

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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Assistant Sheriff Tom Roberts Discusses December 14, 2015 OIS #13

LVMPD Assistant Sheriff Tom Roberts met with the media today to discuss additional details of the officer involved shooting that occurred on December 14, 2015. At approximately 5:48 a.m. LVMPD patrol officers were dispatched to 4564 Aviation Street to conduct a welfare check on 48-year old Brenda Kimberling. A concerned citizen living in Ohio was calling due to seeing a video online of Kimberling attempting suicide by ingesting pills. The concerned citizen also indicated Kimberling may attempt "suicide by cop." Officers responded to the address but were not able to make contact with anyone at the residence and cleared the call.

At approximately 10:40 a.m. LVMPD patrol officers were contacted by a representative from a local psychiatric group. The caller indicated Kimberling had called the psychiatric office and said she had taken several pills. She also said she had guns and if officers came to her house, she would commit suicide by cop.

Officers, including a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) trained officer, contacted Kimberling by phone. During the conversation, Kimberling told the officer she had taken several pills, had guns, and if officers came to the door, she would commit suicide by cop. At approximately 11:33 a.m. Kimberling walked out of the front door, pointed a handgun at officers who were behind cover, and went back inside the residence.

Officers from the LVMPD SWAT Team and Crisis Negotiators responded to the scene and continued to communicate with Kimberling who made statements that she wanted to get in a gunfight with officers. A constant communication line had been kept with Kimberling and she became less coherent, slurring her words to negotiators.

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A plan was developed to breach Kimberling's door while she was believed to be asleep. After the breach, Kimberling woke up and again exited the residence with a handgun, pointing it at officers in the area, and immediately went back inside. Negotiators continued to try to communicate with Kimberling via phone and public address.

At approximately 1:39 p.m. Kimberling said she would shoot herself in front of officers. At 1:48 p.m. Kimberling exited the residence with a shotgun and placed it under her chin and attempted to manipulate the trigger but was unable to. Kimberling took the shotgun away from her chin and pointed it at SWAT officers. At that time, two SWAT snipers fired, striking Kimberling. The tactical medic immediately rendered medical aid, but she was pronounced deceased on the scene.

A video of today's briefing can be viewed by clicking on the following link:
<https://youtu.be/E9if3KDHFG4>

This is the 13th 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, contact Crime Stoppers by phone at 702-385-5555, on the internet at www.crimestoppersofnv.com, or text CRIMENV plus tip information to 274637 (CRIMES). Message and data rates may apply.

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