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RIVERSIDE: Officers involved in fatal shooting after traffic stop



STAN LIM/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The scene of an officer involved shooting along Anna St. in Riverside on Thursday, March 1, 2012. BY RICHARD BROOKS

STAFF WRITER

rbrooks@pe.com

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Officer-involved shooting



A pre-dawn traffic stop turned deadly today when Riverside police shot a passenger they said ran into a backyard while carrying a handgun.

The man died at a local hospital soon after the 2:30 a.m. shooting along Anna Street near Lincoln Avenue.

His name has not been released. But based on a tentative identification, his apparent criminal record would have given him a motive to run and try to avoid arrest, said Lt. Toussaint.

"He's not currently on parole, but he's an ex-felon," Toussaint said. "And if I am an ex-con and I have a gun, I'm going back to prison."

The driver was being questioned, but has not been arrested.

The traffic stop turned into a foot chase when the passenger fled, Toussaint said.

"The suspect jumped into a backyard," he said. "As an officer entered the backyard, an officer-involved shooting occurred."

Detectives are still investigating details of the confrontation, but have determined that the suspect was armed.

"A handgun was recovered at the scene," said Toussaint.

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cocked, but the sc. The shooting happened up the street from Victoria Elementary School. As parents dropped off their children this morning, they noticed the yellow crime-scene tape that cordoned off the shooting scene.

The street directly in front of the scene was blocked, but the school wasn't directly affected by the violence.