



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN CHESTER COUNTY

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division are investigating an incident from Monday evening in which shots were exchanged between an armed man and officers from the Chester County Sheriff's Office. Deputies attempted to conduct a traffic stop of a vehicle at a closed restaurant in Richburg. The driver proceeded to evade law enforcement and led deputies on lengthy chase during which gunfire was exchanged. Multiple law enforcement vehicles were struck by the subject's gunfire. The armed subject crashed his vehicle and fled on foot into a wooded area. Law enforcement continues to search for the suspect at this time. A female passenger in the subject's vehicle was taken into custody following the wreck. One deputy received minor injuries during the incident. No other deputies were injured. The extent of any other injuries is currently not known.

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 Chester County Sheriff's Office for any information about their deputies.

The incident in Chester County was the 15th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2021. In 2020, there were 49 officer involved shootings in South Carolina; one involved the Chester County Sheriff's Office.

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