

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Office of Public Information

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Joseph Lombardo, Sheriff

November 22, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Director Jamie Ios
Sergeant Miguel Garcia
Officer Larry Hadfield
Officer Aden Ocampo Gomez
Officer Misael Parra

Assistant Sheriff Lazaro Chavez Discusses November 17, 2021 OIS

On November 17, 2021, at approximately 11:25 a.m., the LVMPD received three robbery-related reports in close succession in the northwest side of town. In the first event, the suspect, later identified as Steven Thomas, 36, committed an armed robbery to a citizen and stole his vehicle. The second event took place shortly after when Thomas entered a convenience store and demanded money using a firearm. The third event occurred at a bank where Thomas entered and committed an armed robbery.

Sergeant Graham and Officer Lukac were responding to the area and observed Thomas driving the stolen vehicle on Tenaya Way approaching West Cheyenne Avenue. Sergeant Graham pulled in behind Thomas who stopped the vehicle in the 3300 block of Tenaya Way. Thomas exited the vehicle and began to pull out a handgun, prompting Sergeant Graham to accelerate and strike him with his patrol vehicle. Officer Lukac pulled up immediately after and exited her patrol vehicle shouting verbal commands for Thomas to drop the gun. Thomas refused to drop the handgun and advanced toward Officer Lukac who fired until he stopped.

A video of the briefing can be viewed by clicking on the following link:
<https://youtu.be/fAsW1RBIaQ0>

This is an ongoing investigation.

An examination of this incident is being conducted by the LVMPD Critical Incident Review Team. This review focuses on policy, tactics, and training as it relates to this use of force.

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