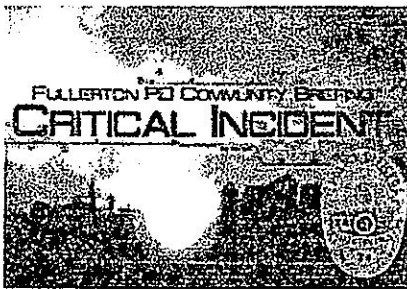




## NEWS DETAILS

### Critical Incident Community Briefing – Officer Involved Shooting 20-28991



POLICE SAY OFFICER FERRELL WAS ATTEMPTING TO RELEASE ROTOR AND MAKE AN ARREST. THAT WAS A LIE, FERRELL WAS TELLING ROTOR TO CONTINUE TO BITE HECTOR AND COMMAND TO RELEASE FROM BITING WAS GIVEN AFTER SHOTS FIRED.

On Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at approximately 10 PM, Fullerton Police K9 Corporal Jonathan Ferrell and his K9 partner Rotar responded to a family disturbance in the 3600 block of West Ave after a 15-year-old called 9-1-1 to report that his step-father, later identified as Hector Hernandez (34, Fullerton) was intoxicated and was threatening family members with a knife. At the time of the call, there were 5 kids of various ages inside the home with Mr. Hernandez and his girlfriend. While officers were on their way to the call, the 15-year-old caller told FPD dispatchers that Mr. Hernandez had armed himself with a gun, and he fired several rounds from the gun, while inside the house, at family members. Multiple neighbors from the 3600 block of West Ave called 9-1-1 to report hearing gunfire as well.

LIE. OFFICERS SAY HECTOR WAS PACING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE FRONT DOOR AND THE STREET.

Officers arrived on-scene in less than 4 minutes, and they saw Mr. Hernandez exit the home. They began giving him commands in order to safely detain him. After initially exiting the home, Mr. Hernandez began to walk back toward the front door of the home, pacing back and forth between the front door, where officers believed a 9-year-old child was inside, and the street. He did this numerous times. Fearing for the 9-year-old's safety inside the residence, and not wanting to allow Mr. Hernandez, who had committed multiple violent felonies at that point, an opportunity to retreat into the home to continue his assault on his family or barricade himself with vulnerable family members inside, K9 Corporal Ferrell released his K9 partner Rotar to effectuate an arrest. As K9 Rotar ran towards Mr. Hernandez, Rotar's attention was briefly drawn towards a group of officers who were yelling commands at Mr. Hernandez. As Rotar was being redirected towards Mr. Hernandez, Mr. Hernandez dropped his hands from being up in the air and removed a knife from his right pocket as Rotar was approaching. While it was unknown to officers at the time, Mr. Hernandez used the knife to stab K9 Rotar, with K9 Corporal Ferrell in close proximity as he was attempting to release K9 Rotar and facilitate an arrest. This action resulted in an Officer Involved Shooting (OIS). Mr. Hernandez later passed away at area hospital.

- POLICE ADMIT HECTOR DROPS HIS HAND ONLY WHEN ROTOR IS APPROACHING. (FERRELL WAS NOT TRYING TO RELEASE ROTOR. FERRELL WAS SAYING BITE BITE.