

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Office of Public Information

400-B S. Martin L. King Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89106

Office (702) 828-3394 Fax (702) 828-1550



Joseph Lombardo, Sheriff

March 18, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Director Carla Alston
Sergeant Jeff Clark
Officer Laura Meltzer
Officer Larry Hadfield
Officer Jacinto Rivera
Officer Aden OcampoGomez

Assistant Sheriff Charles Hank Discusses March 15, 2019 OIS

On March 15, 2019 at approximately 9:49 p.m., LVMPD detectives and patrol officers were at the Bellagio Hotel located at 3600 S. Las Vegas Blvd, following up on a missing person case. While detectives were conducting follow up in the surveillance room, they were notified of an armed robbery in progress in the casino cage area. They observed a male, later identified as 49-year-old Michael Cohen, exiting the casino into the valet area.

Cohen attempt to escape the area in a white sedan which was parked the valet area but could not locate the keys. He then exited the vehicle and approached a black sedan which had just entered the valet area and attempted to carjack the driver. Four LVMPD officers observed Cohen in the valet area and attempted to detain him. Cohen raised his handgun, fired one round striking an officer in the chest. Officer Joaquin Escobar returned fired, striking Cohen one time. Cohen was taken into custody and medical personnel transported him to UMC Trauma, where he was pronounced decease.

The officer who was struck by gunfire was transported to UMC Trauma where he was treated and released with minor injuries due to him wearing his vest.

Through the course of the investigation, detectives were been able to determine Cohen is the same suspect who robbed the cashier cage at Bellagio in November 2017.

A video of today's press conference can be viewed by clicking on the following link:
<https://youtu.be/2CEgu6cyk-Y>

###

Don't forget to visit our web sites

www.LVMPD.com or www.ProtectTheCity.com



This is the 4th officer involved shooting of 2019. The LVMPD Force Investigation Team is conducting the investigation into the officers use of force in this incident. The findings will be forwarded to the Clark County District Attorney's Office for review.

An examination of this incident is being conducted by the LVMPD's 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 about this incident is urged to contact the LVMPD Force Investigation Team at 702-828-8452. To remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers by phone at 702-385-5555, or on the internet at www.crimestoppersofnv.com.

PO 031b 03-15-19
190300073205 AO

###

Don't forget to visit our web sites
www.LVMPD.com or www.ProtectTheCity.com