



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED INVESTIGATING OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING **IN AIKEN COUNTY**

Agents from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) charged Nathaniel Robert Meade, 42, for Pointing and Presenting a Firearm at law enforcement on Thursday morning. After a standoff overnight involving a hostage, multiple law enforcement officers from the Aiken County Sheriff's Office, North Augusta Public Safety and South Carolina Highway Patrol shot and injured Meade. He was taken to a hospital in Augusta, GA for treatment. He was then booked at the Charles B. Webster Detention Center in Augusta, GA to await extradition to South Carolina. No law enforcement officers were injured. The hostage was also not injured.

SLED conducts law enforcement officer involved shooting (OIS) investigations at the request of the agency involved in the incident or the agency with jurisdiction. When requested to investigate an OIS, SLED's goal is to conduct a thorough, independent criminal investigation as timely as is possible under the circumstances. SLED agents will conduct interviews with all potential witnesses in this matter. Further, SLED will collect all relevant evidence and will forensically test such evidence as needed.

Information gathered in the SLED investigation of the incident will be summarized in a case file report to be submitted to prosecutors. This is an ongoing investigation. As such, no other information about the case will be disclosed by SLED at this time.

The incident in Aiken County was the 11th officer involved shooting in South Carolina in 2022. This is the second officer involved shooting involving the Aiken County Sheriff's Office this year. This is the first officer involved shooting involving North Augusta Public Safety and the South Carolina Highway Patrol this year. In 2021, there were 40 officer involved shootings in South Carolina. Last year, there were two officer involved shootings involving the Aiken County Sheriff's Office, one involving North Augusta Public Safety and one involving the South Carolina Highway Patrol.

A copy of this news release is also on SLED's website: www.sled.sc.gov

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