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PRESS RELEASE

Attorney General's Independent Investigations Division and Baltimore Police Department Investigating Police-Involved Shooting

BALTIMORE, MD (November 30, 2021) - On November 13, 2021, at approximately 3:09 p.m., Police Sergeant David Burch was off-duty at 5711 B O'Donnell Street getting a haircut at Blady Style Barber Shop. A male came into the business and shot Rafael Blady Jeffers, the owner of the barber shop, several times with a handgun.

The suspect has been identified as 38-year-old Carlos David Ortega.

Sergeant Burch was still sitting in the barber chair when the suspect told him to get out of the way. Sergeant Burch got out of the chair as the suspect moved toward Mr. Jeffers again with his gun still in his hand. Sergeant Burch discharged his off-duty Glock 27 six times, striking the suspect and rendering him incapacitated.

Sergeant Burch then directed a barber shop employee to call 911. Sergeant Burch then took up a position to cover and secured the front door until on-duty police officers arrived. Officers arrived and began to secure the scene. Baltimore City Fire Department Medics also responded to the scene and began life-saving medical intervention in an attempt to revive Mr. Jeffers and Mr. Ortega. Both Mr. Jeffers and Mr. Ortega were transported to Johns Hopkins Hospital. Mr. Jeffers was pronounced deceased at 3:45 p.m. and Mr. Ortega was pronounced deceased at 3:57 p.m.

Two civilian witnesses were transported from the crime scene to the Homicide Section where they were interviewed.

Sergeant Burch was off-duty at the time of the incident and was not equipped with a body worn camera. Sergeant Burch has been with the Department for 7 years.

The Independent Investigations Division of the Attorney General's Office and the Special Investigation Response Team (S.I.R.T.) of the Baltimore Police Department continue to investigate this incident.

The Maryland General Assembly, in Senate Bill 600, passed a law mandating that the Office of Attorney General investigate all police-involved fatalities in the State of Maryland beginning October 1, 2021. These investigations are conducted by the office's Independent Investigations Division, in conjunction with the Maryland State Police. The OAG and BPD have reached an agreement to allow for the Attorney General's investigation while still allowing BPD to meet the investigatory obligations of its federal consent decree.

<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2021/113021.pdf>

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