



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN BEAUFORT COUNTY

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) are investigating an officer involved shooting which occurred on Saturday, November 4, 2023, in Beaufort County.

Beaufort County deputies attempted to make a traffic stop on Saturday evening near Bluffton, SC. The driver was known to Beaufort County deputies and had an active felony warrant for his arrest. A car chase ended when the subject's vehicle collided with a tree. Following an exchange of gunfire, the armed male subject died at the scene. No deputies were injured. SLED was requested to investigate by the Beaufort 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 Beaufort County was the 34th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2023. This is the 1st officer involved shooting for the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office this year.

In 2022, there were 32 officer involved shootings in South Carolina. The Beaufort 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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