



City of Arts & Innovation

# PRESS RELEASE

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

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 21, 2018

### CONTACT:

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## OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING INVESTIGATION

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Friday, July 20, 2018, at approximately 7:46 p.m., the City of Riverside's Public Safety Dispatch Center received information from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department that they were in pursuit along the 215 freeway in the Menifee area with the suspect shooting at them. The pursuit was initiated by the Hemet Police Department, who attempted to make contact with a suspect wanted in connection with a recent shooting occurring in their jurisdiction. The suspect led Hemet Police Officers on a pursuit and also fired gunshots at them along the 215 freeway. The Riverside Sheriff's Department took over the pursuit from Hemet Police as it continued into their jurisdiction.

The pursuit exited at Van Buren Boulevard and continued west into the city of Riverside. The Air Support Unit joined the pursuit and Riverside Police Officers took it over as it travelled through the city. The suspect drove recklessly along city streets while leading officers at high speeds and moving to the wrong side of the road several times. As the suspect was driving west on Arlington Avenue toward California Avenue, he again moved to the wrong side of the road and toward oncoming vehicles. He slowed and attempted to maneuver his car between other vehicles, eventually pinning himself. As officers were going to conduct a high-risk stop, an officer-involved shooting occurred.



Officers utilized the METRO Team (SWAT), K-9, and police helicopter resources and equipment to safely approach the suspect who appeared unresponsive to their commands. A paramedic with the Riverside Fire Department was escorted to the suspect and pronounced him deceased at the scene. Officers did locate a firearm inside the vehicle near the suspect.

The Robbery – Homicide Unit, along with Specialists with the Forensics Unit, responded to assume the investigation. They were assisted by the Riverside County District Attorney's Office and Riverside County Sheriff – Coroner's Office. The suspect was later identified as Arthur Levario Jr., 45-years-old of Hemet.

No officers or bystanders were injured during this incident. Riverside Police Detectives are currently working in conjunction with the Hemet Police Department and Riverside County Sheriff's Department in this investigation.

There are no other details available at this time. If anyone has information regarding this investigation, please contact Detective Karla Beler at (951) 353-7138 or [kbeler@riversideca.gov](mailto:kbeler@riversideca.gov), or Detective Adrian Tillett at (951) 353-7105 or [atillett@riversideca.gov](mailto:atillett@riversideca.gov).

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