



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, South Carolina
29221-1398

Henry D. McMaster, Governor

Mark A. Keel, Chief

Tel: (803) 737-9000

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Renée Wunderlich
Director of Public Information
(803) 260-3020
rwunderlich@sled.sc.gov

SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN LAURENS COUNTY

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) are investigating an officer involved shooting which occurred on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 in Laurens County.

Deputies with the Laurens County Sheriff's Office responded to an area where residents reported recent shootings. When deputies arrived in the area around Satterwhite Road, they encountered an armed male subject. The subject ran away from deputies into a wooded area. Deputies in search of the armed subject encountered him near railroad tracks. During the encounter, the subject was shot and transported to the hospital for medical treatment. No deputies were injured. SLED was requested to investigate by the Laurens County Sheriff's Office.

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 Laurens County was the 29th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2023. This is the 2nd officer involved shooting for the Laurens County Sheriff's Office this year.

In 2022, there were 32 officer involved shootings in South Carolina. The Laurens County Sheriff's Office had 2 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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