

Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission

Summary of Officer Involved Shootings

July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011

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Between July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2011, 17 incidents occurred in which officers of the Milwaukee Police Department utilized firearms against a person.

- In 14 incidents, the suspect was armed. Seven suspects were armed with a firearm, four suspects were armed with a cutting instrument (knife or scissors), and three suspects utilized a vehicle. In three incidents, the suspect was not armed.
- Thirteen incidents resulted in non-fatal or no injuries to the suspect. Four incidents involved the death of a suspect, including one self-inflicted gunshot wound.

In order to provide the public with an accurate depiction of these incidents, select information from these 17 incidents is summarized below.

Incident #1

Date of Incident: July 29, 2010

Location: 38th & Hadley St

Police District: 7

Aldermanic District: 15

Call Type: Patrol

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Two officers on bicycle patrol approached a parked vehicle to tell the driver to stop honking the horn. When Officer #1 approached the driver's side, the suspect placed the vehicle into gear, hitting Officer #2 and his bicycle and dragging Officer #2 approximately 15 feet. Officer #1 fired two shots into the suspect vehicle, but did not hit the suspect. Officer #2 suffered a swollen left knee, abrasions to his elbow, and back pain.

Incident # 2

Date of Incident: August 8, 2010

Location: 45th & North Ave

Police District: 3

Aldermanic District: 15

Call Type: Patrol

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Three officers were patrolling in a marked squad, and upon seeing a group of four to five individual loitering around a vehicle, became suspicious that a drug deal may be occurring. The officers performed a traffic stop on the vehicle. Officer #1 approached the driver's side window and ordered the

suspect out of the vehicle, while Officer #2 and Officer #3 approached the passenger side. The suspect refused, and Officer #1, fearing that the suspect was disguising a firearm, reached into the vehicle. The suspect put the vehicle into drive and dragged Officer #1 approximately 40 feet. Officer #2 fired one shot at the suspect. Officer #1 received a contusion on his hip and an abrasion on his hand, while the suspect was uninjured.

Incident #3

Date of Incident: September 9, 2010

Location: 57th & Wright St

Police District: 3

Aldermanic District: 10

Call Type: Off-duty

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: A store employee contacted Officer #1, who was off-duty at the time, to report a suspect with a gun in his store. Officer #1 and a friend drove through the surrounding neighborhood looking for the suspect. Upon making visual contact, the suspect discharged three rounds at the direction of Officer #1, his friend, and the vehicle. Officer #1 fired 11 shots at the suspect as the suspect fled the scene and continued to shoot at Officer #1.

Incident #4

Date of Incident: November 20, 2010

Location: 31st & Glendale Ave

Police District: 7

Aldermanic District: 1

Call Type: Dispatched, subject with weapon attempting to cut wrists

Outcome: Suspect shot and died at scene

Summary: The officers confronted the suspect in the first floor common hallway of an apartment building. The suspect approached the officers with a knife raised in a threatening manner in his right hand. Officer #1 attempted to utilize his Taser on the suspect, but it was ineffective and the suspect continued to approach the officers. Officer #2 fired three shots and Officer #3 fired one shot, fatally wounding the suspect.

Incident #5

Date of Incident: November 30, 2010

Location: 17th & Grant St

Police District: 2

Aldermanic District: 13

Call Type: Responded to vehicle pursuit

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Two officers responded to a carjacking/vehicle pursuit. Officer #1, while in the process of chasing down the suspect on foot, observed that the suspect was in possession of a firearm. The suspect, after scaling a fence, turned and pointed his firearm at Officer #1. Officer #1 told the suspect to drop his gun, and when the suspect did not, Officer #1 fired three shots at the suspect. Neither the officer nor suspect was injured.

Incident #6

Date of Incident: December 23, 2010

Location: Fond du Lac Ave & Bourbon St

Police District: 4

Aldermanic District: 5

Call Type: Off-duty

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: An off-duty officer went to the above location to purchase a Blackberry phone for sale on Craigslist. The suspect, who was not in possession of the Blackberry, attempted to prevent Officer #1 from leaving the scene. The suspect threatened Officer #1 with a knife and demanded the officer's money. Officer #1 drew his off-duty firearm, identified himself as a police officer, and told the suspect to stop. The suspect kept approaching, and Officer #1 fired two shots at the suspect, wounding the suspect in the right shoulder and right hip.

Incident #7

Date of Incident: December 20, 2010

Location: Olive Way & Sherman Blvd

Police District: 7

Aldermanic District: 7

Call Type: Dispatched to entry complaint

Outcome: Suspect shot and died at scene

Summary: Officers were clearing backlogged assignments and were assigned to the entry complaint at the above location, in which the owner of the house believed that the suspect was hiding in her attic. Upon entering the attic, Officer #1 observed the attic insulation moving in the corner as the suspect breathed. Officer #1 also spotted a knife, which the officer moved out of the suspect's reach. Officer #1 used his baton to tap the suspect, which caused the suspect to sit up. The suspect reached into his front waistband and was told to show his hands. The suspect repeatedly refused, and lunged at Officer #1. Officer #1 fired 12 shots at the suspect and Officer #2 fired 14 shots at the suspect, fatally wounding the suspect. Officer #1 was also shot and injured.

Incident #8

Date of Incident: October 11, 2010

Location: Lisbon, WI

Police District: NA

Aldermanic District: NA

Call Type: Fugitive Apprehension Taskforce

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Officers assigned to the Fugitive Apprehension Taskforce were in Lisbon, Wisconsin to arrest the suspect, who was in a vehicle in the garage. As officers entered the garage, the suspect started the vehicle and Officer #1 drew his firearm. Officer #2 attempted to move to the opposite side of the garage, but the suspect moved the vehicle to block Officer #2's access. After three attempts, the suspect floored the vehicle, placed it in drive, and crashed through the overhead garage door. Officer #1, fearing for the safety of the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department positioned outside of the garage, fired three shots. Two shots struck the vehicle and one shot hit the suspect in the head.

Incident #9

Date of Incident: April 4, 2011

Location: 22nd & National Ave

Police District: 2

Aldermanic District: 8

Call Type: Dispatched, trouble with son, upgraded to subject with a knife

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Officers responded to the above location and observed the suspect with a knife his right hand. Officer #1 told the suspect to drop the knife, but the suspect did not comply and instead ran

towards Officer #1. Officer #1 fired three shots at the suspect, who still maintained possession of the knife. The suspect was wounded in the left hand, right thigh, and left leg.

Incident #10

Date of Incident: April 30, 2011

Location: 19th Place & Hampton Ave

Police District: 7

Aldermanic District: 1

Call Type: Dispatched, armed suspect inside home

Outcome: Suspect committed suicide

Summary: The suspect was hiding in a garage. Officer #1 told the suspect to show his hands, but the suspect fired one shot at Officer #1. Officer #1 then fired seven shots at the suspect and backed out of the garage. The suspect fired two additional shots as the officer exited the garage. The suspect refused to leave the garage and barricaded himself inside. After numerous attempts to gas the suspect out of the garage, equipment was brought in to remove the overhead garage door. The suspect fired at the officers and equipment, and committed suicide before the officers could gain entrance.

Incident #11

Date of Incident: April 28, 2011

Location: I-94, Plainfield Curve

Police District: 6

Aldermanic District: NA

Call Type: Undercover drug buy

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Officers assigned to the HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) task force were performing an undercover drug bust. The suspect fled the scene and was pulled over along I-94. Officer #1, upon arriving at the scene, drew his firearm and assisted Officer #2 in taking the unarmed passenger into custody. Officer #1 did not holster his firearm, and while the suspect was actively resisting arrest, the suspect elbowed Officer #1 causing the firearm to discharge one round. The suspect was shot in the left arm.

Incident #12

Date of Incident: May 30, 2011

Location: 10th & Orchard St

Police District: 2

Aldermanic District: 12

Call Type: Dispatched, battery complaint

Outcome: Suspect fled scene

Summary: Officers responded to two battery complaints at two separate addresses on Greenfield Avenue. While running warrant checks in the squad, the officers heard approximately ten gunshots and could see a pedestrian walking on 10th Street. Officer #1 removed the patrol rifle from the trunk of the squad. The officers approached a couple arguing on 10th Street and heard two additional gunshots. At the corner of 10th & Orchard, a slow-moving vehicle approached the officers, and Officer #1 observed a passenger firing a handgun. Officer #1 fired four rounds with the patrol rifle.

Incident #13

Date of Incident: June 1, 2011

Location: 39th & Clark St

Police District: 3

Aldermanic District: 15

Call Type: Bicycle Patrol

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Officers were performing routine bicycle patrol when the officers noticed two individuals who appeared to be intentionally avoiding the officers. Officers believed Suspect #1 was armed, and when the officers stopped the individuals, Suspect #1 began to walk away and reached for his waistband as if retrieving a weapon. Officer #1 deployed his Taser, but it was ineffective. Suspect #1 pulled out a handgun and pointed it at Officer #1. Officer #1 fired numerous times, and Suspect #1 returned fired. Suspect #1 fled the scene but surrendered a short time later. Suspect #1 suffered three gunshot wounds to the right leg and one gunshot wound to the back.

Incident #14

Date of Incident: June 5, 2011

Location: 37th & Burleigh St

Police District: 7

Aldermanic District: 7

Call Type: Dispatched, family trouble

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Officers were dispatched to a family disturbance. Suspect #1 was armed with a knife, and appeared to be angry and moved towards the officers in an aggressive manner. Officer #1 drew his firearm and ordered the suspect to drop the knife. Suspect #1 moved closer to Officer #1, and Officer #1 again told the suspect to drop the knife. Suspect #1 dropped the knife on a table directly to his right, and he dropped to his knees. While on his knees, the suspect retrieved scissors. Officer #1 ordered the suspect to stay down, but the suspect stood up and attempted to lunge at Officer #1 with the scissors. Officer #1 fired three shots at Suspect #1, wounding the suspect in the left chest and left bicep.

Incident #15

Date of Incident: June 11, 2011

Location: 53rd & Hampton Ave

Police District: 7

Aldermanic District: 7

Call Type: Patrol

Outcome: Suspect arrested

Summary: Officer #1 was patrolling near the above location, when the officer stopped to talk with the security guard of a bar. Officer #1 told a group of people that they had to return to the bar with their alcohol. Suspect #1 did not comply and began to walk across Hampton Avenue. Suspect #1, who appeared to be reaching for a weapon, turned toward Officer #1 and the security guard and began to run towards the vehicle with his right hand hidden behind his back. Suspect #1 started to bring the right arm forward, and Officer #1, fearing that the suspect had a gun and was about to shoot, fired one shot, wounding the suspect.

Incident #16

Date of Incident: June 30, 2011

Location: 34th St & Thurston Ave

Police District: 4

Aldermanic District: 1

Call Type: Patrol, responding to suspicious subject

Outcome: Suspect fled scene

Summary: Officers were searching for a suspicious subject, and drove past an individual that matched the description. Suspect #1 appeared to have a weapon in his waistband, and Officer #1 pursued Suspect #1 on foot. Suspect #1 fired two shots at Officer #1 around a corner, and Officer #1 fired two shots.

Officer #1 began to directly approach the area where Suspect #1 was seen and fired 13 shots. The suspect fled on foot.

Incident #17

Date of Incident: June 26, 2011

Location: 44th & Burleigh St

Police District: 7

Aldermanic District: 7

Call Type: Dispatched, entry in progress

Outcome: Suspect shot and died at scene

Summary: Officers were dispatched to an entry in progress. Upon arrival, the door was dead-bolted in the officers' faces, so Officer #1 broke the door down. Upon entering, Officer #1 heard two gunshots that appeared to be directed at the officer. Officer #1 fired six shots, fatally wounding the suspect.