



# SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CHIEF OF POLICE

### CRAIG N. MEIDL

## Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F22-019

Incident Number: 2022-20035937

Date of Incident: 3/3/2022

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

### INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

A Downtown officer was in his vehicle, talking to security from the House of Charity. He observed a vehicle coming toward him. The driver accelerated and was headed directly toward the officer in his vehicle. The officer backed up and around the street intersection to avoid being hit. At the last moment, the vehicle swerved and parked. The officer pulled in behind and stopped the driver. As the officer walked up to the car, he had a hard time seeing inside due to the tinted windows but was able to see the driver digging/looking around in the center console area. The driver ignored the officer's orders and continued to dig around. Concerned that the suspect was looking for a weapon to continue to try and assault him, the officer backed up to a point of cover behind his car. He yelled at the suspect. The suspect then quickly got out of the car and it appeared that he was ready to fight. The officer could not see one of his hands. The suspect ignored the officer's directives and appeared to be digging for something. The officer pointed his firearm at the suspect, giving him orders to get on the ground in fear that he may be armed. The suspect ignored the commands but shifted his body so that the officer could see he did not have any weapons. At that point, the officer lowered his weapon to the low-ready position.

The suspect continued to argue with the officer after he exited the vehicle. He refused commands and then began to lean with his left shoulder on the car. He then pivoted and aligned his body with the door opening. The officer made several announcements, warning that he would apply the TASER if the suspect did not comply with his commands. The suspect did not respond to the commands and began to move closer to the door opening. It was the perception of the officer at that time that the suspect was attempting to get back into the driver seat. With the driving that was already observed, the officer had a heightened interest to ensure that the subject did not get back onto the roadway. The deployment was successful. The suspect was taken into custody. Medics responded to treat the suspect for the TASER deployment. It appeared he was under the influence of a substance and that his reckless driving might be attributed to a DUI. The officer obtained a search warrant for a blood draw. The suspect was cleared at the hospital for booking, and was booked into jail for Attempted Vehicular Assault, DUI, Obstructing, and Resisting Arrest.

Note: While the officer's use of force was found to be within policy, his use of profanity was determined to be a policy violation. He received a Documentation of Counseling.

