

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Office of Public Information

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Joseph Lombardo, Sheriff

August 4, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Director Carla Alston
Sergeant Jeff Clark
Officer Laura Meltzer
Officer Larry Hadfield
Officer Jacinto Rivera
Officer Aden Ocampo-Gomez

Assistant Sheriff Tom Roberts Discusses August 1, 2017 OIS

On August 1, 2017 at approximately 4:14 p.m., patrol officers from the Enterprise Area Command responded to a suspicious vehicle parked on the street in the 4100 block West Tompkins Avenue. The person reporting stated a male was passed out behind the wheel. The caller also indicated that he had been a victim of a burglary two days prior and had tracked his stolen cell phone to the area. The caller believed the person in the vehicle was the suspect.

A two officer unit arrived and located the vehicle parked on the street. Officer Richard Nelson and his partner parked their patrol car behind the suspect's truck and approached on foot. The officers contacted the suspect, later identified as 25 year old Miguel Salas, who was seated in the driver's seat. During the incident, Salas was acting suspicious and attempted to start the truck several times. Officer Nelson told Salas to exit the vehicle several times which he disregarded.

Officer Nelson and his partner then attempted to remove Salas from the vehicle. At that point, Salas pulled out a handgun that was concealed by his right leg and began firing at the officers. Officer Nelson was struck and returned fire striking Salas. Both officers retreated to cover and waited for additional units to arrive. Salas remained inside of the vehicle with unknown injuries. Arriving officers established containment on the vehicle and gave Salas numerous verbal commands through a patrol vehicle's public address system to surrender. Salas did not comply and the situation was treated as an armed barricaded suspect.

The LVMPD SWAT and Crisis Negotiation Team responded and took command of the barricaded. SWAT officers surrounded the truck with armored vehicles and then and then made a tactical approach towards the vehicle. Salas was unresponsive and was

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pronounced deceased on scene.

During the incident, Officer Nelson was taken to the UMC Trauma Center by a patrol car and treated for his gunshot wound. The second officer was shot in the gun belt during the incident but did not sustain any major injuries.

A video of today's press conference can be viewed by clicking on the following link:
<https://youtu.be/hvXDGtIRvM8>

This is the 15th officer involved shooting for 2017. The LVMPD Force Investigation Team is currently investigating the officer's 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. Tips leading directly to an arrest or indictment processed through Crime Stoppers may be eligible for a cash reward.

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