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Officer-Involved Shooting Update

GREENBELT, MD- On July 26, 2022, the internal investigation into the Plateau Pl officer-involved shooting was closed, finding that the officers' use of force was within departmental policy.

Additionally, on June 21, 2022, the Greenbelt Police Department received a letter of declination from the Office of the State's Attorney for Prince George's County declining to prosecute officers for their actions during the officer-involved shooting on Plateau Place on May 2, 2022.

"The internal investigation and the letter of declination demonstrates that the actions of our officers were justified. The officers reacted to a quickly unfolding set of events which left little time to talk to the subject in a meaningful way. As this incident unfolded, the officers were able to immediately shift to providing medical care, which likely saved Littlefield's life," said Chief Richard Bowers.

The officers involved, Acting Sergeant Troy Arnold and Officer Eric Thomas, have returned to full duty after initially being placed on paid administration leave, which is standard practice for officer-involved shootings.

Kenneth Lee Littlefield was arrested by the Prince George's County Police Department and charged with first degree assault, second degree assault, dangerous weapon with the intent to injure, and concealing a dangerous weapon. The Prince George's County Police Department Homicide Unit conducted the investigation into Littlefield's actions at the request of the Greenbelt Police Department.

OIS INCIDENT SUMMARY:

On May 2, 2022 at approximately 10:29 a.m., the Greenbelt Police Department received a call for service in the unit block of Plateau Pl for the report of a suicidal adult male.

The investigation revealed that as officers approached the residence and made contact with the adult male caller, 46-year-old Kenneth Lee Littlefield, they observed a knife with an approximately 6-inch blade in the subject's hand and gave him multiple commands to drop the knife. The man then rapidly exited the residence towards the officers and raised the weapon. At that time, both officers discharged their weapons resulting in Littlefield sustaining injuries. He was transported to the hospital.



The incident is approximately 21 seconds long from the first knock on the residence door to the last shot fired. 10 shots were fired in total, with both officers firing five rounds each.

At the time of the incident, the Maryland Attorney General's Office Independent Investigations Unit was contacted and declined the case based on the nature of the Littlefield's injuries.

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