



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN HORRY COUNTY

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) are investigating an officer involved shooting in Horry County involving the North Myrtle Beach Police Department and a man armed with a handgun. The man was identified as William Joshua Alston, 40. Officers with North Myrtle Beach Police Department were attempting to serve outstanding warrants for domestic violence and kidnapping. After an exchange of gunfire, Alston fled. The North Myrtle Beach Police Department requested SLED to investigate the officer involved shooting. SLED and Horry County Police Department assisted North Myrtle Beach police in the search and later located Alston. Alston was found with a gunshot wound to his foot and was taken into custody. He was transported to the hospital for his injuries. No law enforcement officers were injured.

SLED conducts law enforcement officer involved shooting (OIS) investigations at the request of the agency involved in the incident or the agency with jurisdiction. 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 agents 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.

The incident in North Myrtle Beach was the 19th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2022. This is the first officer involved shooting involving the North Myrtle Beach Police Department this year. In 2021, there were 40 officer involved shootings in South Carolina. None involved the North Myrtle Beach Department.

A copy of this news release is also on SLED's website: www.sled.sc.gov

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