



Press Release

Pierce County Sheriff's Department

**Pierce County, WA March 31st, 2023:
Active Investigation. No updates to report.**

Use of Deadly Force Investigation 03/24/2023. PCFIT activated for death investigation.

Pierce County, WA. March 24, 2023:

On March 24th, 2023 members of the Pierce County Force Investigation Team responded to the 1900 block of 112th Street E in unincorporated Pierce County to investigate a report of an officer involved shooting. While the investigation is still in the preliminary stages, the following synopsis was developed after interviewing civilian witnesses, witness officers, dispatch CAD notes, and physical evidence at the scene.

On March 24th, 2023, at approximately 0911 hours, Pierce County Deputies were dispatched to a business for an employee that had been dismissed from his job the prior day and was now there making threats. The suspect made threats to shoot up the bar and the employees. The suspect had walked away prior to Deputies arriving. Probable cause was established for Felony Harassment/Threats.

Just before 1000 hours, Deputies spotted the suspect and attempted to make contact. The suspect continued to walk away and was approaching the area of two schools that were in session. At some point in time, the suspect produced what appeared to be a hand grenade and pulled the pin, keeping the grenade in his hand. Attempts to stop him using less lethal projectiles were not successful at which time the suspect produced a handgun. It was at this time that a Deputy involved shooting occurred. An explosives response team arrived to render the grenade safe to allow medics to

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render aid to the suspect. The suspect, an adult white male in his mid-20's, was declared deceased at the scene.

The ongoing investigation will be conducted by PCFIT with subsequent weekly press releases.

Please contact Sgt. Charles Porche for additional information.

Sgt. Porche can be contacted at the numbers listed below for more information;

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