

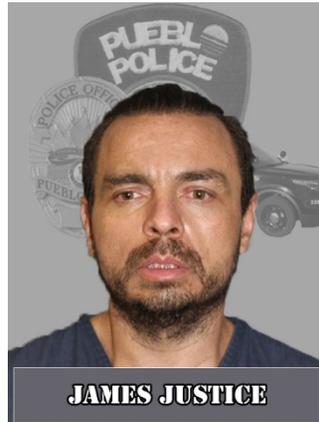


PRESS RELEASE

City of Pueblo Police Department
Officer-Involved Shooting



January 29, 2021 [FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]



JAMES JUSTICE

On January 29, 2021 at approximately 12:07 p.m., Pueblo police officers responded to a report of a menacing that had just occurred in the 4100 block of N. Elizabeth Street. Information provided was that a male suspect had threatened two other parties with a handgun.

As officers responded to the area, one officer located a male matching the suspect's description walking in a parking lot of a business located in the 4300 block of N. Elizabeth Street. As the officer approached the male, he fired several rounds at the officer. The officer was not hit, but the officer's patrol vehicle was struck at least once. The officer fired back but did not hit the suspect. The suspect fled westbound on foot toward the Pueblo Grande mobile home park located at 999 Fortino Boulevard.

Other officers responding to the area located the suspect moving toward the mobile home park property. Officers then moved in on the mobile home park and attempted to locate the suspect. Over the course of approximately 30 minutes, officers searched for the suspect as he evaded them. The suspect exchanged gunfire with officers on multiple separate occasions as he moved through the mobile home park. The final encounter resulted in the suspect being shot in the thigh by an officer. The suspect, later identified as 40-year-old James Justice, was then taken into custody without further incident. Officers rendered medical aid until medical personnel arrived. Justice was transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. He was last known to be in stable condition. Ultimately, no officers were physically injured during this incident.

Justice was currently on bond for assault on peace officer charges at the time of this incident.

The Tenth Judicial District Critical Incident Team was activated and initiated an investigation of the incident. The three involved officers have been placed on paid administrative leave per standard protocol.

If you have any information about this incident, please call Detective Josh Reagan at (719) 671-8666 or Detective Jonathan McCluskey at (719) 553-3294.

To remain anonymous, contact Pueblo Crime Stoppers @ **542-STOP (542-7867)** or www.pueblocrimestoppers.com. If your information leads to a felony arrest, you could be eligible for a cash reward.

The information contained in this press release is based on preliminary information available at the time of its drafting. The Pueblo Police Department's understanding of this incident may change as additional evidence is collected, analyzed and reviewed. The Pueblo Police Department does not draw any conclusions about whether the officers acted consistent with our policies and the law until all the facts are known and the investigation is complete. The purpose of this press release is to provide timely information to the public. In consideration of the foregoing, please be advised that any statements expressed herein are subject to change at any time.

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