

SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F22-004

Incident Number: 2022-20009028

Date of Incident 1/18/2022

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

An officer made a traffic stop for no license plates. When he contacted the driver, she gave him a false name. When he contacted her again to verify the information, she rolled up the windows and locked all the doors. She could not leave because earlier the officer had convinced her to turn off the car and hand him the keys. He told her she was under arrest as she started to look and dig around the driver and passengers' seat. It is unclear if she was looking for weapons or the keys. He backed up to cover and other officers arrived and tried to negotiate with her to come out peacefully. The vehicle had tinted windows all around, making it difficult to see what she was doing inside. She did not exit the vehicle and continued to barricade herself inside. Radio advised that the vehicle had been listed in several reports where firearms had been involved, including a drive-by shooting. Her physical description did not match the description of the people with the weapons in the previous calls, but officers did not know if they were associates at all or if weapons would be involved again. With this information, leaders authorized a tactical plan where an officer would use glass breakers on a window, allowing a second officer to use the pepper ball (pepper spray) launcher to insert the agent into the vehicle from a safe distance. The first officer made a small hole in the back passenger window behind the driver, and the second officer inserted two pepper balls into the car. He then stopped to assess how affective they were. At this point, the suspect came out and gave up without further incident or injury. She then gave her real name. She had felony warrants for Robbery and 2nd Degree Assault. When officers searched her incident to arrest, they found methamphetamine. She was transported to the hospital for evaluation and was booked into jail for the warrants with citations for Fail to Cooperate, Obstruction, No Valid Operator's License, and Fraudulent Trip Permit.

