



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Government and Media Relations

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WSP investigating an officer-involved shooting near Colville

Colville, Wash. – The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is investigating an officer-involved shooting incident which occurred on Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) property, State Route (SR) 395 at Auto View Road, on Friday, July 19, 2024, near Colville, WA.

At approximately 3:23 p.m., a Stevens County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) deputy contacted a male and a van at the WSDOT gravel parking lot. Shortly thereafter, an altercation ensued and the deputy employed lethal force. Resulting in the male being shot. Responding officers rendered first aid, but the male succumbed to his injuries. The deputy was not injured in the altercation.

SCSO requested CID assistance to lead the investigation into the lethal use of force, as an independent agency. Investigators from the WSP Crime Scene Response Team (CSRT), Colville Police Department, Chewelah Police Department, Kettle Falls Police Department, US Customs and Border Protection, and US Parks Service all assisted with various aspects of the investigation, to include scene security.

As the lead investigating agency, weekly updates will be provided through the WSP Government and Media Relations office in Olympia, WA.

This update is required in compliance with WAC 139-12, which mandates weekly updates be sent out by the lead investigative agency in 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.

Previous releases can be found at <https://www.wsp.wa.gov/independent-investigation-team/>.

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.

Per WAC 139-12, the IIT is unable to release any criminal history related to the individual, which includes the circumstances surrounding the initial contact, which prompted the law enforcement response. This information can only be released if specifically requested by the media, and is able to be released consistent with the Public Records Act Chapter 42.56 RCW.

Weekly updates will be provided as the investigation continues. The policies and operating procedures of the IIT are available to the public at: <https://www.wsp.wa.gov/independent-investigation-team/>.

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