

08-01-2019

LASD Deputy-Involved Shooting (DIS) at 7121 Brynhurst Avenue, Los Angeles.

The following information is based on facts determined from an investigation into the incident described. The investigation is ongoing and as witnesses are interviewed, evidence is analyzed and reports are reviewed, our understanding of the facts may change. The details described below accurately reflect the facts as we currently know them.

On August 1, 2019, at approximately 1:00 a.m., a South Los Angeles Station Deputy, working alone, observed an SUV near Prairie Avenue and Century Boulevard. The deputy noted that the vehicle had expired registration and attempted to conduct a traffic stop, however the vehicle failed to yield and drove northbound on Prairie Avenue. The deputy followed the vehicle from a distance, as it traversed several streets. Eventually, the deputy was able to get behind the vehicle and again attempted to conduct a traffic stop.

The vehicle briefly yielded near 71st Street and Brynhurst Avenue as the front passenger, Jamaal Simpson, a 21 year-old Los Angeles resident, fled the vehicle and ran west on 71st Street. The vehicle immediately travelled eastbound 71st Street and out of view.

The deputy stopped his patrol car and began chasing Simpson on foot. As Simpson ran westbound, he retrieved a handgun from his waistband, turned and fired one round at the deputy. A Deputy Involved Shooting occurred when the deputy returned fire. Jamaal Simpson was struck by the deputy's gunfire, and was taken into custody.

Los Angeles City Fire paramedics were immediately requested and responded to the scene. Suspect Simpson was pronounced dead at the scene.

Simpson sustained several gunshot wounds to his torso. No deputies or civilians were injured in the incident.

Suspect Simpson's loaded, .40 caliber handgun was recovered at the scene.

LASD Homicide investigators responded to the scene to conduct interviews, follow up and process the scene. Representatives from the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB), the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Justice System Integrity Division (JSID) also responded and monitored the investigation.

Once completed, the criminal investigation will be forwarded to the District Attorney's Office to determine if the force used by the involved personnel violated any criminal laws. Once the District Attorney's Office investigation is completed, the LASD will evaluate the actions of the personnel within the application of policy, procedures and tactics.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call Sheriff's Homicide at 323-890-5500. Anonymous tips may be received through CRIMESTOPPERS at 800-222-8477.

***** UPDATE *****

The employee involved in the deputy involved shooting has been identified as Deputy Gregory Van Hoesen.