



## City of Oshkosh Police Department

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OSHKOSH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Date: 05/22/2023  
Time: 01:45 PM  
Contact: Officer Kate Mann  
Public Affairs/ Crime Prevention Officer  
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Subject: UPDATE to Officer Involved Shooting

(Oshkosh, WI) May 22, 2023: The Winnebago County District Attorney's Office has determined that the officer's use of force was justified during the officer involved shooting that took place on March 17, 2023.

On March 16, 2023 officers from the Oshkosh Police Department were investigating a threats complaint involving a homeless female victim who was currently working at an assisted living facility as a temporary CNA in the City of Oshkosh. The complaint involved a male suspect who had taken the victim's money, car and phone. He had also struck her and threatened her with further violence. This suspect had recently been released from prison and was on parole. It was later determined that he was also wanted on a probation warrant through the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. The victim stated she felt frightened and trapped. The victim was afraid of this individual and afraid to talk to the police in person for fear that the suspect would harm her. She had spoken with her coworkers and one of them contacted OPD on her behalf. Officers spoke with the victim over the phone to gain additional information. She advised that she thought her vehicle and the suspect would be at the bars on N Main Street. Officers located the unoccupied vehicle, parked in a parking lot in the 500 Block of N Main Street. There were other vehicles parked in the parking lot including vehicles parked in each stall on both sides of the victim's car. There were also cars parked along the west side of the 500 Block of N Main Street.

Officers conducted surveillance on the vehicle and at approximately 1:30 AM, the suspect was seen returning to the vehicle. One officer positioned their marked squad car directly behind the victim's vehicle to prevent it from leaving. The suspect was seated in the driver's seat as the two officers approached the driver on each side of the vehicle. Both uniformed officers knocked on the car windows, attempting to make contact with the suspect. The suspect looked at the officer on the passenger side, then put the vehicle in reverse narrowly missing the second officer then backed into the marked patrol squad which was parked behind his vehicle.

At this time, within seconds, the second officer was directly in front of the vehicle with no area of cover or other escape routes they could have maneuvered to. The suspect had his headlights on with the officer being in the driver's expected field of vision. The officer observed the suspect looking at her and saw the suspect shift the vehicle into drive and accelerate the vehicle directly at her. Based on her proximity to the vehicle and the driver's actions, the officer was afraid for her life. She discharged her service weapon and fired 2 rounds. The suspect was struck by one round, injuring him.

The suspect then struck a concrete light pole base and a parked vehicle, ultimately coming to a final resting position. Officers helped remove him from the vehicle and began rendering medical treatment. The Oshkosh Fire Department responded to the scene and transported the suspect to a local hospital where he was treated for his wound. Later, the suspect was subsequently transferred to the custody of the Wisconsin Department of Corrections for an outstanding warrant for a parole violation. He is currently in the Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility in Milwaukee, awaiting a parole violation hearing.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigations conducted a thorough and complete investigation by identifying all relevant evidence to determine the facts of the case. Once they completed their investigation, they submitted their report to the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office who reviewed the investigation and evidence involved.

After review, the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office found that the suspect presented a significant risk to the life and safety of the officer at the time of the shooting and that the evidence was clear that the suspect drove the car towards the officer. This act reasonably put the officer in fear of imminent death or great bodily harm and her use of force was justified.

The District Attorney's Office is still reviewing the evidence regarding pending criminal charges against the suspect. Any further information related to charges, should be referred to the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office.

Due to victim rights obligations, the name of the officer involved is not being released at this time. As with all cases where there are potential criminal charges, we are not releasing the suspects name at this time.