

LEMOORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



PRESS RELEASE

On Saturday, October 7, 2017 at approximately 7:00 p.m. Lemoore Police Department responded to a call for service “of a check the welfare” and the theft of a phone, in the 800 block of Vine St. in Lemoore. Upon officers’ arrival they were advised the suspect left the area. During the initial investigation it was learned the suspect was the ex-girlfriend of the individual reporting the missing cell phone. A few minutes later the suspect returned to the scene while officers were still in the area. Attempts to perform a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle were unsuccessful, and a pursuit ensued. The pursuit continued along several surface roads ultimately traveling on Highway 198 and returning to the original location of the call.

At the termination of the pursuit the suspect exited the vehicle and ran from officers. The suspect, who was armed with a large butcher knife, ran towards the victim holding the weapon in a threatening manner. Officers gave numerous commands to the suspect to drop the knife and the suspect did not comply with any of the commands.

Both an electronic control device and Police Canine were deployed but were ineffective. Officers believed the victim's life was in imminent danger and discharged his firearm wounding the suspect. The suspect was airlifted to a local hospital where she is being treated. One officer sustained minor injuries and was treated at a local hospital.

Kings County Critical Incident Team is conducting an investigation into the officer involved shooting. The investigation remains active and once completed will be turned over to Kings County District Attorney’s Office for review, as is customary for all officer involved shootings. The officers involved in the shooting have been placed on paid administrative leave consistent with department policy. No other information is available for release at this time.