

11-12-2021

LASD Deputy-Involved Shooting (DIS) in the 5700 block of Whittier Boulevard, Commerce

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 November 12, 2021, at approximately 3:52 AM, East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station received a 9-1-1 call regarding a suspicious person at a gas station at the corner of Whittier Boulevard and Simmons Avenue in Commerce. The caller reported a male was at the location lighting fires at the gas pumps.

A deputy, working a one-person patrol car, arrived within minutes and contacted Franklin Moran, a 25-year-old male, and Wendy Flores de Roque, a 40-year-old female. The couple were standing next to a parked Chevrolet Tahoe in the southwest corner of the gas station.

The deputy ordered Moran to walk to his patrol car and place his hands on the hood of his car. Moran did not comply; instead he remained standing near the parked Tahoe and placed his hands on the top of his head. As the deputy approached Moran, Flores de Roque remained standing next to the open driver's door of the Tahoe.

The deputy took hold of Moran's hands, and Moran instantly spun around and grabbed onto the deputy's holstered duty weapon with both hands. The deputy struggled to keep his gun in his holster as Moran attempted to remove it. As this was occurring, Flores de Roque retrieved a knife and attempted to stab the deputy. The deputy fell backward and landed on his back. Flores de Roque continued to swing the knife at the deputy, striking him once in the face, while Moran continued to attempt to remove the deputy's duty weapon from the holster. The deputy retrieved his back-up gun from another pocket and a deputy-involved shooting occurred.

Moran and Flores de Roque were struck by gunfire. Additional deputies arrived on scene and provided medical aid to both until the arrival of Los Angeles County Fire Department paramedics, who continued lifesaving efforts. Paramedics pronounced Flores de Roque dead at the scene. Moran was transported by ambulance to a nearby hospital where he was treated for non-life threatening injuries and medically cleared for booking.

The deputy was transported to a nearby hospital where he underwent medical treatment for a laceration and traumatic injury to his face and was later released.

There were no other persons injured during this incident.

A folding knife, approximately 10 inches in length, was recovered at the scene.

LASD Homicide investigators responded to the scene to conduct interviews, follow up and process the scene. Representatives from the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB), 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 Jacob Dominguez.