



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN AIKEN COUNTY

Agents of the S.C. Law Enforcement Division are investigating an incident from Saturday night where shots were exchanged between a man and law enforcement from the Aiken County Sheriff's Office and Aiken Department of Public Safety (DPS). Law enforcement was in the process of conducting a traffic stop to apprehend a possible suspect involved in a homicide when the shooting took place. The suspect was shot during the incident and has been taken to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries. No other injuries were reported.

SLED conducts law enforcement officer involved shooting (OIS) investigations at the request of the agency involved in the incident. When requested to investigate an OIS, SLED's goal is to conduct a thorough, independent criminal investigation as timely as is possible under the circumstances. SLED investigators will conduct interviews with all potential witnesses in this matter, including the involved officers and the individual in question. Further, SLED will collect all relevant evidence and will forensically test such evidence as needed.

Information gathered in the SLED investigation of the incident will be summarized in a case file report to be submitted to prosecutors.

This is an ongoing investigation. As such, no other information about the case will be disclosed by SLED at this time. SLED will defer to the Aiken County Sheriff's Office and Aiken DPS for any information about their deputies and officers.

The incident in Aiken County was the 33rd officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2020. It is the second this year involving Aiken County Sheriff's office and the first involving Aiken DPS. In 2019, there were 45 officer involved shootings in South Carolina; none involved the Aiken County Sheriff's Office or Aiken DPS.

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