

JOPLIN

POLICE

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Lane Roberts
Chief of Police

Date: July 10, 2013
Origin: Department PIO
Contact: Lt. Matt Stewart
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Officer Involved Shooting--UPDATE

Both officers involved in this shooting have been cleared to return to duty. The Newton County Prosecuting Attorney has reviewed the case and determined that there was no criminal wrong doing by the officers involved. The Internal Affairs Division of the Joplin Police Department has also completed their investigation and has cleared the officers to return to duty. Both officers have also completed a psychological fit for duty test which is a standard procedure that is completed after an officer involved shooting.

One suspect is at a local hospital following a late night officer involved shooting which occurred near the intersection of 36th and Finley. A Joplin Police Officer conducted a car stop on a vehicle near the intersection of 36th and Finley at approximately 1:10 a.m.

The driver of the vehicle would not follow commands from the officer during the stop. The officer requested for additional officers to respond. As other officers arrived on scene, the driver put the vehicle in reverse and backed into a nearby empty lot. The vehicle then began driving towards one of the officers at a high rate of speed. The officer fired his duty weapon at the subject as the vehicle drove by. The vehicle also drove towards a second officer that was on scene. The second officer also fired his weapon at the vehicle.

The vehicle fled the area and officers later located it in the area of 3700 S. Ferguson. It was determined that the suspect had left the vehicle and had fled to a residence in that area that belonged to some family members. The suspect was located inside the residence, was taken into custody and was transported by EMS to a local hospital. The suspect's injuries are non-life threatening at this time.

Both officers as a matter of department policy have been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation. More information in regards to this incident will be released as it becomes available.
