



State of Connecticut

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

ROBERT J. DEVLIN, JR.
INSPECTOR GENERAL

P.O. BOX 460
CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT 06410
ROBERT.DEVLIN@CT.GOV
Telephone: (203) 806-1595

September 23, 2024

Preliminary Status Report Regarding the Use of Force by the New Haven Police Department Violent Crime Task Force on September 19, 2024, Resulting in the Death of Jebrell Conley

In accordance with General Statutes §51-277a(a)(5), Inspector General Robert J. Devlin, Jr. submits this preliminary status report regarding the use of deadly force by the New Haven Police Department Violent Crime Task Force on September 19, 2024. The Office of Inspector General is investigating the officer-involved shooting that resulted in the death of Jebrell Conley, an African-American male, age 36.

On September 19, 2024, the New Haven Police Department Violent Crime Task Force learned that Jebrell Conley had an outstanding warrant for his arrest on federal Hobbs Act robbery and related firearm charges. At approximately 5:00 p.m., the Task Force received information that Conley was in the area of Ella Grasso Boulevard driving a black Hyundai Tucson with New Jersey registration plate Y40-SND. The Task Force had prior knowledge of Conley from past contact with him. A license plate reader hit for the Hyundai Tucson, New Jersey registration Y40-SND, placed the vehicle on the property of Splash Car Wash, 2 Boston Post Road, West Haven in the bay area where customers use vacuums to clean their cars.

At the car wash, Task Force officers observed Conley standing outside of the Hyundai Tucson. The officers attempted to block in the Hyundai Tucson using their task force vehicles. Conley spotted the officers and entered the Hyundai Tucson. As officers moved in to apprehend Conley, he appeared to fire one round that shattered the Hyundai Tucson's front driver side window. Three Task Force Officers fired at Conley: Connecticut State Police Sergeant Colin Richter, New Haven Police Sergeant Francisco Sanchez, and New Haven Police Officer Michael Valente. Several rounds struck Conley who fell out of the Hyundai Tucson onto the parking lot. Officers then commenced to provide Conley medical aid. He was transported to Yale New Haven Hospital where he was later pronounced deceased. Officers recovered a handgun, with a high capacity magazine, from the area where Conley had fallen from the vehicle. Initial inspection of the handgun suggests that it had jammed after firing one round.

A civilian at the car wash made a video of a portion of the incident. To view this video, click [here](#).

All the task force officers were wearing body-worn cameras that were activated during their attempt to arrest Conley. To view the relevant portion of Officer Paul Vakos' body-worn

September 23, 2024

Page 2

camera recording, click [here](#). Still shots from Officer Vakos' body-worn camera recording, show the following:



September 23, 2024

Page 3



September 23, 2024

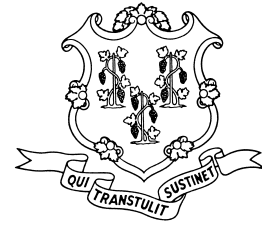
Page 4

To view the relevant portion of Officer Derek Huelsman's body-worn camera recording, click [here](#). To view the relevant portion of Sergeant Francisco Sanchez's body-worn camera recording, click [here](#). To view the relevant portion of Officer Michael Valente's body-worn camera recording, click [here](#). To view the relevant portion of Sergeant Colin Richter's body-worn camera recording, click [here](#).

On September 20, 2024, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner determined the cause of Jebrell Conley's death to be "GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF TORSO AND UPPER RIGHT EXTREMITY." A copy of the Medical Examiner's Notification to Police is [attached](#). As of the date of this report, neither the death certificate nor toxicological report is available.

The Office of Inspector General, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Connecticut State Police Central District Major Crime Squad, the New Haven Police Department, and the New Haven Judicial District State's Attorney's Office are conducting the investigation.

State of Connecticut
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
11 Shuttle Road, Farmington, CT 06032
Telephone: (860) 679-3980



09/20/2024

Connecticut State Police, Central District Major Crime
269 Maxim Road
Hartford, CT 06114

RE: NOTIFICATION TO POLICE

OCME CASE # 24-18302

PD CASE #

This is to inform you that the cause of death of the following person is as stated below.

Name of the Deceased	Found Dead On:	Autopsy Performed:
Jebrell Conley	09/19/2024	Yes, 09/20/2024

The cause of death has been certified as:
GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF TORSO AND UPPER RIGHT EXTREMITY

The manner of death has been certified as: **Homicide**

Sincerely,

James R. Gill, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner

COMPLETION INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1- Complete as required.
- 2- Make one copy for case file.
- 3- Original to Police Department.

