

DEKALB POLICE DEPARTMENT

David Byrd, Chief of Police



PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Media Contact – Chief Byrd

Issued: March 25, 2022

To Provide Info Call 815-748-8400

To Report a Crime/Request Emergency Police Response Call 9-1-1

DeKalb Police Department Officer Involved Shooting

On August 8, 2021, DeKalb Police Officers responded to a call of service between 915 and 935 Spiros Court DeKalb, Illinois at approximately 1:14 A.M. The nature of the call was regarding an unknown subject brandishing a firearm at a party. The DeKalb Police Department received numerous 911 calls regarding the person with a gun call, and several DeKalb Police Department units responded. DeKalb Police Department Police Officer Kaela Gardner heard gunshots as she arrived on scene, and she immediately engaged several unknown subjects brandishing firearms. Officer Gardner ordered the unknown subjects to drop their weapons, the subjects ignored Officer Gardner's order. Officer Gardner fired one (1) round from her departmental service weapon, at which time the unknown subjects fled on foot from the scene. Officer Gardner, along with additional DeKalb Police Department Officers apprehended one (1) subject after a short foot pursuit. There were no injuries to any police officers or offenders. The DeKalb Police Department effected one (1) additional arrest and are attempting to locate additional suspects from this incident.

On November 4, 2021, DeKalb County State's Attorney Rick Amato received an investigative file from the Illinois State Police, who was requested to investigate the City of DeKalb Officer Involved Shooting that occurred on the aforementioned date. State's Attorney Amato reviewed the events and circumstances leading to Officer Gardner firing her weapon. After a review of all materials provided, and discussions with the Illinois State Police Investigators, State's Attorney Amato concluded that no criminal charges against Officer Gardner are warranted in this matter.

The DeKalb Police Department conducted an internal investigation regarding the Officer Involved Shooting involving Officer Gardner and determined that there were no departmental policy violations regarding this use of deadly force incident.

The provided video link will direct you to the DeKalb Police Department video release which will memorialize the Officer Involved Shooting which occurred on August 8, 2021. <https://youtu.be/cBGuRD6b0Ds>

****All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty****

If you witnessed this incident or have any information that can help with this investigation, please contact the DeKalb Police Department.