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PALECIIRT Investigates Officer-Involved Shooting in Pullman

PULLMAN, Wash. – The Palouse Area Law Enforcement Critical Incident Investigative Response Team (PALECIIRT) is investigating an officer-involved shooting that occurred on the Washington State University (WSU) campus in Pullman on Wednesday morning.

Washington State University Police Department (WSU PD) officers responded to a reported disturbance in a campus dorm at 11:22 a.m. The two responding officers contacted a man believed to be related to the disturbance.

During the interaction, the responding officers utilized verbal communications and less lethal tools prior to the lethal use of force. No one sustained injuries during the use of lethal force.

The man was taken into custody without further incident and transported to a local hospital for evaluation.

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) will be the lead investigating agency in this incident. All future media communications regarding this incident will be provided through the WSP Government and Media Relations (GMR) Division in Olympia, Wash.

This update is required in compliance with WAC 139-12, which mandates weekly updates be sent out by the lead investigative agency in investigations where a Washington State Peace Officer uses deadly force in the capacity of his or her law enforcement duties. These updates are required even if no new information is available at the time of the update.

With the passage of <u>Washington State Initiative 940</u> in 2018, and <u>Substitute House Bill 1064</u> in 2019, incidents where the use of deadly force by a peace officer results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm require an independent investigation. This investigation must be conducted in the same manner as a criminal investigation and state law now requires an "independent investigation" completely independent of the involved agency.

Per WAC 139-12, the IIT is unable to release any criminal history related to the individual, which includes the circumstances surrounding the initial contact, which prompted the law enforcement response. This information can only be released if specifically requested by the media, and is able to be released consistent with the Public Records Act Chapter 42.56 RCW.

Weekly updates will be provided as the investigation continues. The policies and operating procedures of the IIT are available to the public at: https://www.wsp.wa.gov/independent-investigation-team/.

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