Trooper Shot Outside Newark Area Convenience Store – **Update #3**

Presented by Public, Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Bear- The Delaware State Police continue to investigate the shooting death of Cpl/1 Stephen Ballard which occurred at a Bear area Wawa on Wednesday, April 26.

Homicide Unit detectives are continuing to gather information in reference to this tragic incident. They are asking anyone who may have witnessed the events which occurred at the Wawa or has any information to contact Det. Jon King at 302-698-8561. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com, or by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP."

Released: 042817 0940

-end-

** Update** State Police

Investigating a Fatal Crash East of Delmar

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Delmar – The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is investigating a fatal crash east of Delmar.

The incident occurred around 12:43 p.m. Thursday April 27, 2017 as a 35-year-old female was operating a 2002 GMC Yukon southbound on Pepperbox Road approaching the intersection at Whitesville Road (SR30) with a posted stop sign. A 32-year-old male operating a 2016 Kenworth tractor pulling a 2014 Ledwell trailer westbound on Whitesville Road approaching Pepperbox Road. Whitesville Road is a throughway and traffic is not required to stop. The Yukon failed to stop at the posted stop sign and entered the intersection as the tractor trailer was crossing and struck the right side of the trailer. As a result, the Yukon began to violently rotate multiple times before coming to a stop on Whitesville Road west of the intersection. The tractor trailer came to a controlled stop in the roadway a short distance west of the intersection.

The 35-year-old female, who was properly restraint was pronounced dead on scene. Her name is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The 32-year-old male tractor trailer operator was properly restrained and uninjured.

The Collision Reconstruction Unit is continuing their investigation into this incident. There is no evidence of alcohol or drug involvement on behalf of the 35-year-old female at this time. Whitesville Road was closed at Pepperbox Road for approximately four hours while the crash was

investigated and cleared.

[Click to view original release ** Traffic Advisory** State Police Investigating a Fatal Crash East of Delmar]

Released: 042717 2105



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Memorial Fund Established for Family of Fallen Trooper



Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal

Jeffrey R. Hale

Cheswold- On April 26, 2017 Delaware State Police Corporal Stephen Ballard was killed in the line of duty while serving the citizens of our state. Corporal Ballard, age 32, an eight-year veteran leaves behind his wife and 5 year old daughter.

A memorial fund has been established at the Delaware State Police Federal Credit Union in the name of Corporal Ballard and all proceeds will be given to his family. Checks can be made out to the DSTA- Stephen Ballard Memorial Fund, PO Box 168, Cheswold DE 19936.

This is the only official memorial fund dedicated in the name of Cpl/1 Stephen Ballard.

For any questions please contact the Delaware State Troopers Association at 302-736-9958.

Released: 042717 1545

-end-

Trooper Shot Outside Newark Area Convenience Store – **Update #3**

Presented by Public, Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Bear- The Delaware State Homicide Unit Detectives continue to investigate the shooting death of Cpl/1 Stephen Ballard which occurred at a Bear area Wawa yesterday afternoon.

On Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at approximately 12:06 p.m. Cpl. Stephen Ballard, an 8 and a half-year veteran of the Delaware State Police, conducted a stop on a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot of the Wawa located at 1605 Pulaski Hwy, Bear. Cpl. Ballard, was in uniform and in a fully marked police vehicle, when he contacted the male driver of a red Dodge Charger. The Dodge Charger was also occupied by a second male subject in the front passenger seat. Cpl. Ballard made contact with the driver and the passenger who both provided identification. Cpl. Ballard then walked to the passenger side of the vehicle to address the occupant. The passenger, who was later identified as Burgon Sealy Jr, 26, of Middletown, advised that he had arrived at the Wawa in a gray Honda Accord which was also parked in the lot. Cpl. Ballard then asked him to step out of the Dodge Charger. As he exited the vehicle, a struggle ensued during which time the suspect began firing at Cpl. Ballard with a handgun he had produced from his waistband. Cpl. Ballard attempted to run for cover behind a parked vehicle, however, Sealy pursued him. The suspect fired the handgun, striking him in the upper body. Cpl. Ballard immediately went to the ground. The suspect then fired multiple rounds at close range, again striking him in the upper body. The suspect then ran to the gray Honda and fled from the parking lot. The driver of the Dodge remained in the Wawa parking lot, and was taken into custody by responding troopers. The investigation has determined that he is not a suspect in this incident.

Through investigative leads, it was learned that the suspect had made contact with family members and advised them that he had shot a trooper at the Wawa. The family immediately relayed that information to police. With that information investigators learned that the suspect was now in a residence

in Brick Mill Farms, Middletown.

As the Delaware State Police Special Operations Response Team arrived at the residence and proceeded to establish a perimeter, the suspect began firing multiple rounds at the officers from inside of the residence. Special Operations Response Teams and Conflict Management Teams from allied police agencies then responded to the scene and attempted to make contact with the male suspect, in an attempt to persuade him to surrender. It had been learned that he was the sole occupant of the home.

When the suspect ceased contact with negotiators, at approximately 8:22 p.m., the Delaware State Police Explosives Ordinance Disposal Unit (EOD) utilized an explosive breeching charge on the front door. Still no contact was made with the suspect. Attempts to contact him to work toward a peaceful surrender continued throughout the overnight hours.

At approximately 4 AM this morning, Thursday, April 27, officers reported hearing numerous gunshots originating from inside of the home. However, once again no contact was made with the suspect.

At 9:17 AM, the armed suspect exited the residence and engaged police. He was then shot by law enforcement. Lifesaving efforts were then initiated by Delaware State Police and EMS personnel, however Sealy succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead at 9:29 AM. His body was turned over to the Division of Forensic Science where an autopsy will be performed.

Most of the residents of the neighborhood who had been evacuated were permitted to return home.

This investigation into this incident by the Delaware State Police is still on-going. More information will be released as the investigation progresses.

Released: 042717 1520

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Trooper Shot Outside Newark Area Convenience Store – **Update #2** – Trooper Photo Released

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** Traffic Advisory** State Police Investigating a Fatal Crash East of Delmar

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Delmar – The Delaware State Police are currently on the scene of a fatal crash east of Delmar.

The incident occurred around 12:43 p.m. Thursday April 27, 2017 on Whitesville Road west of Pepperbox Road and involves a tractor trailer and a truck. The operator of the truck has been pronounced dead at the scene.

Whitesville Road is currently closed at Pepperbox Road. Commuters are advised to seek alternate routes of travel.

Further details will be released upon the conclusion of the investigation.

Released: 042717 1405



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Update #12 State Police Investigating Shots Fired

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Middletown **–**Allied police agencies continue to operate on St. Michaels Drive in the Brick Mill Farms Development. The subject continues to remain barricaded inside the residence

and is armed with an unknown type firearm.

At 8:22 p.m. Wednesday April 26, 2017, the Explosives Ordinance Disposal Unit (EOD) utilized an explosive breeching charge on the front door. At that time, no entry was made into the residence.

Around 4:00 a.m. this morning, Thursday April 27, 2017, officers once again came under fire from the suspect. Allied agencies explosively breached numerous windows but did not enter the residence.

Multiple Special Operations Response Teams and Conflict Management Teams from allied police agencies continued to make contact with the male subject and attempted to persuade him to surrender.

At 9:17 a.m., the male suspect exited the residence and engaged police. The suspect was then shot by law enforcement. He was pronounced dead at the scene at 9:29 a.m.

A news conference will be held at Delaware State Police Troop 2, Glasgow at 1:30 p.m. this afternoon where more details of this investigation will be discussed.

Residents in the area remain evacuated. The Odessa Fire Company, located at 304 Main Street in Odessa, has opened its facility to temporarily house the evacuated residents of Brick Mill Farms Development.

Brick Mill Road remains closed between Marl Pit Road and Middletown Odessa Road (SR299).

Click to view original release: State Police Investigating Shots Fired

Released: 042717 10:07 a.m.

Update #11 State Police Investigating Shots Fired

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Jeffrey R. Hale

Middletown —Allied police agencies continue to operate on St. Michaels Drive in the Brick Mill Farms Development. The subject continues to remain barricaded inside the residence and is armed with an unknown type firearm.

At 8:22 p.m. Wednesday April 26, 2017, the Explosives Ordinance Disposal Unit (EOD) utilized an explosive breeching charge on the front door. At that time, no entry was made into the residence.

Around 4:00 a.m. this morning, Thursday April 27, 2017, officers once again came under fire from the suspect. Allied agencies explosively breached numerous windows but have not entered the residence.

Multiple Special Operations Response Teams and Conflict Management Teams from allied police agencies are attempting to make contact with the male subject and are continuing to attempt to persuade him to surrender.

Residents in the area remain evacuated. The Odessa Fire Company, located at 304 Main Street in Odessa, has opened its facility to temporarily house the evacuated residents of Brick Mill Farms Development while allied police agencies continue to negotiate with the armed barricaded subject.

There are no reported injuries.

There are no changes in the status of this incident or updated

information at this time.

Brick Mill Road remains closed between Marl Pit Road and Middletown Odessa Road (SR299).

Click to view original release: State Police Investigating Shots Fired

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Update #10 State Police Investigating Shots Fired

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Middletown **–**Allied police agencies continue to operate on St. Michaels Drive in the Brick Mill Farms Development. The subject continues to remain barricaded inside the residence and is armed with an unknown type firearm.

At 8:22 p.m. Wednesday April 26, 2017, the Explosives Ordinance Disposal Unit (EOD) utilized an explosive breeching charge on the front door. At that time, no entry was made into the residence.

Around 4:00 a.m. this morning, Thursday April 27, 2017, officers once again came under fire from the suspect. Allied agencies explosively breeched numerous windows but have not entered the residence.

Multiple Special Operations Response Teams and Conflict Management Teams from allied police agencies are attempting to make contact with the male subject and are continuing to attempt to persuade him to surrender.

Residents in the area remain evacuated. The Odessa Fire Company, located at 304 Main Street in Odessa, has opened its facility to temporarily house the evacuated residents of Brick Mill Farms Development while allied police agencies continue to negotiate with the armed barricaded subject.

There are no reported injuries.

Brick Mill Road remains closed between Marl Pit Road and Middletown Odessa Road (SR299).

Click to view original release: State Police Investigating Shots Fired

Released: 042717 0535

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Update #9 State Police Investigating Shots Fired

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Middletown **–**Allied police agencies continue to operate on St. Michaels Drive in the Brick Mill Farms Development. The subject continues to remain barricaded inside the residence and is armed with an unknown type firearm.

At 8:22 p.m. this evening, the Explosives Ordinance Disposal Unit (EOD) utilized an explosive breeching charge on the front door. At this time, no entry has been made into the residence. Multiple Special Operations Response Teams and Conflict Management Teams from allied police agencies are

attempting to make contact with the male subject and are continuing to attempt to persuade him to surrender.

Residents in the area remain evacuated. The Odessa Fire Company, located at 304 Main Street in Odessa, has opened its facility to temporarily house the evacuated residents of Brick Mill Farms Development while allied police agencies continue to negotiate with the armed barricaded subject.

There are no reported injuries.

Brick Mill Road remains closed between Marl Pit Road and Middletown Odessa Road (SR299).

Click to view original release: State Police Investigating Shots Fired

Released: 042717 0415

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