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APD News Briefing on Officer-Involved Shooting

ALBUQUERQUE – Today, the Albuquerque Police Department released details of the Jan. 7 officer-involved shooting in which an offender was fatally wounded. APD reviewed details and video from the incident with the media at a news briefing.

Late on Jan. 6, police officers were dispatched to a residential burglary in progress at 9119 Central Ave., N.E. Upon arrival, the apartment manager told officers that someone entered a unit that was supposed to be vacant. The officers made announcements from the door for about 1 ½ hours before deciding to enter. The officers entered and began to clear the apartment room-by-room. During this process, an individual emerged from a closet armed with a knife in one hand and a pipe in the other hand. The individual was swinging the weapons at the officers. One of the officers deployed his Taser, which did not stop the individual and continued toward another officer, armed with the knife. Four officers discharged their weapons hitting the individual who was declared deceased at the scene.

The individual was later identified by APD with assistance from the Office of the Medical Investigator as being Daniel Saavedra-Arreola.

Mr. Saavedra-Arreola was found to have used several aliases during past crimes and during time served in various correctional facilities. Among those previous crimes, Mr. Saavedra was convicted for conspiracy to commit 2nd degree murder. At the time of the Jan. 7 incident, Mr. Saavedra was wanted by police for probation violation and considered armed and dangerous.

APD also provided the following information about the officers:

- Officer Amy O'Dell date of hire 12-6-2008, no prior OIS
- Officer Elisa Valdez, date of hire 8-24-2013, no prior OIS
- Officer Emmett Fritz, date of hire 5-28-2016, no prior OIS
- Officer Bryce Willsey, date of hire 8-22-2015, prior firearm discharge, 6-6-2017 (Shot an attacking dog)
- Sergeant Andrew Quillmann, date of hire 1-12-2002, supervisor on scene, did not shoot.

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