



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F22-012

Incident Number: 2022-20051088

Date of Incident 3/27/2022

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers responded to a Theft call. An officer developed probable cause to arrest the suspect. He located the suspect several blocks from the store. The officer attempted to detain the suspect, who resisted by pulling away from him and using isometric tension so the officer could not place him on the ground and in handcuffs. The officer used his body weight to put the suspect in a prone cuffing position. The suspect alleged that the officer “stomped him” and did a “knee strike” to his back causing injury. The suspect alleged back injury and pain as a result. The suspect initially alleged that the officer also pointed his firearm at him. The officer explained to the suspect the reasons why he drew his firearm and how it was pointed down at the ground in front of the suspect. The suspect was taken to the hospital for evaluation. No injuries were found. He was booked into jail for 3rd Degree Theft.

During the chain of command review, bodyworn camera footage refuted the suspect’s claim. The officer did not strike the suspect and his actions were consistent with prone handcuffing. Video footage also clearly showed that the officer’s firearm was held in a low ready position and was not pointed in at the suspect.

