Sheriffs Deputies, State Trooper on Leave Pending Fatal Shooting Review

by Kim Guice

Four Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s deputies and one Oregon State Police trooper are on paid leave pending the review of a fatal shooting that left a La Pine man dead on Friday, September 15.

Devon Shane Linville was fatally shot by an officer at 52476 Lost Ponderosa Road in La Pine. Devon Shane Linville, 35, reportedly attacked an officer with a knife that had responded to a 911 domestic violence call. The incident took place at the home of the suspectâ€™s mother in the 52000 block of Lost Ponderosa Road in La Pine, according to a press release by the Deschutes County District Attorneyâ€™s Office.

â€œInvestigation by the Major Incident Team indicates that the officers, who responded to the 911 call on Friday September 15, used voice commands and non-lethal force before having to use their firearms,â€• the release stated.

The deputies fired four non-lethal â€œbeanbagâ€• rounds at Linville before taking lethal action. That information appears to be supported by a report from the State Medical Examiners Office released on September 18, 2006. It states that the suspect was struck by at least three â€œbeanbagâ€• rounds before being struck by an officerâ€™s bullet.

Two sheriff's deputies and one state trooper were identified as being involved in the shooting -- Deputy Tory Flory, 35, Deputy Justin Alps, 28, and Trooper William Duran, 36.

None of the officers involved were seriously injured or required medical treatment, though one officer was reported to have suffered a minor injury to his face.

Deputy Flory has been with the Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Office since 1998. That includes the time he

worked as a reserve deputy, in the jail and as a patrol deputy.

Deputy Alps has been with the department since November 2004 and has more than three years of law enforcement experience.

Trooper Duran has been with the Oregon State Police in the Bend Area Command office since December 2002. Previously, he worked as a patrol trooper out of Klamath Falls, according to officials.

All three are on paid administrative leave pending an investigation by the Major Crime Team as well as Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Office internal reviews relating to the use of force.

Two other sheriff's officers, present but not directly involved in the shooting, are also on paid leave.

Deputy Zach Neeman, 26, has been with the sheriffâ€™s office since November 2004. He was with the Scottsdale Police Department for approximately two years prior.

Lt. Myrna Homan, 48, has been with the Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Office since February 1987. Lt. Homan has over 19 years of experience in law enforcement.

Bend and Redmond police, Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Office, Oregon State Police, Oregon State Police Crime Lab, and the Deschutes County District Attorneyâ€™s Office all responded to the scene, according to the D.A.â€™s office.

In addition, the Central Oregon Major Incident Team responded to the crime scene and is continuing to investigate the incident.

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