



**Priceville Police Department**  
242 Marco Drive Priceville AL 35603  
Phone: 256-355-5476  
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ORI AL0520900



July 12, 2017

## **PRESS RELEASE**

THIS HAS BEEN AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT WEEK FOR ALL OF US IN PRICEVILLE. AS YOU KNOW A 16 YEAR OLD MALE UNFORTUNATELY LOST HIS LIFE ON FRIDAY WHILE ENGAGED IN FELONIOUS CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.

LAW ENFORCEMENT IS NOT AN EASY PROFESSION. WE ARE TAUGHT TO BE PREPARED AND ARE CONTINUOUSLY TRAINED FOR WORST CASE SCENARIOS. HOWEVER, WE DREAD THE DAY WHEN THAT TRAINING HAS TO BE PUT INTO ACTION.

UNFORTUNATELY THERE ARE TIMES WHEN AN OFFICER MUST TAKE EXTREME MEASURES TO DEFEND HIMSELF FROM AN IMMINENT THREAT OF HARM.

ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON OUR OFFICER WAS FACED WITH SUCH A TIME. DURING A PURSUIT OF A VEHICLE IDENTIFIED AS STOLEN, THE DRIVER EXPOSED THE PUBLIC TO GREAT RISK OF HARM. AT THE END OF THE PURSUIT, THE CAR DRIVEN BY THE OFFENDER STRUCK ANOTHER VEHICLE AND CAME TO A STOP. THE OFFICER'S PATROL VEHICLE CAME TO A STOP BEHIND THE STOLEN VEHICLE. THE OFFENDER THEN SUDDENLY BACKED THE STOLEN CAR INTO THE DRIVER'S SIDE DOOR OF THE PATROL VEHICLE JUST AS THE OFFICER WAS EMERGING FROM THE VEHICLE TO APPREHEND THE OFFENDER. THE OFFICER WAS CRUSHED BETWEEN THE DOOR AND THE BODY OF HIS VEHICLE, PUTTING HIS LIFE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER. OUR OFFICER RESPONDED APPROPRIATELY TO THIS THREAT TO SAVE HIS LIFE WITH THE USE OF DEADLY FORCE.

ALEA IS CONDUCTING A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF THE INCIDENT AND THAT INVESTIGATION REMAINS ACTIVE.

OUT OF DEFERENCE TO THAT INVESTIGATION AND TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF OUR OFFICER, WE CAN NOT RELEASE ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT AND WE WILL NOT BE RELEASING OUR OFFICER'S NAME AT THIS TIME. HE HAS BEEN TREATED FOR HIS INJURIES AND IS PRESENTLY ON PAID ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE. HE HAS ENDURED PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL WOUNDS AS CAN BE EXPECTED, AND TO THE EXTENT THAT HE NEEDS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAL IN PRIVATE.

AS FOR THE TEENAGER AND HIS FAMILY, OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO THEM DURING THIS TIME.

AS I STATED EARLIER, IT'S BEEN A VERY DIFFICULT TIME FOR US AND WE ASK THAT YOU ALSO KEEP OUR OFFICERS IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS AS WELL.

THANK YOU,  
ACTING CHIEF, RICK WILLIAMS  
PRICEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT.



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### Press Release

July 21, 2017

#### July 7, 2017 Police Felony Vehicle Pursuit – Officer Involved Shooting

The Priceville Police Department's officer involved in the fatal shooting that followed the felony stolen vehicle police pursuit on Friday July 7, 2017 is identified as 10-year law enforcement veteran, Bryan Smith. Officer Smith was treated and released from Decatur Morgan Hospital for injuries he sustained from being crushed by the driver's door of his patrol car when the suspect backed the stolen vehicle into the patrol car as Officer Smith was emerging from it. As mentioned in our previous release, we did not release Officer Smith's identity initially to afford him time to recover from his injuries and return to duty.

As standard procedure for these type matters, an outside agency (ALEA) was requested to investigate this matter, and their investigation is ongoing. Announcement of additional information, if any, will be dependent on the progress of that independent investigation.

*Melvin Duran, Mayor*