



WEST ALLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrick S. Mitchell
Chief of Police

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Deputy Chief of Police

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Deputy Chief of Police

Investigative Synopsis of the Officer Involved Death (OID) of Ted Charles Schmitz

On Sunday, February 10th, 2019, the Milwaukee Area Investigative Team (MAIT) was activated to investigate an officer involved shooting death that occurred in the 800 block of School Drive, City of Waukesha, County of Waukesha, State of Wisconsin. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 175.47, the request for MAIT activation was made by the involved agency, the City of Waukesha Police Department. The deceased was subsequently identified as Ted C. Schmitz.

Agencies participating in the investigation included the West Allis Police Department, Wauwatosa Police Department, West Milwaukee Police Department, Oak Creek Police Department, South Milwaukee Police Department, Greenfield Police Department, Wisconsin State Patrol, the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory and the Waukesha County Medical Examiner.

Waukesha Police were attempting to locate Schmitz pursuant to a burglary and uttering investigation that began in January of 2019. Previous attempts to contact him, both in person and via phone, were unsuccessful. On Sunday, February 10th, 2019, an officer with the Waukesha Police Department called Schmitz and left him a voicemail message. Shortly thereafter, Schmitz returned the officer's call. During this conversation, the officer advised Schmitz there was probable cause for his arrest. Through conversation with Schmitz, the officer determined Schmitz was outside and was on School Drive. Schmitz also indicated to the officer that he was going to slit his wrists. The officer shared this information with Waukesha Police Dispatch, and he, along with other City of Waukesha officers, began to respond to School Drive in an attempt to locate Schmitz.

On Sunday, February 10th, 2019 at approximately 0039hrs, uniformed Officer Bradley Condon arrived on School Drive and located Schmitz walking east on the sidewalk on the south side of the street. Officer Condon was operating a fully marked Waukesha Police Department squad car. Officer Condon exited his squad car and Schmitz began walking toward Officer Condon and his squad. Schmitz was armed with a knife.

Officer Condon verbally identified the man as, "Ted," to which Schmitz replied, "Yeah." Officer Condon advised Schmitz to put those (the knife) on the ground. Schmitz told Officer Condon, "Shoot me." Officer Condon told Schmitz he was not going to shoot him and to put the knife down. Schmitz replied, "Fuck you." Officer Condon told Schmitz, "Ted, put the knife down." Schmitz again replied, "Shoot me."

Officer Condon ordered Schmitz to put the knife down several times. Schmitz placed his knife to his left wrist and then to the right side of his neck. Officer Condon told Schmitz, "Don't do that." Schmitz again replied, "Shoot me." Officer Condon told Schmitz that he was not going to shoot him, don't do it, and to put the knife down. Schmitz, again, told Officer Condon to "shoot him" several times.



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Schmitz threw the knife he was holding towards the ground. He was standing approximately ten feet from the front of Officer Condon's squad car. Officer Condon radioed to responding officers that Schmitz placed the knife down but requested an emergency response from officers. Schmitz continued walking toward Officer Condon's squad car.

Officer Condon ordered Schmitz to "stay right there, let me see your hands." Schmitz reached into his right rear pants pocket with his right hand and removed a stack of newspapers, throwing them in the direction of Officer Condon. Schmitz then reached into his right rear pocket and pulled out another object, later determined to be a knife, threw it on the ground in the direction of Officer Condon, and stated, "Here is another knife, fuck my hands." Schmitz then yelled, "Shoot me," as he continued moving toward the driver side of Officer Condon's squad car. Officer Condon stated, "Get back, get back or I will." Schmitz yelled at Officer Condon, "Shoot, Shoot!"

Schmitz continued moving toward Officer Condon and was within 4-6 feet of Officer Condon. Officer Condon feared Schmitz was going to attack him with another weapon or possibly try to take his weapon. Officer Condon fired his duty weapon 4 times, striking Schmitz in the chest, causing Schmitz to fall to the ground. Officer Condon radioed that shots had been fired, that Schmitz had multiple weapons and kept coming at him, requested medical assistance for Schmitz, and advised of a safe approach for responding officers. Two Waukesha County Deputies were the first responding units on scene. Officers rendered aid to Schmitz until Waukesha Fire Department personnel arrived. Schmitz was transported by medical personnel to Waukesha Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced deceased at approximately 0135hrs.

Officer Condon was not wearing a body worn camera. The squad he was operating was equipped with a video system. Officer Condon was equipped with a microphone that captured audio. The initial encounter between Officer Condon and Ted Schmitz is captured on squad video, but as Schmitz advanced on Officer Condon, the two are not in camera view. The moment of the shooting is not fully captured on squad video but audio is captured as a result of Officer Condon having his equipment activated.

This incident occurred in a short period of time. Approximately 32 seconds transpired from the moment when Officer Condon verbally identified Schmitz as "Ted," to the first shot fired. Approximately 3 seconds transpired from when Schmitz was standing in front of Officer Condon's squad car and moved toward Officer Condon, off camera view, and the first shot was fired. Officer Condon provided a formal statement to investigators. There were no law enforcement officers or citizens who witnessed the encounter between Officer Condon and Ted Schmitz.

The scene was processed by the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory. Evidence recovered during this investigation, including the knives with which Schmitz was armed, were turned over to the West Allis Police Department.