

# 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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## Undersheriff Kevin McMahon Discusses August 29, 2015 O.I.S.

LVMPD Undersheriff Kevin McMahon met with the media today to discuss additional details of an August 29, 2015 officer involved shooting. On August 29, 2015 at approximately 3:17 a.m. LVMPD patrol officers were dispatched a business located in the 5000 block of East Craig Road to investigate a report of a larceny from a person. The suspect reportedly fled the scene in a Buick LeSabre.

During the investigation, officers were advised by the victim that the suspect vehicle was currently parked west of their location in a parking lot of the Juke Joint bar on Craig Road. Officers then went to that location and attempted to locate the vehicle.

Officer Walter Young, who was operating a plain vehicle but was dressed in a LVMPD patrol uniform, arrived in the area when he observed a possible suspect vehicle leaving the parking lot. Officer Young followed the vehicle until a marked patrol unit could conduct a traffic stop. The traffic stop was initiated when the vehicle was westbound on East Cheyenne Avenue just east of Losee Road by an officer operating a marked patrol car. Officer Young arrived in the plain vehicle to assist.

Two occupants of the vehicle were compliant and were taken into custody. A third occupant of the vehicle, later identified as 25-year old James Brown III, fled on foot from the rear passenger side of the vehicle. Brown was observed to be holding a handgun.

Officer Young chased Brown in a Northwest direction through a desert area. At two different points, Brown dropped his handgun but stopped to pick it up. During the foot pursuit, Officer Young was giving verbal commands for Brown to drop the gun but

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Brown did not comply. During the chase, Officer Young deployed his Taser in an attempt to incapacitate Brown, but it was ineffective.

When James Brown and Officer Young reached the intersection of Losee Road and East Sharp Circle, Brown turned to his left towards Officer Young with the firearm in his right hand. Officer Young fired two rounds from his duty weapon, striking Brown.

Brown was taken into custody by Officer Young as additional officers arrived and rendered first aid. Brown was transported to the UMC Trauma Center by medical personnel where he was later pronounced deceased.

Detectives subsequently recovered the cell phone belonging to the victim of the larceny inside of the suspect vehicle.

A video of today's briefing can be viewed by clicking on the following link: <http://youtu.be/DAj5wCZgri0>. A California DMV photo of James Brown, as well as a map of the area where the incident occurred, also accompanies this release.

This is the 9<sup>th</sup> officer involved shooting of 2015. At this time last year, the LVMPD had 14 officer involved shootings. The LVMPD Force Investigation Team is currently investigating the officer's use of force in this case. 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, contact Crime Stoppers by phone at 702-385-5555, or on the internet at [www.crimestoppersofnv.com](http://www.crimestoppersofnv.com).

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