

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Office of Public Information

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Joseph Lombardo, Sheriff

August 22, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Director Carla Alston
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Officer Alejandra Zambrano

Assistant Sheriff Tim Kelly Discusses August 19, 2019 O.I.S.

Assistant Sheriff Tim Kelly met with members of the media today to discuss additional details of the August 19, 2019 officer involved shooting that occurred in the 2300 block of Casino Drive in Laughlin, NV.

On August 19, 2019 at approximately 12:49 a.m. the suspect, later identified as 69-year-old Michael Lopez, entered a casino located in the 2300 block of Casino Drive in Laughlin, NV with a firearm and demanded money from the cashier at the casino cage. The cashier refused to give him any money and Lopez grabbed his gun and walked away.

At approximately 1:23 a.m. Lopez approached a cashier at the cage of a casino located in the 1900 block of South Casino Drive, where he placed his gun on the counter and demanded money. This cashier also refused to give Lopez any money. A security officer was notified of the incident and the guard followed Lopez as he exited the casino. Lopez suddenly turned and fired one round at the security guard, missing him. Arriving officers located Lopez inside his truck in the parking lot. They blocked him in and began to bullhorn him to come out and surrender. Lopez refused to exit the vehicle and SWAT was notified.

SWAT and members of the Crisis Negotiation Team arrived at the scene and began to talk with Lopez for several hours to get him to surrender peacefully. At approximately 7:39 a.m., Lopez reached into the back seat of his truck, pulled his gun and ran towards the SWAT officers with the gun pointed in their direction. Officers fired multiple rounds which struck Lopez and he was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A video of today's press conference can be viewed by clicking on the following link:
<https://youtu.be/9AudwyVyDbQ>.

This is the 13th officer involved shooting of 2019. The LVMPD Force Investigation Team is

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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.

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.

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