

04-01-26

LASD Deputy-Involved Shooting (DIS) on the 1400 block of South Downey Road, East 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 April 1, 2026, at approximately 1:32 a.m., East Los Angeles Station deputies responded to a call of a suicidal person armed with a handgun inside his residence, with family members present, in the 1400 block of South Downey Road, East Los Angeles. The call was updated to indicate the male was shooting inside the residence. The male was later identified as 29-year-old Erik Torres.

Upon arrival, deputies developed a tactical plan to approach the residence and evacuated the family to safety. During the incident, deputies observed Torres at the threshold of an exterior door armed with a handgun. Deputies requested an armored vehicle, which was positioned in the residence's driveway while they continued efforts to de-escalate the situation.

Torres ultimately exited the residence armed with a handgun and discharged it, at which time a deputy-involved shooting occurred.

Torres was struck by gunfire and fell to the ground. Deputies approached and rendered medical aid until the arrival of Los Angeles County Fire Department personnel. Torres was pronounced dead at the scene.

No deputies or other persons were injured during this incident.

A 9mm blank-firing handgun, designed to only fire blank cartridge casings, with a loaded magazine, along with several expended blank cartridge casings, was recovered at the scene.

**Following notification by local authorities, the California Department of Justice's California Police Shooting Investigation Team deployed to the incident scene. Alongside other law enforcement partners, the California Department of Justice is investigating. Once the investigation is complete, it will be turned over to the California Department of Justice's Special Prosecutions Section within the Criminal Law Division for independent review. More information on the California Department of Justice's roles and responsibilities under AB 1506 is available at: <https://oag.ca.gov/ois-incidents>.**

**The employees involved in the deputy-involved shooting were identified as Deputy Aaron Cervantes, Deputy Jacob Dominguez and Deputy Marcus Ortiz.**