



MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Watch Commander, 805-339-4416
Release Prepared by: Commander Tom Higgins
VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: ***UPDATED*** Shooting Incident

Location: 1425 Dowell Dr.

Date/Time Occurred: 07/28/17 @ 1328 hrs

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura PD Patrol, Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura County District Attorney Office, Ventura City Fire Department

Victim(s): Aaron Drake, 47 years

Report #: 17-9915

Narrative:

The Ventura Police Department, along with investigators from the Ventura County Sheriff's Office, is investigating a shooting incident that occurred in a locker room at the Ventura Police Department. The shooting appears to be self-inflicted.

The 47-year-old adult male is a police officer with the Ventura Police Department. Other officers heard the gunshot and immediately rendered aid while personnel from Ventura City Fire and AMR were summoned to the station. The victim officer was transported to VCMC in critical condition and taken into surgery. His current condition is not known.

The Ventura County Sheriff's Office and Ventura County District Attorney Office responded and are conducting the investigation.

This is an active investigation. Any further inquiries into the investigation will be handled by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office.

No other officers were injured as a result of this incident.

UPDATED INFORMATION

The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

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The attempted suicide of a Ventura Police Officer on July 28th was a very personal and tragic event. As a means of respect for the privacy for the officer and his family, the police department withheld the name of the officer.

On August 2nd, the Ventura County Star parent company Gannett Co. of McLean Virginia, made a Public Records Request of the City for the release of the officer's name involved in the attempted suicide. While the City believes there is a strong argument not to release the name under exclusions to the Public Records Act, we have decided to release the name rather than engage in a protracted and potential costly legal proceeding which would not be in the best interest of the community we serve.

The Officer involved was Officer Aaron Drake – A sixteen year veteran of the Ventura Police Department. It is our hope the media and public respect the privacy of Officer Drake and his family during this difficult time. Because of the privacy interests involved, the City will have no additional comments on this matter.

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