April 27, 2019 [FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

On April 26, 2019 at approximately 7:15 p.m., a Pueblo police officer conducted a traffic stop on a male driving a white Ford Ranger in the 1200 block of Lake Avenue. During the contact, the officer discovered that the male had an active arrest warrant out of Weld County for a traffic-related offense. The officer approached the male driver and asked him to step outside of the vehicle (for the arrest warrant), at which point the male sped away at a high rate of speed. The officer, who was standing next to the open driver-side door of the vehicle, sustained a minor knee injury when the vehicle sped away. The suspect was able to flee the area.

A short time later, officers tracked the male down to a residence in the 1200 block of Bohmen Avenue. Officers attempted to contact the male at the residence and discovered that he was armed with a handgun. The male refused to exit the residence. The Special Weapons and Tactics team was eventually deployed.

Over the course of several hours, officers attempted to negotiate with the male in an effort to get him to exit the residence. The SWAT team utilized specialized techniques designed to peacefully resolve instances of barricaded persons, but the male still refused to exit the residence. At approximately 3:30 a.m., after the SWAT team deployed additional specialized techniques, the armed male quickly exited the front door. As the male exited the residence, he pointed his firearm at a team of SWAT officers. Eight officers, including six SWAT officers, fired at the male. The male, a 31-year-old Pueblo man, died at the scene. No officers were injured at the Bohmen Avenue scene.

The Tenth Judicial District Critical Incident Team was activated and initiated an investigation. All eight officers involved in the shooting have been placed on administrative leave per standard protocol.

This incident marks the Pueblo Police Department’s third officer-involved shooting of 2019.

###