



NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT Press Release



North Little Rock Police Department
Media Relations Bureau
Cell: (501) 227-2400
E-mail: PIO@nlrpolice.org

For Immediate Release

UPDATE

North Little Rock Officer Facing Criminal Charges in Officer Involved Shooting

North Little Rock, AR (July 29, 2024)— On July 19, 2024, at approximately 12:14 a.m., Officer Jesse Gossage, of the North Little Rock Police Department, observed a red passenger car with an expired vehicle license plate traveling in the area of Buckeye Street and East Washington Avenue. Officer Gossage activated his patrol vehicle emergency lights and siren to initiate a traffic stop. The vehicle pulled over near the intersection of East Washington Avenue and Birch Street.

The driver pulled to the side of the road, quickly exited the vehicle holding a small dark object and immediately fled on foot. Officer Gossage discharged his service weapon in the direction of the fleeing subject. Multiple shots, fired by the officer, struck an uninvolved, occupied vehicle. Additional officers responded to the scene and conducted a search for the fleeing subject. The subject was not located. There were no reported injuries associated with this incident.

Detectives were notified and responded to the scene to initiate an investigation. During the investigation, it was learned that Officer Gossage had violated North Little Rock Police Department Policy regarding Response to Resistance and the Use of Deadly Force. Officer Gossage resigned on Monday, July 29, 2024.

Following consultation with the Pulaski County Prosecutor's Office, it was determined that criminal charges would be brought against Officer Gossage. Detectives completed an affidavit, and a warrant of arrest was obtained on Monday, July 29, 2024. Officer Gossage surrendered to police and was taken into custody for one count of Criminal Attempt to Commit First Degree Battery and one count of First-Degree Assault. Officer Gossage has been transported to the Pulaski County Regional Detention Facility. He will appear in North Little Rock District Court on September 5, 2024 at 9:00a.m.

Officer Gossage was employed as a North Little Rock Police Officer for approximately 3 years and 11 months.

Chief Patrick Thessing has provided the following statement regarding the incident:

“The North Little Rock Police Department is committed to holding its officers to the highest standards of conduct and integrity. When those standards are not met, it is our duty to act decisively and in the best interests of our community. We pledge to uphold transparency and

accountability, taking every necessary step to resolve the issue and preserve the trust placed in us by the public.”

This is an active and on-going investigation. Further information will be released as it becomes available.

The information is based on a preliminary and ongoing investigation, which continues to evolve as investigators conduct interviews, review physical records and process recovered evidence. The Department’s understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional information is gathered and analyzed

#####

North Little Rock Police Investigating Officer Involved Shooting

North Little Rock, AR (July 19, 2024) – On July 19, 2024, at approximately 12:14 a.m., an Officer with the North Little Rock Police Department conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of East Washington Avenue and Birch Street.

During the traffic stop a North Little Rock Police Officer discharged their service weapon at least one time. The driver, and sole occupant of the vehicle, fled from the scene on foot. Officers conducted a search for the driver; however, the driver was not located. No injuries were sustained during this incident.

Detectives with the North Little Rock Police Department were notified and responded to the scene to initiate an investigation. This investigation is in the preliminary stages and additional details are currently being gathered.

The involved NLRPD officer has been placed on Administrative Leave per NLRPD Policy.

We encourage anyone who may have information regarding this incident to contact the North Little Rock Police Department Tip Line at (501) 680-8439 or Detective Gibbons at (501) 771-7149. Those with information can remain anonymous.

This is an active and on-going investigation. Further information will be released when it becomes available.

The information is based on a preliminary and ongoing investigation, which continues to evolve as investigators conduct interviews, review physical records and process recovered evidence. The Department’s understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional information is gathered and analyzed

#####