



Garland Police News Release

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Issue Date: September 11, 2012

Release # 2012-27

Update to Officer Shoots Fleeing Suspect

On Friday, August 31, 2012, at approximately 1:00 a.m., a Garland Police officer was involved in a lengthy pursuit of a vehicle that had also recently fled from the Sachse Police Department. The vehicle fled from police officers for approximately 30 minutes at speeds up to 100 mph and ultimately resulted in officers from several agencies becoming involved or providing assistance to the pursuing Garland officers. The pursuit ended in a cul-de-sac in a neighborhood in the City of Mesquite. Preliminary information indicated that the suspect vehicle had rammed the officer's vehicle resulting in the officer firing multiple rounds from his duty weapon one or more of which struck and killed the suspect. The suspect was later identified as 25-year-old Michael Vincent Allen of Wylie. Allen had an extensive arrest record including previously fleeing from the police in a vehicle, illegal narcotics violations, and assault bodily injury/family violence.

The officer involved in this incident, a 7-year veteran of the department, was initially placed on routine administrative leave after being involved in a deadly-force incident. Further investigation has revealed that the suspect vehicle did not initially ram the officer's vehicle as first believed and that, in fact, the officer's vehicle struck the suspect's vehicle. In addition, the investigation has indicated that the one officer may have fired as many as 41 rounds. None of the other officers at the scene fired their weapons.

On Friday, September 7, the officer who had fired his weapon was placed on extended administrative leave pending the outcome of the criminal and administrative investigations. Further, the officer was placed on restricted-duty status prohibiting him from taking any law enforcement action or acting in any capacity as a police officer whether on or off duty. In addition, the Garland Police Department took custody of all city-owned weapons that had been issued to the officer.

The Mesquite Police Department is continuing the criminal investigation of this officer-involved shooting. As in all such cases where an officer uses deadly force against a suspect, the Mesquite Police Department as the local agency in this case will submit its findings to the Dallas County District Attorney's Office and the Dallas County Grand Jury.

In addition, the Garland Police Department Internal Affairs Unit is continuing the administrative investigation, in accordance with state Civil Service statutes (Chapter 143 of the Texas Local Government Code), to determine whether or not the officer involved was in compliance with applicable departmental general orders.