

SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE JUSTIN C. LUNDGREN

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F23-030

Incident Number: 2023-20125004

Date of Incident: 6/26/2023

Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers responded to a Disorderly call. The complainant stated that a male was throwing rocks, breaking car windows, and was inside of a vehicle on the property that he did not own. Officers established probable cause to arrest the male for Harassment, 3rd Degree Malicious Mischief, and 2nd Degree Criminal Trespassing. The two officers requested a third officer to assist them on scene. Officers set up approximately 100 feet or so from the disabled vehicle the suspect was occupying, which provided distance from the suspect. An officer utilized his vehicle's public address system to give the suspect announcements to surrender peacefully. A short while later, the suspect quickly exited the vehicle and attempted to walk away but all three officers were able to catch up to him. The officers were able to take the suspect into custody without incident. The officers walked the suspect back to a patrol vehicle. Prior to placing him into the prisoner compartment of the patrol vehicle, the officers searched him incident to arrest. At that point, the suspect became increasingly agitated, violently twisting his upper body to his left, towards officers while raising his left arm to strike officers with his left elbow. Officers brought the suspect to the ground, by simply pulling on the handcuffs straight down, bringing him to his buttocks and knee. Officers rolled the suspect onto his side to finish searching him. During the booking process, the suspect complained of shoulder pain/injury, so the transporting officer requested a supervisor and medics to meet him at jail. Officers cited and released the suspect, and arranged for the suspect to be evaluated at the hospital. At the hospital, the suspect refused to cooperate with medical staff. The Chain of Command determined that the wrist and arm control techniques used during the incident were reasonable and within policy. The suspect's active resistance precipitated the use of the control techniques and would not have had to be used had the suspect followed the officer's lawful commands.





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