

05-29-2020

LASD Deputy Involved Shooting (DIS) at 1752 West Avenue K, Lancaster

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 May 29, 2020, at approximately 7:49 pm, two deputies from Lancaster Station were patrolling the 1700 block of West Avenue K when they saw Robert Colvin, a 39 year-old transient of the Lancaster area, walking west on the south sidewalk. The deputies recognized Colvin from previous contacts and had recently been told by a citizen that Colvin was in possession of a gun. The deputies also knew that Colvin was being supervised by the Probation Department after his release from prison (PRCS).

As the deputies drove alongside Colvin to contact him, Colvin quickly turned and bladed his body to the deputies, while he made a motion with his hands to the front of his waist area. Believing that he was arming himself, the passenger deputy quickly exited the patrol vehicle and wrapped his arms around Colvin's chest to control his arms. The driver deputy exited and saw that Colvin was holding a handgun in his right hand. The driver deputy yelled "gun!" and grabbed hold of Colvin to assist, but Colvin continued to struggle in an attempt to break free.

During the struggle, the deputies lost their balance while being forced backward by Colvin. To create distance, the passenger deputy pushed Colvin away while falling back to the ground. Once Colvin was free, he began to turn toward the passenger deputy with the handgun and a deputy involved shooting occurred. Robert Colvin was struck by the gunfire, fell to the ground, and was taken into custody.

Colvin was treated at the scene by Deputies and Los Angeles County Fire Department Paramedics and transported to Antelope Valley Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Suspect Colvin sustained a total of eight gunshot wounds to his torso and upper body extremities. No deputies or other civilians were injured in the incident.

Investigators recovered a black metal pellet gun, which was a replica of a "Colt" semi-automatic pistol, from 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) and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) also responded to view the incident scene.

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 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.