, directing the male to exit the vehicle. He warned the male that if he continued to be non-compliant, that force may be used. The backup officer arrived, and officers patiently attempted to talk the man out of the vehicle. However, the male began trying to put the keys back into the ignition. The first officer reached into the car and attempted to take the keys from the male. A struggle ensued, with the male suspect grabbing and pulling the officer further into the vehicle. The second officer gave the suspect numerous verbal warnings to exit the car or force would be used. When the suspect continued to ignore the verbal commands, the officer deployed his TASER device, striking the suspect just behind his right armpit into his back. The TASER application immediately produced the desired effect. Officers removed him from the car and took him into custody. When officers searched the suspect, incident to arrest, they found cocaine on his person. He was booked into jail for Vehicle DUI Alcohol, Fail to Identify Self to Law Enforcement, Obstructing, and Possession of a Controlled Substance (Cocaine).

