



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE



DATE/TIME: October 16, 2016

LOCATION: Chace and Getchell Streets

TOPIC: Officer Involved Shooting

CASE NUMBER: 16S-08694

INFORMATION:

On October 16, 2016 at approximately 3:30 am, Santa Cruz Police Officers were involved in a violent confrontation that resulted in the use of lethal force. The suspect was pronounced deceased at the scene by emergency medical crews.

The incident started at approximately 3:30 a.m. when Santa Cruz Police responded to a call of a disturbance at a home in the 200 block of Chace Street. The caller described a man "pounding" on his front door. While officers were in route, the reporting party called 9-1-1 a second time stating the subject was now at the back door of the residence and yelling that he wanted to kill everyone inside.

When officers arrived, they located the subject in the backyard of the home. Officers called him out of the backyard. In the course of attempting to take the subject into custody, he attacked the officers with a metal bow rake.

As the suspect continued to attack, he refused all repeated commands from the officers to drop the weapon. Officers deployed Tasers which were not effective in stopping the suspect. The Tasers failed to stop the attack. As the suspect continued to attack with the metal bow rake, lethal force was deployed. One of the officers fired at the suspect with their department issued handgun. Officers rendered first aid to the suspect until the arrival of emergency medical crews.

The 32 year-old suspect's identity is not being released at this point.

The county-wide Critical Incident Protocol was enacted with management from the Santa Cruz Police Department, Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office and Santa Cruz County District Attorney's Office. Per protocol, the decision was made that the District Attorney's Office will serve as the lead investigative agency. This protocol ensures an independent investigation.

The Santa Cruz Police Department will also conduct a separate administrative investigation. Per our policy, the officers involved are placed on administrative leave during the investigation. More details about this case will follow as information becomes available.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department at 831-420-5820.

For additional information, contact: Joyce Blaschke

Phone: (831) 420-5844

Anonymous tips can also be sent to the police department through our Tip Line (831) 420-5995, or from our Website; www.santacruzpolice.com . Tipsters can also submit an anonymous tip via our smartphone app or from an SMS text. Visit our Website for instructions.