



August 30, 2024

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Cleveland Heights Releases Information about August 29, 2024 Office-Involved Shooting

On Thursday, August 29, 2024, at approximately 10:02 PM., CHPD Officers responded to 1309 Yellowstone Road on a reported disturbance involving a father and his son, who was armed with a handgun and had his finger on the trigger. The son was later identified as 18-year-old Christian Alexander Thomas.

Officers were met outside the residence by two females who told them Thomas and his father were involved in a disturbance inside. They confirmed that Thomas had a handgun and had fired the weapon inside of the home.

Officers remained outside the home and heard Christian's father tell him repeatedly to take his finger off the trigger. At one point, officers observed Christian standing in the front doorway while armed with a gun.

Officers reported hearing a loud crash, followed by at least one gunshot. Christian subsequently exited the home while still holding the gun and encountered CHPD officers at the side of the house. Three CHPD officers discharged their weapons, injuring Christian.

Officers immediately rendered first aid and CPR, but tragically, Christian died from his injuries. No officers or bystanders were injured during the incident.

Officers requested EMS, and a Cleveland Heights Fire Department squad responded to the scene.

One officer reported that a handgun and a shell casing were found at the scene.

In accordance with department policy:

- The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was notified and responded to the scene. BCI will be handling the criminal investigation into the incident.
- The involved officers were placed on administrative leave.
- CHPD's Bureau of Professional Standards has launched an internal administrative investigation into the incident.

This remains an active investigation.

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