

# Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

## Office of Public Information

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Joseph Lombardo, Sheriff

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sergeant Jeff Clark  
Officer Laura Meltzer  
Officer Larry Hadfield  
Officer Jesse Roybal  
Officer Michael Rodriguez

## Undersheriff Kevin McMahill Discusses December 31, 2015 OIS

Undersheriff Kevin McMahill met with the media today to discuss additional details of the December 31, 2015 officer involved shooting. At approximately 8 a.m., the U.S. Marshals began surveillance on a wanted subject, Keith Childress, at a family friend's residence located at 8350 West Desert Inn Road. Childress was wanted on outstanding warrants out of Phoenix, AZ on the charges of:

- 2 counts of Aggravated Assault
- 2 counts of Armed Robbery
- 2 counts of Kidnapping
- 2 counts of Burglary (1st degree)
- 2 counts of Theft

At approximately 2 p.m. Childress was observed exiting the apartment with a family friend and was seen walking towards a vehicle. As the U.S. Marshals moved in to take Childress into custody, he fled the area on foot. Assistance from the LVMPD was requested by the U.S. Marshals as the initial foot pursuit began. It was reported to the LVMPD by the U.S. Marshals that Childress was wanted for attempted murder.

Officers requested the assistance of K9 and the Air Unit in addition to establishing a perimeter in the area to contain Childress. A citizen called in that Childress was last seen in the backyard of a residence located on Palace Heights Avenue. The Air Unit was able to observe Childress jumping over backyard walls and directed the arriving officers to his location. LVMPD Sergeant Robert Bohanon arrived and located Childress walking in the street in the 8300 block of Gilded Crown Court. Sergeant Bohanon gave Childress numerous commands to stop, which he did not, and he continued to the front of 8335 Gilded Crown Court, and stood behind a front porch pillar.

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Sergeant Bohanon, LVMPD Officer Blake Walford, and two U.S. Marshals took positions of cover at a residence directly to the east of Childress. Sergeant Bohanon saw what he believed to be a firearm in Childress' right hand. Sergeant Bohanon issued 24 verbal commands to Childress, in the span of 2 minutes and 13 seconds. Several of those commands included, "drop the gun", "get on the ground", "let me see your hands", "surrender", and "hands up, get your hands up." Sergeant Bohanon further gave Childress the command, "if you advance towards us, you will be shot."

After approximately 2 minutes, Childress began to walk towards Sergeant Bohanon and Officer Walford. Childress was told once again, "Do not walk towards us, do not walk towards us." Childress refused to follow these commands as he approached the officers with his right hand clutching an unknown object officers believed to be a gun.

Sergeant Bohanon and Officer Walford fired at Childress a total of 9 times, striking him 5 times. After being shot, Childress fell to the ground and continued to move. Officers gave Childress commands once again to drop what they believed to be a firearm, but he did not. A custody plan was immediately developed, K9 was deployed, and Childress was taken into custody. Medical attention was immediately summoned and Childress was pronounced deceased at the scene by medical personnel at approximately 2:35 p.m.

The item that Childress was holding in his hand was found to be a cell phone. The information LVMPD received from the Marshalls about Childress being wanted for attempted murder was determined to be inaccurate. A body worn camera was present and captured the officer involved shooting.

A video of today's press conference can be viewed by clicking on the following link:  
<https://youtu.be/G2Y7S5XPoQA>

This is the 16<sup>th</sup> officer involved shooting of 2015. The LVMPD Force Investigation Team is currently investigating the officers' use of force in this incident. Their findings will be forwarded to the Clark County District Attorney for review.

An examination of this incident is being conducted by the LVMPD Critical Incident Review Team. This review will focus on policy, tactics and training as it relates to this use of force.

This is an ongoing investigation. Anyone with any information is urged to contact the LVMPD Force Investigation Section at 702-828-8452. To remain anonymous, call Crime Stoppers at 702-385-5555, visit [www.crimestoppersofNV.com](http://www.crimestoppersofNV.com) or text: "CRIMENV" + tip information to 274637 (CRIMES). Message and data rates may apply.

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