



City of Arts & Innovation

# PRESS RELEASE

**Police Department**  
**SERGIO G. DIAZ**  
**Chief of Police**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 12, 2016

Sergeant Troy Banks  
Centralized Investigations Bureau  
Robbery-Homicide Unit  
tbanks@riversideca.gov  
(951) 353-7106

## **ATTEMPTED MURDER OF THREE POLICE OFFICERS**

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at about 5:58 p.m., a Corona Police Sergeant attempted to stop a van that matched the description of a vehicle involved in a drive-by shooting that took place on September 17, 2016 in the City of Corona. The Sergeant stopped a full-size white van in the Home Gardens area of Buchanan Avenue and Sampson Avenue. During the stop, the suspect fled in the van and a pursuit ensued. The suspect continued to the area of Magnolia Avenue and Pierce Street in the City of Riverside where he fired multiple shots at the Corona Police Sergeant. Riverside Police Detectives were driving through this location when they witnessed the Corona Police Sergeant being fired upon and they returned fire at the suspect.

The suspect fled again and fired upon the Corona Police Sergeant and Riverside Police Detectives at Magnolia Avenue and Pierce Street as he was entering the eastbound 91 Freeway. As the suspect continued along the 91 Freeway, he fired more shots at the pursuing Detectives and Sergeant. The suspect exited the 91 Freeway at Tyler Street, and proceeded north to Indiana Avenue into a shopping center where he stopped, exited the van and again fired multiple shots at the pursuing Detectives and Sergeant. The Riverside Police Detectives returned fire and the suspect got back into the van and fled. He continued east on Indiana Avenue firing more shots at the pursuing Detectives



and Sergeant. As he made a right turn onto northbound Van Buren Boulevard, the suspect jumped out of the van just before it collided with an on-coming vehicle. He fled on foot with the firearm and attempted to hide from Detectives and Officers from both Riverside and Corona Police. After searching for about 20 minutes, the suspect emerged and surrendered without incident.

A modified assault rifle was located after the suspect was detained. Fortunately, no officers or citizens were injured during this incident. The suspect was also not injured.

Detectives from the Riverside Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Unit, along with Forensic Technicians, responded to assume the investigation. They were assisted by the Riverside County District Attorney's Office and the Corona Police Department.

Leslie D. Berry Jr., 38-year-old of Corona, was arrested and later booked into the Robert Presley Detention Center for attempted murder of three police officers, evading and weapons charges. The suspect's booking photo is not available at this time.

Anyone with information about this incident should contact Detective Rick Cobb at (951) 353-7135 or Detective Rick Wheeler at (951) 353-7134.

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