FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date 2/3/2020

Officer Involved Shooting (December 19, 2019)

Public Release #2

This release is a summary of the facts known at this time. This is an active investigation. The information provided in this release is preliminary and subject to change.

Today, the Davis Police Department is releasing additional video related to an officer-involved shooting that occurred in Davis on December 19, 2019.

There are five body-worn camera videos associated with this incident. Portions of two of the videos were already released on January 2, 2020, along with telephone and radio recordings.

The Department has used redaction technology, including blurring or distorting images or audio, to obscure some portions of the recordings in order to protect the privacy interests, including medical privacy, of those involved. However, the redactions do not interfere with the viewer’s ability to fully, completely, and accurately comprehend the events captured in the recordings and the recordings were not otherwise edited or altered.

*** These videos contain graphic images and may be upsetting to some people. Viewer discretion is advised.
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLwFZol9CiZ0G-D1HvtaMeK9Y2Q0W3i1

Information Previously Released

On Thursday, December 19, 2019, at 3:41 a.m., officers from the Davis Police Department (DPD) were dispatched to 435 Avocet Avenue regarding a report from Carol Gray that her son was being verbally aggressive and making non-specific threats. The emergency phone call ended with what sounded like a physical altercation.

DPD officers arrived on scene at approximately 3:48 a.m. Within minutes of arriving, the officers saw a person, later identified by the Yolo County Coroner as Carol Gray, under a sheet inside the residence. They were able to see her through a front window. They also saw a male subject, later identified by the
Yolo County Coroner as Christopher Gray, in the front room. Officers made entry into the residence and, within minutes, shot Christopher Gray after he advanced at them with a knife.

Despite efforts by officers and responding emergency medical personnel to save both Carol and Christopher, they both died at the scene. Although the Yolo County Coroner is responsible for releasing information regarding the cause and manner of death, the death of Carol Gray is being investigated by DPD as a homicide.

Pursuant to DPD policy, there are several independent investigations relating to this incident taking place.

- Investigators from the West Sacramento Police Department and the Yolo County District Attorney’s Office are conducting an independent investigation to determine whether the involved officers used reasonably necessary deadly force relating to this incident. Their investigation will be turned over to the Yolo County District Attorney for review and findings.
- The Professional Standards Division of the Davis Police Department is conducting an investigation to determine whether the officers were in compliance with Department policies relating to this incident. The internal investigation will be reviewed by the City of Davis Independent Police Auditor.
- Detectives from the Davis Police Department are investigating the death of Carol Gray.

The investigations are complex and require detailed examination of all facts and evidence. It is normal for the investigations to take several months or more to complete.

The Davis Police Department recognizes the significance of this incident and the impact it has on our community. We are committed to providing timely information and communicating openly with our community.

Additional details and documents will be released in accordance with state law and Department policies governing the release of peace officer personnel records and audio/video recordings of critical incidents.

Links for the previously released recordings may be found at: https://www.cityofdavis.org/home/showdocument?id=14410.

Darren Pytel
Police Chief