



SPOKANE POLICE DEPARTMENT

INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

JUSTIN C. LUNDGREN

Closed Use of Force Summary

Tracking Number: F23-065
Incident Number: 2023-20198920
Date of Incident: 10/9/2023
Chain of Command Finding: In Compliance with Policy

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Officers responded to a Domestic Standby call to assist a victim obtain clothing for her children. Officers discovered that probable cause had been established for 2nd Degree Assault-Domestic Violence and Felony Harassment-DV charges. The male suspect in the incident also had a valid felony Fugitive warrant out of Idaho. Officers contacted the victim nearby and obtained further information, including photographs, showing the suspect in possession of the victim's handgun. The suspect made suicidal statements and statements about killing the victim, her family, and police. Additional probable cause was established for 2nd Degree Unlawful Possession of a Firearm. Officers surrounded the residence. SWAT, Hostage Negotiators, Air Support Unit, and other resources were called to the location to de-escalate the suspect and safely take him into custody.

The threat level was high because the suspect was armed with a handgun and was talking about suicide by cop. He was barricaded in detached garage and had surveillance cameras set up covering the entire exterior of the property to include the residence and detached garage. De-escalation tactics were used by officers on scene and were intended to minimize the likelihood of the need to use force during the incident. The tactics included clear instructions to surrender peacefully, advising him that he was under arrest, attempting to slow down the situation by using time, distance and cover and calling for more resources to resolve the incident safely. The situation took about seven hours to resolve. After extensive efforts from officers to gain compliance, and continued non-compliance from the suspect, a coordinated gas deployment was approved by the Incident command. The suspect surrendered and exited his hiding place. Officers took him into custody and immediately offered aid from medics. The suspect had no visible injuries but experienced exposure to the chemical irritants. The suspect was then transported and booked into jail by officers for the charges listed above and his felony warrant.

