

**CITY OF RALEIGH
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**



To: Ruffin Hall,
City Manager

From: C.L. Deck-Brown,
Police Chief

Date: September 2, 2016

Re: Preliminary Report of August 29, 2016,
Officer-Involved Shooting

An officer-involved shooting occurred on August 29, 2016, at 311 Donald Ross Drive. As is standard practice in these matters, the State Bureau of Investigation is conducting an independent criminal investigation of the shooting and will present its findings directly to the Wake County District Attorney for review. Additionally, the Internal Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department is conducting an administrative investigation of the use of deadly force by the officer. When complete, the administrative investigation will be reviewed by supervisory staff.

Both investigations are ongoing, will be thorough, and will follow the available facts and evidence wherever they lead. Based upon the information currently available to the Department, a preliminary review of the incident provides the following:

At 11:36 a.m. on Monday, August 29, 2016, a resident at 241 Donald Ross Drive called 911 to report that there was a man with a gun outside her residence and that the man had previously been told not to be there. Two police units were dispatched to investigate.

Senior Officer B.K. Burleson was the first officer to arrive on the scene. Officer Burleson spoke with the resident, who indicated that the individual with the gun was her boyfriend, Jaqwan Julius Terry. The resident said that earlier in the day she had told Mr. Terry that she did not want to see him anymore. After that telephone conversation Mr. Terry came to the residence, behaved aggressively, displayed a handgun and told her that he was not going to allow her to leave him. The resident, fearing for her safety, ran inside, locked the door and called the police. Mr. Terry, who had left the property prior to Officer Burleson's arrival, returned to the scene while Officer Burleson was speaking with the resident. When the resident pointed to Mr. Terry and identified him as the suspect, Officer Burleson asked Mr. Terry if he could have a word with him in an attempt to investigate the report of his earlier threatening behavior toward the resident. At that point, Mr. Terry turned and ran south on Donald Ross Drive. Officer Burleson identified himself as a police officer, began to pursue him while commanding him to stop, and called in a foot pursuit on the radio.

After approximately one block, Mr. Terry ran toward the north side of the residence located at 311 Donald Ross Drive, where he encountered a wooden fence. As he attempted to climb the fence Officer Bureson caught up with him and pulled him back to prevent him from entering the back yard. As Officer Bureson struggled to gain control of Mr. Terry, he gave multiple commands for Mr. Terry to stop resisting and get down on the ground. As the two struggled in a crouched position, Officer Bureson observed a handgun on the ground directly underneath Mr. Terry. He pushed Mr. Terry away in an attempt to distance Mr. Terry from the handgun. This measure proved unsuccessful, and Mr. Terry picked up the handgun and pointed it directly at Officer Bureson as Officer Bureson was attempting to stand up.

Believing that his life was in immediate danger, Officer Bureson drew his firearm and fired at approximately the same time that Mr. Terry fired at Officer Bureson. Officer Bureson was struck but continued to fire his weapon at Mr. Terry, who was continuing to point his weapon at Officer Bureson.

As Officer Bureson and Mr. Terry were exchanging gunfire, Master Officer B.S. Beausoleil arrived and saw Mr. Terry pointing a firearm at Officer Bureson. Believing that Mr. Terry posed an imminent deadly threat to Officer Bureson, Officer Beausoleil fired his weapon at Mr. Terry, who fell to the ground, still holding the firearm.

The entire exchange of gunfire among the three parties lasted approximately five seconds. Officer Bureson sustained a gunshot wound to his right leg. Mr. Terry was struck multiple times at various frontal and side locations. Officer Beausoleil was not wounded during the exchange.

Officer Beausoleil radioed for assistance as he commanded Mr. Terry to drop the gun. Additional units arrived and began to perform first aid on both Officer Bureson and Mr. Terry. A short time later, EMS personnel arrived on the scene. Both Officer Bureson and Mr. Terry were transported to WakeMed.

Officer Bureson was treated for his injuries and has been released from the hospital. Mr. Terry succumbed to his wounds and died at the hospital.

Following standard practice, both the Wake County District Attorney and the SBI were immediately notified of the officer-involved shooting. Raleigh police officers secured the area until the SBI arrived to take control of the crime scene.

Both Officer Bureson's and Officer Beausoleil's patrol vehicles are equipped with mobile video recorders (dash cams). However, since Officer Bureson never had reason to activate his blue lights, his camera was not recording. The recording from Officer Beausoleil's dash cam did not capture any images from the incident, as it occurred away from the vehicle, but it did record audio of part of the event.

Pursuant to departmental policy, Officers Bureson and Beausoleil were placed on administrative duty pending the completion of the SBI and administrative investigations.