



## South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN AIKEN COUNTY**

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) are investigating an officer involved shooting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, in Aiken County.

Following a traffic stop, the driver involved began to drive away from the Aiken County Sheriff's deputy who had conducted the stop. The deputy fired a gun, striking the back of the vehicle. No one was injured.

SLED's investigation into this officer involved shooting is active and ongoing. As such, no other information about the case will be disclosed by SLED at this time.

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.

The incident in Aiken County was the 7<sup>th</sup> officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2023. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> officer involved shooting for the Aiken County Sheriff's Office this year.

In 2022, there were 32 officer involved shootings in South Carolina. The Aiken County Sheriff's Office had 4 officer involved shootings last year.

A copy of this news release is also on SLED's website: [www.sled.sc.gov](http://www.sled.sc.gov)

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