




Eau Claire POLICE

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Matt Rokus, Chief of Police
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MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 4/28/2022	CONTACT: Lt. Benjamin Frederick
TIME: 12:15 p.m.	PHONE: 715-839-4990
# PAGES: 1	EMAIL: Benjamin.Frederick@eauclairewi.gov
SUBJECT: Administrative Review (ECPD #21PD19346)	 @EauClairePD

Eau Claire Police Department Release of Administrative Review

The Wisconsin Department of Justice has completed an investigation into the death of Demetrio A. Jackson, DOB 7/27/1978. The investigation and autopsy revealed Jackson died of anoxic encephalopathy following cardiopulmonary arrest. Pathologists discovered Jackson had a pre-existing heart condition and toxicology revealed he had a level of methamphetamine present in his system, which by itself, is lethal.

The Altoona Police Department requested the Wisconsin Department of Justice - Division of Criminal Investigations complete a criminal investigation into this matter. The investigation was completed and submitted to Eau Claire County District Attorney Peter Rindal for review.

Eau Claire County District Attorney Peter Rindal concluded Jackson's death was not an officer-involved death. The Eau Claire Police Department conducted an Administrative Review of the incident and concluded actions taken by ECPD personnel were appropriate, necessary, and compliant with department policy.

We continue to extend our condolences to the friends and family of Demetrio Jackson.

On October 22, 2021, Jackson died at HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital following an incident that took place on October 08, 2021 in the City of Altoona, WI. On that day, the Eau Claire County Communications Center received a report of a person, Demetrio Jackson, acting strange and causing damage while standing on top of a vehicle in the 900 block of Harlem Street. Altoona Police and the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office responded.

Approximately 50 minutes later, Officers Gracia Larson, Robert Schreier and Michael Cullen from the Eau Claire Police Department responded to the location after Altoona Police Department Officers called for emergency assistance. The Communication Center provided information someone was being resistive and combative with officers. Upon arriving on scene, Eau Claire Police Officers observed Jackson screaming, and writhing on the ground. Jackson did not appear to comprehend any officer commands. Eau Claire Police Officers coordinated with other law enforcement on scene to safely take Jackson into custody.

Officers worked together to calm Jackson and to ensure Jackson was handcuffed without injuring himself. During the interaction Jackson complained that he was having difficulty breathing, and officers ensured no pressure was applied to Jackson's head, neck or chest during the interaction that would impede his breathing. At all times Jackson remained conscious and was placed in a recovery position until EMS could safely approach.

Because Jackson complained of a medical condition, and based on what officers observed, Jackson was immediately provided emergency medical treatment by EMS. EMS transported Jackson to Sacred Heart Hospital.

In the interest of being open and transparent with the community we serve, the Eau Claire Police Department released mobile video recording system footage of this incident on October 26, 2021. The recordings remain available to the public, considerate of sensitivity to Mr. Jackson's family. The video and audio footage can be reviewed at the following address:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=90P0X95_V1w

A copy of the Eau Claire Police Department Administrative Review document can be located on the Eau Claire Police Department Public Information page here:

https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-divisions/police-department/public-information/-folder-1936#docan3764_8790_4917

The men and women of the Eau Claire Police Department respect the value and sanctity of every human life. At risk of life and livelihood, our officers accept the responsibility to protect others. We take these obligations seriously and understand the duty we have to earn the trust of the community by addressing difficult situations with professionalism, compassion, transparency and integrity.

Sincerely,
Matt Rokus
Chief of Police
Eau Claire Police Department

Chad Hoyord
Deputy Chief

Derek Thomas
Deputy Chief

Kelly Thompson
Administration

Dena Clark
Communications Center