

Clips: 03-20-17

Print Clips

SUBJECT: APD

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

EXCLUSIVE: Probe recommended dismissal of APD officer who shot tourist

By: Christian Boone

An Atlanta police officer currently under investigation for shooting a tourist driving a van outside the Georgia Dome was recommended for dismissal in 2015 after providing false statements about his actions in a bar fight, according to records obtained by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Officer Mathieu Cadeau kept his job, however, after then-APD chief George Turner overruled his own Office of Professional Standards and deputy chief. Both had agreed that Cadeau, 10-year APD veteran, should be terminated, records show. Cadeau has since been promoted to sergeant and is a supervisor in the field operations division, pending the outcome of the GBI's investigation into the Feb. 25 shooting of van driver, Noel Hall

“He was described to me by Atlanta police officers as a tragedy waiting to happen because he has poor judgment and a lack of impulse control,” said Atlanta attorney Dan Grossman, who reached a million-dollar settlement with the city for APD's actions in the 2009 warrant-less raid of the Atlanta Eagle gay bar. Grossman, who is not involved in the Dome shooting case, said he warned the department about Cadeau, in settings public and private, to no avail.

Cadeau was working an off-duty job directing traffic at a Supercross event downtown when he shot Hall, who was attending the annual motorcycle competition. Hall, who lives in North Carolina, says Cadeau refused to look at his pass allowing him entry into a designated pit area so

he drove around the officer. Cadeau says Hall drove towards him. Claiming his safety was compromised, Cadeau fired into the moving vehicle.

The bullet “missed my heart by a couple of inches,” Hall told Channel 2 Action News in a recent interview. His attorney, Shean Williams, noted that Cadeau shot into the driver’s side of the van, indicating his client, unarmed at the time, posed no threat.

<http://www.myajc.com/news/crime--law/exclusive-probe-recommended-dismissal-apd-officer-who-shot-tourist/YgJe6JXSH0vx1NZOk9iEUI/>

SUBJECT: APD

CBS 46

Atlanta marks notable 4-week streak without homicide

By: Dante Renzulli

ATLANTA (CBS46) -

We have a story about murder, and for once it's good news.

The city of Atlanta is in the middle of a noteworthy streak without a homicide.

City council members announced Atlanta is celebrating a notable span without a single murder within its borders — four weeks. That means we've made it through all of March and the last week of February with no murders.

Maybe you don't think four weeks is that impressive, but the city of Atlanta hasn't gone this long without a murder in more than three years. The last time this occurred was around this same time of year in 2014, four weeks starting in February, and ending in March.

A breakdown of Atlanta's six zones in 2016 shows 111 murders. Zone 3 was the deadliest, just barely edging out Zone 1, which is usually at the top of the list.

Meanwhile, Zone 2, one of the biggest areas on the map, had only three murders for the entire year.

<http://www.cbs46.com/story/34958310/atlanta-police-chief-city-on-4-week-streak-without-homicide>

Print Clips

SUBJECT: APD

WABE

Atlanta Debates When To Release Police Shooting Footage

By: Stephannie Stokes

The city of Atlanta is considering requiring police to release any videos of officer-involved shootings.

But a city council work session Thursday showed there's disagreement over one key detail: how soon after the incident the police should make the video public.

Activists want recordings released within seven business days.

"What grass roots community organizations want for council to think about is the moral imperative associated with releasing information," Tiffany Roberts, of Black Lives Matter Atlanta, said.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation, which handles Atlanta's officer-involved shootings, said it prefers to wait until witnesses have been interviewed — and that might take longer.

"We don't want to release video immediately and then have it impact upon the thoroughness of the investigation," GBI Director Vernon Keenan said.

Meanwhile, Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard said the decision of when to put out the video should be up to him. "And that is because the prosecutor has the ultimate responsibility whether to go forward with a case," Howard said

Howard said he's planning to meet with the GBI and the Atlanta police to come up with a protocol that suits all of them. Though, he expects that could take several months.

The city council recently faced pressure over the fatal police shooting of DeAundre Phillips. The GBI released video of that incident a month later.

<http://news.wabe.org/post/atlanta-debates-when-release-police-shooting-footage>

CBS Atlanta

Atlanta Bomb Squad Investigate Suspicious Package At Georgia State Capitol

By: Mike Moore

ATLANTA, GA- A police investigation has blocked roads near the Georgia Capitol building. Cops responded Monday just before 8 a.m. to a call of a suspicious substance. It was later described as a “green substance” in a bag in front of the Jimmy Carter statue. Additional emergency crews were called and arrived at the State Capitol. A HAZMAT team arrived on the scene as well.

Officers say all streets on all sides were shutdown for possible threat/suspicious packages.

Streets around the Capitol are shut down during the investigation. Washington Street at MLK Jr. Drive will remain closed for police until further notice. Not many details are known about the situation, other than that officers have begun an investigation.

The Atlanta Police Department is assisting Capitol Police with the investigation.

<http://atlanta.cbslocal.com/2017/03/13/atlanta-bomb-squad-investigate-suspicious-package-at-georgia-state-capitol/>

SUBJECT: APD

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

APD officer under investigation for annex shooting accused of assault

By: Christian Boone

An Atlanta undercover officer already under investigation for January's fatal shooting a man outside a police annex also faces an ongoing assault probe that dates back four months.

Anthony Walters, 25, alleges he was brutally beaten by Officer Yasim Abdulahad at Bulldogs on Peachtree Street last October. An APD spokesman said the department was were made aware of the incident soon after but said a thorough investigation was impossible because the alleged victim would not consent to an interview.

"The officer, along with another officer on the scene and a witness clearly state that Mr. Walters was belligerent, refused to leave the scene," said APD spokesman Warren Pickard, adding "we believe that is what happened here unless there's evidence that contradicts that."

But attorney Chris Stewart, who represents Walters along with the family of the man killed by Abdulahad outside the police annex, said the officer has already proven he can't be trusted. Video footage of the fatal shooting of Deaundre Phillips at the Atlanta police annex contradicted Abdulahad's version of events.

Abdulahad wrote in his report of the Bulldogs incident that Walters struck him in the forehead and his injuries were suffered from a fall that occurred when the officer tried to handcuff the slightly built suspect.

"Nobody should ever strike an officer, but then (Walters is) not charged with assault on an officer," Stewart said. "He's not charged with felony obstruction. He's not charged with any of that stuff."

The GBI's probe of the shooting is nearing completion. Atlanta police say the investigation of the alleged assault continues. Another of Walters' employees, Riah Greathouse, said his client is prepared to cooperate with investigators.

<http://www.ajc.com/news/crime--law/apd-officer-under-investigation-for-annex-shooting-accused-assault/ASkDDJ1djeDoOXv4ut0GAN/>

SUBJECT: APD

11 Alive

APD identifies officer who shot, injured driver

By: Adrienne Haney

ATLANTA -- The Atlanta Police Department has released the identity of the officer who shot and injured a driver over the weekend.

Sgt. Mathieu Cadeau shot 46-year-old Noel Hall outside the Georgia Dome Saturday as people were leaving a motocross event, officials said. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation told 11Alive the Cadeau was conducting traffic and ordered Hall to go one direction down Northside Drive, but reportedly, Hall wanted to go another direction.

Hall then turned onto Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd. and drove toward Cadeau. That's when he opened fire, hitting and injuring Hall. One of the five passengers in the van called 911 after the shots were fired. The GBI responded to the scene and is leading the investigation, as is standard with incidents involving officers.

It's still unclear at this time, why Cadeau opened fire on the driver. According to officials, he was serving as a hired security guard outside event when the shooting happened. Police said Cadeau is a member of APD's field operations division.

According to attorney Lance Lorusso, even though a peace officer may get part-time security work, they still have the full rights as an officer. In this case, Lorusso said it's the perceived threat that counts.

"What's going to matter, is from the perspective of the officer, did the officer reasonably believe the person presented a threat," he asked.

"There were nine officers killed in vehicular assaults," said attorney Lance Lorusso. "The particular danger of a vehicle being used as a weapon, not a great deal of speed is required. Most of the time, if a car hits a pedestrian at 20, 25 miles per hour, it will be a fatal wreck."

Atlanta Police, however, had not indicated whether or not that officer felt threatened.

"We're not at the point where we're going to say that the officer was threatened or the officer was not threatened," APD spokesman Warren Pickard said.

11Alive reached out for an incident report from the shooting, which APD released on Tuesday. An incident report from GBI is still forthcoming.

<http://www.11alive.com/news/crime/apd-identifies-officer-who-shot-injured-driver/416149961>

SUBJECT: Atlanta News

Patch.com

Atlanta Man Arrested For Alleged Threats Against Rep. John Lewis

By: Craig Johnson

ATLANTA, GA -- A multi-agency police force arrested an Atlanta man early Thursday for allegedly threatening U.S. Rep John Lewis, Patch has learned.

Officers with the U.S. Capitol Police Department along Federal Bureau of Investigation agents detained Dante Antoine Rosser, 42, at his west Atlanta home.

Rosser is charged with making threats against a U.S. official, according to the Atlanta Office of Special-Agent In Charge David LeValley of the FBI.

Authorities said Rosser repeatedly called Lewis, who represents Georgia's 5th District, which includes Atlanta, demanding that his office "seek financial reparations on his and his family's behalf," the FBI said.

Rosser allegedly called Lewis 46 times, menacing the Congressman along with his staffers.

One particularly vitriolic call came on Feb 23, when Rosser allegedly said, "I will blow your head off. You're dead," according to the FBI. He then told the staff member who took the call that they as well as other staffers should fear for their lives.

Rosser is expected to make a court appearance in front of a U.S. Magistrate judge later Thursday at the Richard B. Russell Federal Building in downtown Atlanta.

<http://patch.com/georgia/atlanta/atlanta-man-arrested-alleged-threats-against-rep-john-lewis>

SUBJECT: APD

Guns.com

Texas cops find a little coke during traffic stop

By: Jennifer Cruz

A traffic stop in Cass County, Texas, Saturday turned up a massive amount of cocaine and ended with one man in police custody.

Vasquez Bricio Alejandro, of Brownsville, Texas, was stopped by an officer with the Texas Department of Public Safety for speeding in his 2007 Ford Mustang. But it turned out Alejandro was doing a bit more than speeding.

Probable cause was established to search the vehicle and the public safety officer enlisted the assistance of the Atlanta Police Department officers and a K-9 unit for the Cass County Sheriff's office.

The search turned up approximately 50 kilos of cocaine with an estimated street value of around \$1.75 million. Alejandro was then arrested and booked into the Cass County Jail.

<http://www.guns.com/2017/03/07/texas-cops-find-a-little-coke-during-traffic-stop/>

SUBJECT: APD

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

For new Atlanta Police chief, challenges await

By: Christian Boone

Erika Shields, Atlanta's 24th police chief, laid out an ambitious agenda at her introductory press conference last month.

Reduce the city's growing homicide rate. Hire 250 new police officers by year's end, while presenting a four-year plan to increase the pay for the rank and file. And tackle the scourge of juvenile lawbreakers.

"I really want to see a paradigm shift where we're taking the young black males that need assistance, need direction and we can really see some quantifiable change in what's occurring in their lives," Shields, 49, said in a recent interview with The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. "For too long, the emphasis has been on locking them up. No matter how we couch it, no matter how necessary it is ... that's B.S. It's because we locked up so many young black males in the first place that we find ourselves in the position we are today."

Still for Shields, a former beat cop and only the second woman to hold Atlanta's top law enforcement post, those challenges have, for the time being, faded to the background following an officer-involved fatal shooting of a 24-year-old father of one outside an Atlanta police annex. Shields is now faced with a decision that could potentially define her tenure, one all but certain to rile at least one of her constituencies.

Of course that's dependent on the findings by the GBI, which is investigating the Jan. 25 shooting of Deandre Phillips by veteran officer Yasin Abdulahad, and whether Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard concludes criminal charges are warranted.

So far, Shields has said little about the shooting. In an interview more than two weeks ago she called Abdulahad "a widely respected officer" with a "very solid" track record over his 11 years with the department.

But surveillance video of the shooting released a week later contradicted key elements of Abdulahad's account to investigators and raised questions about whether the shooting, let alone a confrontation, was necessary.

The family of Deaundre Phillips, joined by a chorus of activists, have called for Abdulahad's dismissal. Those calls grew louder when photos surfaced last week of the bruised and bloodied face of Anthony Walters, 25, who alleged he was beaten by Abdulahad outside a Midtown nightclub where the officer was working a side job. Abdulahad said Walters was belligerent — a claim backed up by an employee at the bar — and struck him in the forehead. Walters' injuries were sustained, according to Abdulahad, when he fell as the off-duty officer tried to cuff him.

“When a chief has to grapple with this issue they have to walk a fine line between the expectations of the mayor, the city council, the press and the public and their most important audience: the police officers,” said retired Atlanta Police deputy chief Lou Arcangeli. “If you take away the sense of fairness, you can lose the morale of those officers fairly quickly.”

<http://www.myajc.com/news/crime--law/for-new-atlanta-police-chief-challenges-await/pbbrbhDcrw6Cnim9rCjWnO/>

SUBJECT: APD

ArkLATex

Atlanta, Texas, traffic stop yields 50 kilos cocaine

By: Nancy Cook

ATLANTA, Texas - (KETK) - Who exceeds the speed limit on the main drag of a small town in Texas with 50 kilos of cocaine in the car?

Vasquez Brico Alejandro of Brownsville, Texas, that's who.

Alejandro was driving his 2007 Mustang too fast down the 2200 block of West Main in Atlanta, Texas, Saturday, when he was stopped by a Texas Department of Public Safety officer for speeding.

With assistance from Atlanta Police Department officers and a K-9 unit for the Cass County Sheriff's office, probable cause was established and a search of the vehicle yielded approximately 50 kilos of powder cocaine with the estimated street value of \$1,75 million.

Alejandro is now residing in the Cass County Jail.

<http://www.arklatexhomepage.com/news/local-news/atlanta-texas-traffic-stop-yields-50-kilos-cocaine/666955854>

SUBJECT: APD

The Signal

New officer recruits could increase campus security

By: Kofi Stiles

Georgia State and the Atlanta Police are recruiting new officers to bolster Atlanta's security.

The Atlanta Police Department's (APD) authorized strength has been depleted by 150 officers, according to recent Atlanta Police retiree and new Georgia State University Police Department (GSUPD) Chief Joseph Spillane.

"Retirements, resignations and terminations have seen the number of sworn officers drop from a high of 2,034 to 1,884," Spillane said.

The hires are just the beginning Spillane said in SGA's campus safety forum Feb. 23, as there will be more officers soon located by Turner Field as well as the university becomes more active in that part of town.

"Once [student] housing moves over there, we will have people there full time," Spillane said, adding that he hopes to soon have a Wellness Center by Turner Field to keep police officers in shape.

Spillane and Major Scott Kreher of the Atlanta Police Zone Five have worked on numerous details together to keep the campus, as well as the rest of the city safe. Georgia State's police covers 500 yards from any building leased or owned by the university. This allows university police to share concurrent jurisdiction with APD, thus the newly formed partnership.

The first major collaboration of the departments came after the One12 incident, where a student was shot during a robbery gone wrong. The facility falls under the jurisdiction of Zone Five, but Chief Spillane has met with Atlanta Police to keep the area around the apartment secure.

Spillane further said that residents have complained about security guard stations not being filled, and both departments found weaknesses in the facility's safety system like doors being open when they were

supposed to be closed, and security guards missing from their stations which allowed students to get in without being checked in.

“Most of the issues are management controlled. Atlanta Police Department has been working with them and has a courtesy officer living there who is increasing his patrol activity,” Spillane said.

Although Chief Spillane expressed ample confidence in his own campus’ security, he intends to increase the presence of police on campus alongside the Atlanta Police.

<http://georgiastatesignal.com/new-officer-recruits-increase-campus-security/>