



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN MCCORMICK COUNTY

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) are investigating an officer involved shooting that occurred on Sunday, June 18, 2023, in McCormick County.

On Sunday morning, deputies with the McCormick County Sheriff's Office responded to 911 calls of a suspicious person around Greenfield Road and Mears Lane. Following an exchange of gunfire, a deputy was shot and an armed male subject, later identified as Obed Barba, 20, was shot and died at the scene. The injured deputy was taken to the hospital for treatment.

This is an ongoing investigation. 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 McCormick County was the 17th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2023. This is the 1st officer involved shooting for the McCormick County Sheriff's Office this year.

In 2022, there were 32 officer involved shootings in South Carolina. The McCormick County Sheriff's Office had no officer involved shootings last year.

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

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