



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED CONTINUING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING INVESTIGATIONS IN RICHLAND AND CHARLESTON COUNTIES

Agents of the S.C. Law Enforcement Division continue their investigations into two separate and unrelated officer involved shooting incidents on Wednesday in the City of Columbia and in the early morning hours of Thursday in Charleston County.

The first incident took place late Wednesday afternoon when one man was killed in a confrontation with officers from the City of Columbia Police Department.

Officers were investigating reports of vehicle break-ins when the individual ran from police. At some point during the foot pursuit, the subject produced a handgun and the officer fired, striking the subject who is now deceased.

The second incident took place in Charleston County after law enforcement received a call regarding suspicious activity in the area of Parkdale Avenue and Savannah Highway. Members of the Charleston Police Department and Charleston County Sheriff's Office responded to the area. After canvassing the area on foot, a suspect was located and gunfire was exchanged.

The suspect was apprehended moments later and neither the suspect nor officers were injured.

SLED conducts law enforcement officer involved shooting investigations at the request of the agency involved in the incident. These independent investigations follow SLED's guidance in conducting interviews along with the gathering and analysis of forensic evidence. Interviews are being conducted with the responding officers and others.

Information gathered in the SLED investigations of these incidents will be summarized in case file reports to be submitted to prosecutors.

These are ongoing investigations. No other information about the cases will be disclosed by SLED at this time. SLED will defer to the City of Columbia Police Department, Charleston Police Department and Charleston County Sheriff's Office for any information about their officers.

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The incidents in Richland and Charleston Counties are the 9th and 10th officer involved shootings in South Carolina in 2020. It is the first incident this year involving the City of Columbia Police Department, the first involving Charleston Police Department and the second incident involving Charleston County Sheriff's Office. In 2019 there were 45 officer involved shootings in South Carolina; one involved the City of Columbia Police Department, one involved the Charleston County Sheriff's Office and none involved the Charleston Police Department.

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