



NEWS RELEASE

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OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING 1200 BLOCK OF WEST CALLE RANCHO RIO

The Tucson Police Department is investigating an officer-involved shooting that occurred Wednesday morning on Tucson's South Side.

On August 26, 2020, officers from our Midtown Community Response Team arranged an undercover purchase of illegal narcotics from a wanted suspect. The suspect had known gang affiliations and was wanted on multiple violent felony offenses that included: armed robbery, aggravated robbery, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and burglary. Just before 11:00 a.m., an undercover officer purchased the illegal narcotics from the suspect and was able to positively identify him as the suspect they were looking for. Immediately following the transaction, several officers who were waiting nearby moved in to arrest the suspect. The suspect saw the officers and fled on foot. Officers followed the suspect while giving him commands to "get on the ground". The suspect refused commands and during the short foot pursuit, he brandished a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun. An officer on scene fired two shots from his duty weapon, striking the suspect both times. Officers immediately began rendering aid to the suspect utilizing the medical kits that all Tucson Police Officers carry. Tucson Fire then took over medical treatment; however, the suspect was pronounced deceased on scene shortly after their arrival.

Detectives with Violent Crimes Unit responded and are conducting the criminal portion of the investigation, while sergeants with the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) are conducting a separate, but parallel administrative investigation to examine the actions of department personnel. This is standard protocol in all officer-involved shootings.

The suspect involved was a 17-year-old male. Detectives have notified next of kin, but his name is currently being withheld. The investigation is ongoing and additional details will be released as they become available. Thankfully, no officers or other community members were injured during the incident.

The department remains committed to meeting the public's need for immediate transparency and will continue to release information concerning officer-involved shootings and in-custody deaths even though it may be preliminary and incomplete. However, as we recently discussed with the community, we will have some situations in which exceptional circumstances involving constitutional rights, statutory prohibitions, or other legal requirements prevent the release of body-worn camera footage within 72 hours. The officer-involved shooting from Wednesday (August 26, 2020) presents such a circumstance, as members of the decedent's family have requested time to seek a court order to prevent the release

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.



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of the body-worn camera video. The department intends to honor this request and will provide the relevant footage when the legal matters have been resolved.

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