



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F20-047
Incident Number: 2020-20189823
Date of Incident: 10/26/2020
Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Patrol officers asked the Domestic Violence Unit to serve a protection order on a male who was suffering from mental illness and had threatened his wife. Two Spokane Police officers and representatives of the Behavioral Health Unit (one Spokane County Sheriff's Office deputy and a mental health professional) went to the residence to contact the male. They planned to serve the order and have the mental health clinician speak with the male. The male was uncooperative upon contact. The officers explained the order and said if he did not vacate the residence, he would be arrested for violating the order. The male slammed the door so hard on one of the officers' foot and arm that the door broke free from the wall. Officers told the male that he was under arrest. He was still non-compliant. They tried to take arm control, but he was very strong and was able to pull away, pulling officers with him. Officers warned him that they would use force. He refused to comply. The deputy deployed his TASER, which was ineffective. An officer deployed his TASER and it had the desired effect of disrupting the male's actions. Once on the floor, he did not comply with instructions. The officers eventually were able to move him on to his stomach. The male moved his hand under his body and resisted officers' attempts to secure his hands. An officer tried to move into position to apply a Level I Lateral Neck Restraint (LNR) but was unable to achieve the correct position. Officers had called for backup and held him until more officers arrived. With the help of arriving officers, the suspect was handcuffed. Medics attended to the male and he was transported to the hospital for a mental health evaluation. Two hours later, he was discharged for booking on the following charges: felony Assault, Resisting Arrest, and Violation of Order.

