



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN LAURENS COUNTY

Agents from the S.C. Law Enforcement Division are investigating an incident from Sunday in which shots were exchanged during a confrontation between a man and deputies from Laurens County Sheriff's Office. No one was shot in the incident and no injuries are being reported. The suspect was taken into custody and transported to a local hospital for evaluation as a precautionary measure.

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. 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 Laurens County Sheriff's Office for any information about their officers.

The incident in Laurens County was the 38th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2020. It is the first this year involving Laurens County Sheriff's Office. In 2019, there were 45 officer involved shootings in South Carolina; one involved the Laurens County Sheriff's Office.

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