



PCFIT

Pierce County Force Investigation Team



Press Release

Pierce County Sheriff's Department Officer Involved Shooting 1/27/2022

PCFIT Activated for Officer Involved Shooting

Pierce County, WA January 27th 2022:

On 1-27-22, at 5:47PM, a call came out for a suspicious subject in a vehicle in the parking lot of O'Reilly's Auto Parts located in the 14900 block of Pacific Avenue. Deputies arrived on the call at 5:51PM.

Deputies contacted the subject in the vehicle and radioed shots were fired at 5:56PM. Deputies rendered aid to the suspect and he was transported to the hospital. The suspect later died at the hospital. One deputy received minor injuries not related to gunfire.

An investigation into the officer involved shooting was initiated by the Pierce County Force Investigation Team (PCFIT). Further details on the officer involved shooting will be released as they become available.

Pierce County, WA February 3rd, 2022: Active Investigation. No updates to report.

Pierce County, WA February 10th, 2022: Update below.

Investigators have reviewed six different video perspectives, analyzed witness statements and forensic evidence regarding the shooting involving three Pierce County Sheriff's Deputies on January 27th. Based on the totality of the investigation, the circumstances leading up to the shooting are as follows:

For Immediate Release 5:00 p.m. PST, February 18, 2022

On January 27, 2022, at 5:47 pm, three Deputies responded to a 911 call of a subject slumped in a parked minivan in front of a business in the 14900 block of Pacific Ave South. Upon arrival they contacted 39-year old Jerome Holman.

Minutes into the contact a fellow deputy suspected the van Mr. Holman was in possession of may be stolen. This was based on the fact the two license plates on the van did not match the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), although they appeared to be the same make and model.

Mr. Holman, who had initially opened the driver's door, attempted to close it while starting the van. Deputies feared Mr. Holman was going to attempt to flee and the deputy attempted to physically stop him from driving away. Mr. Holman accelerated in reverse, striking the deputy with the open door with enough force to drag and throw him to the ground a distance of approximately thirty feet. Mr. Holman then executed a high speed u-turn, narrowly missing the downed deputy and subsequently collided with a marked Pierce County Sheriff's patrol vehicle. He then positioned his vehicle in such a way, that had he accelerated, the deputies were at risk of being struck. It was at this point the involved deputy fired six times from his department issued handgun, striking Mr. Holman five times.

Investigators have learned the license plates on the van in possession of Mr. Holman had been switched and belonged to a similar type of vehicle, but had not been reported stolen. Investigators are working to determine the identity of the registered owner.

In the following weeks, the entire investigation will be formally presented to the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office for review.

Pierce County, WA February 17th, 2022: Active Investigation. No updates to report.

Pierce County, WA February 18th, 2022: Update below

The Pierce County Sheriff's Department has identified the deputies as:

Involved:

Deputy Jordan Williams a 34 year old male with 4 years of service.

For Immediate Release 5:00 p.m. PST, February 18, 2022

Witness:

Deputy Devin Ditsch a 25 year old male with 10 months of service

Deputy Timothy Tan a 24 year old male with 2 ½ Years of Service.

Please contact Lt. Chris Lawler for additional information.

Lt. Lawler can be contacted at the numbers listed below for more information;

Office 253.830.5011

Cellular 253.606.6981

Fax 253.830.5069

clawler@cityoflakewood.us



For Immediate Release 5:00 p.m. PST, February 18, 2022