



St. Petersburg Police Department News Release



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For Immediate Release

June 25, 2011

St. Petersburg Police Investigate Drive-By Shooting, Police Pursuit and Cruiser Crash

This investigation is still preliminary, so some of the details are sketchy, but here is some brief information from a supervisor at the scene.

On Saturday June 25, 2011 at about 12:45 p.m., the St. Petersburg Police Department Communications Center received a call of a "person shot" in what has been described as a "drive by shooting."

The shooting occurred in the 4800 block of 10th Avenue South. The victim was shot in the leg and was later transported to Bayfront Medical Center. The victim is listed in stable condition.

Several St. Petersburg Police Officers responded to the area and began looking for the suspect's vehicle, described as a Burgundy Ford Mustang with a tan top. The vehicle was spotted by a police officer in the Department's Street Crimes Unit. The suspect's vehicle fled from the officer.

At 1:05 p.m., SPPD Officers initiated a pursuit of the suspect's vehicle in the Childs Park neighborhood - not far from the scene of the shooting.

A few minutes after the pursuit began, another police officer in the Street Crimes Unit, who was operating an unmarked police cruiser, was traveling on 40th Street South when he braked and swerved to avoid another police vehicle approaching 40th Street South from a side street. The Street Crimes Unit officer in the unmarked police vehicle struck a fire hydrant and flipped at the scene.

Neither of these officers was directly involved in the police pursuit. They were moving into the area to provide assistance if/when the pursuit terminated.

The officer in the flipped unmarked cruiser was transported to Bayfront Medical Center. I was just told that the officer is receiving treatment for minor injuries and will be released in an hour or so.

The officers pursuing the Ford Mustang discontinued their pursuit after the unmarked cruiser crashed and flipped.

About an hour later, the Ford Mustang was found abandoned in the Pinellas Point area of St. Petersburg. It has been impounded as evidence.



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The suspect in the shooting has not been located at this time.

The police units on the scene of the traffic crash are leaving the scene now, so the PIO's are not coming to the scene.

Traffic Investigator Mike Jockers is handling the traffic crash investigation of the flipped unmarked police cruiser.

He will send out a press release later today with more information on the traffic crash investigation. His press release should provide you with more details about the sequence of events in the crash.

Information by Bill Proffitt on June 25, 2011 at 2:45 p.m.
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