

Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team

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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Case #: 24-ST0001
Date: February 23, 2024
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UPDATE February 23, 2024

This update is required in compliance with WAC 139-12, which mandates weekly updates be sent out by the lead investigative agency for investigations where a Washington State Peace Officer uses deadly force in the capacity of his or her law enforcement duties. These updates are required even if no new information is available at the time of the update.

SMART (Skagit-Island County) is sending out this release as an update regarding the investigation into the January 31, 2024, officer involved shooting in the 11100 block of Paine Field Way, Everett.

There are no significant developments since the February 15th, 2024, press release, the investigation continues.

The next scheduled press release will be on March 1st, 2024. If there is a significant update in the investigation information will be released prior to then.

With the passage of Washington State Initiative 940 in 2018, and Substitute House Bill 1064 in 2019, incidents where the use of deadly force by a peace officer results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm require an independent investigation. This investigation must be conducted in the same manner as a criminal investigation and state law now requires an "independent investigation" completely independent of the involved agency.

UPDATE February 15, 2024

This update is required in compliance with WAC 139-12, which mandates weekly updates be sent out by the lead investigative agency for investigations where a Washington State Peace Officer uses deadly force in the capacity of his or her law enforcement duties. These updates are required even if no new information is available at the time of the update.

SMART (Skagit-Island County) is sending out this release as an update regarding the investigation into the January 31, 2024, officer involved shooting in the 11100 block of Paine Field Way, Everett.

There are no significant developments since the February 2nd, 2024, press release, the investigation continues.

The next scheduled press release will be on February 22, 2024. If there is a significant update in the investigation information will be released prior to then.

With the passage of Washington State Initiative 940 in 2018, and Substitute House Bill 1064 in 2019, incidents where the use of deadly force by a peace officer results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm require an independent investigation. This investigation must be conducted in the same manner as a criminal investigation and state law now requires an "independent investigation" completely independent of the involved agency.

UPDATE February 6, 2024

This update is required in compliance with WAC 139-12, which mandates weekly updates be sent out by the lead investigative agency for investigations where a Washington State Peace Officer uses deadly force in the capacity of his or her law enforcement duties. These updates are required even if no new information is available at the time of the update.

SMART (Skagit-Island County) is sending out this release as an update regarding the investigation into the January 31, 2024, officer involved shooting in the 11100 block of Paine Field Way, Everett.

There are no significant developments since the February 2nd, 2024, press release, the investigation continues.

The next scheduled press release will be on February 13, 2024. If there is a significant update in the investigation information will be released prior to then.

With the passage of Washington State Initiative 940 in 2018, and Substitute House Bill 1064 in 2019, incidents where the use of deadly force by a peace officer results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm require an independent investigation. This investigation must be conducted in the same manner as a criminal investigation and state law now requires an "independent investigation" completely independent of the involved agency.

INCIDENT BRIEF

On Wednesday, January 31, 2024, the Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team was activated at the request of the Everett Police Department in reference to an officer-involved shooting incident. The incident began at approximately 12:27 PM on January 31, 2024 in the 11100 block of Paine Field Way, Everett.

A 911 call was received from the resident of a home in the 11100 block of Paine Field Way, Everett. The residents were reporting a family member, a 24-year-old Everett man, was in the house and had discharged a firearm twice. It was unknown at the time of the call if the discharge was accidental or intentional. Officers that responded to the address reported hearing additional shots fired inside the house as they arrived. Officers confirmed that there were no other occupants in the house. Officers began to try and communicate with the sole occupant of the home. Officers did not attempt to make entry to the home at that time.

Members of the Everett Police Department and the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office were on scene. Officers reported that the subject came out of the front door and fired at the officers. Two Deputies returned fire. No officers were hit by gunfire. The subject retreated into the residence. Members of the Region 1 SWAT team, along with Crisis Negotiators, responded to the scene. Neighbors were asked to shelter in place or they were evacuated. While on scene, officers learned that the subject also fired at a neighbor's house. This was filmed by a neighbor.

At approximately 11:30 PM the subject was removed from the residence by officers. The 24-year-old Everett man was taken to Harborview Medical Center to be treated for his injuries. Some of his injuries were consistent with gunshot wounds. It was unclear if the gunshot wounds were self-inflicted or a result of the initial exchange between deputies and the subject.

Investigators from the Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team are continuing the investigation into this incident.

The Washington State Legislature enacted WAC 139-12-030 (2019) establishing requirements for how agencies conduct independent investigations involving police deadly force use. The intent was to enhance public trust and investigation integrity by providing independence, transparency, communication, a credible process, and credible investigators performing that process.

Within these requirements, the Independent Investigation Team (S.M.A.R.T.) is required to have Citizen Representatives assigned, Family Liaison Representatives for the involved families, determine if Tribal membership is associated, and assign a Tribal Liaison accordingly. These are required before we are able to release investigation progress to the public.

SMART is currently working to fill these requirements, and this is the reason for a delay in sharing investigative progress publicly. This, however, is not delaying critical investigative work.

Additionally, the law requires SMART's investigation to remain separate from the involved agency (Snohomish County Sheriff's Office) including the sharing of any investigation information with them until the case is filed with a prosecutor.

Skagit-Island Multiple Agency Response Team is committed to a credible process that complies with Washington State law.