Community: Officer Involved Shooting

Dear Denise Lenz,

On October 25, 2020, about 9:15PM, San Leandro Police Officers attempted to initiate a traffic stop on a Silver Sedan for traffic violations in the area of 148th Avenue and Wake Avenue. The sedan failed to stop, and a pursuit ensued. The pursuit continued for several blocks and ended when the Sedan stopped near the intersection of 137th Avenue and School Street. The driver of the sedan immediately ran away on foot and fled into backyard of a residence in the 1700 block of 137th Avenue. A firearm was discovered during the search of the sedan. Additional San Leandro Police Officers responded to area and, after an exhaustive search, the driver of the sedan was not located. Subsequently, the search for the driver was cancelled.

Acting on the belief that the driver of sedan was still hiding somewhere in the 1700 block of 137th Avenue, two uniformed police officers got an undercover police vehicle and began driving through the neighborhood in an effort to locate the driver. About 11:55PM, the officers were parked on 137th Avenue just east of Bancroft Avenue when unbeknownst to them an unrelated silver vehicle pulled up behind them and suddenly stopped. As the officers began to exit the undercover vehicle to contact the driver of this uninvolved vehicle, the driver, who was still seated in the driver’s seat raised a firearm
above the dashboard and in the direction of the officers. Both officers immediately saw the driver raise the firearm in their direction and used their service weapons striking the 43-year-old white man multiple times in his upper torso. Officers provided first aid to the 43-year-old man until the arrival of paramedics. He was later transported to a local hospital where he was listed in critical condition.

As with all officer involved shootings, the department will be conducting a complete multi-level review. The officers involved were placed on administrative leave which is standard protocol in any officer involved shooting. The Alameda County District Attorney’s Office will also conduct an independent investigation of the incident, as they do with all officer involved shootings that result in injury or death. No officers sustained any injuries and a semi-automatic firearm was recovered at the scene.

It remains important to note that we are in the early stages of this investigation and more information will bring additional clarity to what happened. The City of San Leandro remains committed to conducting a thorough investigation into this officer involved shooting. As part of that process, it is our intention to provide updates to the community and those impacted by this officer involved shooting in a timely manner. The San Leandro Police Department will continue to update the community regarding this incident as the investigation allows.

For updates regarding this case, please visit the City of San Leandro’s website or the San Leandro Police Department’s Facebook and Twitter pages.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact the San Leandro Police Department at (510) 577-2740.

For full details, view this message on the web.

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