



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE

CRAIG N. MEIDL

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F22-065

Incident Number: 2022-20222469

Date of Incident: 12/15/2022

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

An officer made a self-initiated suspicious vehicle stop in a high crime area while conducting proactive patrol. He believed the driver had a felony warrant and was possibly involved in other drug related crimes in the area. The driver was uncooperative; he refused to roll down his window or open his door to communicate. Officers gave him multiple commands. The driver, instead of following commands, reached around the vehicle quickly, repeatedly placing his hands out of view and in areas where weapons are commonly concealed. The officer told the driver to stop reaching around and to not use the keys. The officer requested backup. The backup officer pinned the vehicle with his car to prevent the suspect from fleeing. Officers told the suspect to show his hands and step out of the car, warning him that if he didn't open the door, they would break the window. The suspect started the vehicle and revved the engine. The officer immediately broke the window and attempted to clear the glass to gain access to the suspect. As he did this, the suspect put the vehicle in drive and stepped on the gas, causing the tires to spin. The primary officer delivered closed fist strikes to the suspect, trying to distract him from fleeing or hitting anyone with his vehicle. Due to the pin maneuver and the snow and ice, the vehicle was not able to move more than a few inches. His vehicle did hit the front of the backup officer's vehicle, causing minor damage. The primary officer reached in the window, unlocked the door to the car, and opened the door. The backup officer was able to reach over the door to obtain a hair hold takedown on the suspect. Together, the officers pulled the suspect out of the car and onto the snowbank. Officers continued to struggle with the suspect as he pulled his hands under his body. Officers warned him they would use a TASER. As the suspect continued to fight, the officer deployed his TASER. It was effective; officers were finally able to get his hands behind his back and place him in handcuffs. The suspect was booked into jail for a felony warrant, Attempt to Elude, Obstructing, and Resisting Arrest.

Note: In addition to being documente in a use of force, this incident was investigated as an Internal Complaint, C23-010.

