

MEDIA ADVISORY
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT/OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

Date/Time: November 30, 2020 at 2:00 a.m.

Location: 2300 West Indian School Road

Incident Report Number: 2020-1950579

Suspect: Ekom Udofia, 33 year old, adult male

Officer-1: Officer Lance Wisuri #10531, 30 years-old with 2 years of service

Officer-2: Officer Ryan Hoffrichter #9060, 40 years-old with 13 years of service

Officer-3: Officer Steven Mead #7163, 52 years-old with 21 years of service

Officer-4: Officer Nathaniel Hansen #9873, 28 years-old with 3 years of service

On November 30, 2020, at approximately 2:00 a.m., Phoenix Police Officers responded to a call of a man walking in the roadway and jumping in front of vehicles in the area of 23rd Avenue and Indian School Road. The caller reported the subject appeared to be displaying symptoms consistent with drug impairment.

Officers arrived and observed the man standing in the middle of the intersection of 23rd. Avenue and Indian School Road. Officers stopped their vehicle and attempted to communicate with the male. As the man walked toward their vehicle, both officers observed that he was armed with a handgun. Officers ordered the man to drop the weapon, but he refused and continued walking towards them.

The suspect pointed the handgun at the officers and they both fired their service weapons, striking the suspect who fell and was now lying on the ground refusing to drop the handgun. Several additional officers arrived, including officers from the Tactical Support Bureau. Officers deployed less lethal munitions in an effort to gain compliance from the man who refused to drop the gun. Unfortunately, the suspect refused to comply and raised the handgun again at officers. Officers fired their service weapons at the man, stopping the threat.

Due to the proximity of the weapon to the suspect, a police canine was used to separate him from the handgun. Officers were able to approach the suspect and take him into custody. Fire personnel arrived, rendered aid and transported him to the hospital where he was later pronounced deceased.

There were no injuries to officers or any other community members. The gun used by the suspect was later determined to be a bb gun. Investigators are asking anyone who was present or in the area during this critical incident to call the Phoenix Police Department at 602 262-6151.

Information provided by:
Mercedes Fortune, Sergeant
Phoenix Police Department
Public Affairs Bureau