

Fairfax County Police Department
Public Information Office
4100 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Va. 22030
703-246-2253. TTY 703-204-2264. Fax 703-246-4253
FCPD-PIO@fairfaxcounty.gov
www.fairfaxcounty.gov
News Release: 07/254/0214/DRG (8)
September 12, 2007

UPDATE

The suspect in this shooting has been identified as Rocky L. King, 26, of no fixed address. King remains under guard at Inova Fairfax Hospital, with non life-threatening injuries. Arrest warrants are on file charging Rocky L. King with attempted capital murder of a police officer and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. The warrants will be served as soon as he is released from the hospital.

The parallel investigations continue.

Armed Suspect Shot by Police

An armed 26-year-old man involved in a single car crash brandished a handgun and was shot by police this morning. At around 3:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 11, officers responded to Coppermine Road and Sunrise Valley Drive in the Reston area for a reported crash involving one car. At some point during the interaction, the driver of the car pointed a handgun at officers and was subsequently shot. One officer was slightly injured during this incident. The suspect was medevaced to Inova Fairfax Hospital where he is being treated for non life-threatening injuries.

The officers involved in the incident have been placed on paid administrative leave, according to the police department's standard procedures. Parallel administrative and criminal investigations are under way at this time. Criminal charges are pending.

Anyone that may have witnessed this incident, or has information regarding it, is asked to call Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS8477 or Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

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News Release: 07/304/0270/CSN/(7)
October 31, 2007

Armed Man Shot by Police

Fairfax County Police received a call from a crisis center on Wednesday, October 31 at 4:35 a.m., regarding a suicidal person. Officers went to the 9800 block of Natick Road in Burke to check on the welfare of an adult man. When they arrived, a man matching the description left in a car. Police followed the car to the 5100 block of Woodland Way, where the car stopped. Police observed the man with a handgun in his possession and began negotiations. The man pointed his gun at an officer. That officer fired one shot, striking the armed man. Edward Connor, 71, of 9835 Natick Road, was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital where he was pronounced dead. No officers were injured.

The officer involved in the shooting has been placed on routine leave pending the ongoing, parallel criminal and administrative investigations.

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News Release: 07/339/0061/CSN/(8)
December 5, 2007

Police-Involved Shooting in Fair Oaks Area

A 27-year-old man was shot by police after he produced a gun around midnight on Wednesday, December 5. Detectives from the Organized Crime and Narcotics Division were serving a search warrant in the 12100 block of Monument Drive. As the detectives entered the address, the man produced a gun and was subsequently shot in the upper body by one officer. He was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital with non life-threatening injuries. No officers were injured. The investigation is ongoing and charges are pending.

The officer was placed on routine administrative leave pending an internal and parallel criminal investigation.

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News Release: 07/010/3210/maj
January 11, 2007

Police Chief Issues Report on Officer-Involved Shooting

Fairfax County Police Chief, Colonel David M. Rohrer, has issued a lengthy, thorough and detailed "Report to the Community" today concerning the unintentional police shooting of Salvatore J. Culosi.

Colonel Rohrer says of the report, "Our goal is to be as open and transparent as possible, explain the investigative grievance and review processes, detail the extensive investigative steps taken in this case, report our findings, and highlight our actions taken and recommendations for continued actions."

On the evening of January 24, 2006, members of the Organized Crime and Narcotics Division and the Tactical Section (SWAT Team) were in the process of serving warrants for Mr. Culosi's arrest on felony gambling charges and to search his residence. During this operation, one tactical officer's gun discharged. The bullet struck Mr. Culosi in the chest. He died a short time later at Inova Fairfax Hospital.

In the weeks and months that followed, the Department conducted two investigations: a criminal investigation into possible violations of the law and an administrative or internal investigation into the officer's actions and related Departmental policies, practices, and training.

Commonwealth's Attorney Robert F. Horan, Jr., reviewed the results of the criminal investigation, found no evidence of criminal wrongdoing, and declined to prosecute the officer.

One finding from the administrative investigation detailed in the "Report to the Community" is that a "reflex-like involuntary muscle contraction...was the direct cause of the discharge and that it was unintentional. Further, the discharge occurred while the officer was performing a lawful duty as he had been trained and prescribed to do. Although the shooting was clearly unintentional, the officer was held accountable and responsible for the unintentional discharge and a violation of Department regulations was sustained against him.

The administrative investigation launched comprehensive review and analysis of Departmental policies, practices, and training such as the use, application, and understanding of high-risk tactics and the specialized units that employ them. Generally,

these policies were found to be inconsistent across the Department. Specifically in this case, the review concluded that the specific tactics used to arrest Mr. Culosi were not necessary: that lower-risk, less complex tactics could have been employed. Consequently, one of the primary recommendations of the report is the revision of those policies, guidelines and training. That revision has already produced a preliminary risk/threat assessment form for use in preparing for all planned operations with a risk potential.

A second recommendation is the creation of a command-level Use of Force Review Committee to conduct detailed examinations of the facts and circumstances of all incidents involving serious use of force. The committee has been initiated already with the selection of commanders from units and bureaus from across the Department. The next step will be to add experts and representatives from outside law enforcement agencies.

The production and release of this comprehensive written report is unprecedented for the Fairfax County Police Department. A fatal, unintentional officer-involved shooting is also unprecedented in the Department's history. Colonel Rohrer explains why this report is so important to the community and the police. "It is both incumbent upon my department and my responsibility to critically review our policies and practices, and to be as open and transparent as possible."

As the conclusion of the 27-page report states, "we fervently hope the conclusion of the painful investigative process into this tragic incident, coupled with the actions and recommendations detailed in this report fosters dialogue between the community and the Department that leads to understanding, trust, and a stronger partnership."

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NOTE: Visit the Fairfax County Police home page <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police> to download a copy of the report.

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