



Tulare Police Department

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Month day, 2018

The following information is based on a preliminary, ongoing investigation which continues to evolve as investigators interview witnesses, review physical and electronic records if available, and analyze forensic evidence. The Department's understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional evidence is collected and analyzed

Interim Chief Barry Jones statement:

First and foremost the seriousness of the situation does not escape us, and this is a very tragic incident where a human being lost their life.

This is a recap of what we know at this point.

Tulare Police Dispatch received a 911 call reporting a black male adult, wearing a white shirt and blue shorts, that was assaulting a bus driver in the 600 block of North Cherry St.

The subject walked south on Cherry St. where he was first contacted by an officer.

The officer advised the subject was not compliant with orders and shortly after advised he was in a fight with the subject. Tulare Dispatch received numerous calls from citizens driving by advising the subject was striking the officers.

The subject then ran west on Cross Ave where he was contacted by the second officer. The officer deployed his department issued TASER but it was ineffective.

The officers advised they were fighting with the subject again. The subject broke free and an officer utilized his baton and the other attempted to administer his pepper spray. During this altercation the subject gained control of the officers baton and that is when the shots were fired.

First aid was rendered until EMS arrived where they transported the subject to a local hospital.

Both officers received injuries, one has a broken nose and the other received cuts and bruises to his face. The officers were treated for these injuries and released. Both officers will require follow up appointments for their injuries.

One officer has been employed as a peace officer for approximately 10 years and the other has been employed for approximately 3 years.

The scene was secured and the Tulare County Sheriff's Department was asked to conduct the investigation.

The subject has been identified as Jontell Reedem, 27 of age, of Tulare.

The case is being investigated by the Tulare County Sheriff's Department and our officers have been placed on administrated leave pending the outcome of the investigation.

We are aware of the video that shows part of the incident and understand that there are still a number of questions surrounding this incident. The Tulare Police Department has policies in place to investigate such incidents it is important to be patient with the investigation to allow investigators and staff to determine if these officers performed their duties within policy. We look forward to being transparent about this once the investigation is completed and we have no further information to provide.

Anyone with additional information regarding this incident is urged to call the Tulare Police Department at any of the following numbers:

- Days, Nights and Weekends at (559) 684-4290
- Anonymously 24-hours a day (559) 685-2300 Ext: 4445
- Online at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/webtipstart.aspx>

Contact Us

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency: (559) 685-2300 Ext: 3454

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