

Office Of Internal Oversight Review
KEY CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUTCOMES OF A CATEGORICAL USE OF FORCE INCIDENT
Officer-Involved Shooting— 3675 Needles Highway, Laughlin, NV on January 31, 2014

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to publish key conclusions, recommendations and outcomes of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's internal review of this incident. There are a variety of actions that can be taken administratively in response to the Department's review of a deadly force incident. The review may reveal no action is required or determine additional training is appropriate for all officers in the workforce, or only for the involved officer(s). The review may reveal the need for changes in department policies, procedures, or rules. Where departmental rules have been violated, formal discipline may be appropriate. The goal of the review is to improve both individual and the agency's performance.

Synopsis of Event:

On January 31, 2014, at 2258 hours, Dispatch received a 911 call from the South Pointe Market, located at 3675 Needles Highway. The clerk advised he had just been robbed at gunpoint by a white male adult, wearing dark clothes, sunglasses, and a mask. The clerk believed the suspect was the same individual who robbed him at the store earlier in the month.

Officer Solorio and another officer were assigned to the incident. As Officer Solorio arrived in the area, he observed a white male adult wearing dark clothing emerge from behind the business complex where the robbery had just occurred. The male, later identified as Zachary Andrews, quickly crossed James A. Bilbray Parkway towards a bus stop.

Officer Solorio initiated a person stop and ordered Andrews to the front of his patrol vehicle. Andrews complied and walked to the front of Officer Solorio's marked patrol vehicle with his hands in the air. As Officer Solorio began to move around Andrews, Andrews spun around and retrieved a gun from his waistband. Andrews placed the gun to his own head and began to walk toward Officer Solorio in the middle of the roadway, yelling.

Officer Solorio immediately drew his firearm while attempting to keep his distance from Andrews. Officer Solorio ordered him to drop the gun; however, Andrews refused and started to close the distance on Officer Solorio. Officer Solorio realized that he was backed into a tall block wall, leaving him nowhere to retreat. When Andrews was approximately 13 yards away, Officer Solorio fired two rounds, both striking Andrews.

Andrews fell to the ground where he was taken into custody by arriving officers. Medical was requested and arrived, Andrews was pronounced deceased on scene.

The Criminal Investigation:

LVMPD FIT conducted the criminal investigation of this incident. Their investigation was submitted to the District Attorney's Office for review. In their examination of the FIT case submission, the

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District Attorney's Office determined that, "Based on the review of the available materials and application of Nevada law to the known facts and circumstances, it has been determined that the actions of the officers were reasonable and legally justified."

LVMPD's Critical Incident Review Process and Internal Review:

1. The matter involving officers Solorio was heard by the Critical Incident Review Process/Use of Force Review Board on February 19, 2015. The Board's finding was, "Administrative Approval." The Use of Force Review Board determined the officer's actions were within policy.