

DEKALB POLICE DEPARTMENT

David Byrd, Chief of Police



PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Media Contact – Chief Byrd

Issued: April 29, 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 October 25, 2021, at approximately 2:45 a.m., DeKalb Police Officers responded to a Domestic Disturbance call involving Kristopher Kramer, in the 100 Block of Tilton Park Drive DeKalb, Illinois. Upon arrival, officers located a frantic female subject in the backyard at the aforementioned residence. The female subject who had contacted the DeKalb Police Department initially to report the domestic disturbance advised officers that the male subject (Kramer) in the residence had been drinking an alcoholic beverage, was armed with a “Samurai Sword”, and threatened to kill the female subject and attack officers. The female subject advised officers that he was a danger to himself and had self-inflicted wounds to his wrist. The female subject was escorted to a safe location away from the residence as officers attempted to make contact with Kristopher Kramer.

Officers attempted to make contact with Kristopher Kramer by speaking through the front door of the residence. After numerous attempts to make contact, officers finally were able to start a dialogue through the door of the residence. Officers talked to Kramer for an extended amount of time, attempting to de-escalate the situation. Officers were able to convince Kramer to open the door of the residence and speak to them, however, at that time Kramer grabbed a large edged-weapon consistent with the description of a “Samurai Sword”, and advanced towards the officer with the weapon over his head and pointed at officers.

Officers ordered Kramer to drop the weapon and stop several times. Kramer refused to comply with multiple orders by officers which led to the deployment of less than lethal measures (Taser and Bean Bag Projectile), and one officer fired one round from a departmental firearm striking Kramer in the chest area (upper torso). Officers and DeKalb Fire Department immediately rendered aid to Kramer.

Kramer was transported to Kishwaukee Hospital by DeKalb Fire Department. Once at Kishwaukee Hospital, life-saving measures were attempted. Sadly, Kristopher Kramer succumbed to his injuries.

On February 10, 2022, 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 October 25, 2021. State’s Attorney Amato reviewed the events and circumstances leading to Officer Brian Bollow firing his 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 Bollow are warranted in this matter. It was determined that Officer Bollow was justified in the use of deadly force based upon a reasonable belief that it was necessary to prevent death and great bodily harm to himself and fellow officers present.

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The DeKalb Police Department conducted an internal investigation regarding the Officer Involved Shooting involving Officer Bollow 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 October 25, 2021.

<https://youtu.be/IQljTP1miEw>