



CITY OF  
**FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
PRESS RELEASE

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**OFFICER INVOLVED  
SHOOTING**

**Update (1/21/2012):**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department has identified the suspect who was shot in the police involved shooting on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The suspect has been identified as Andre Chowtie, a 17 year old male and resident of Palm Beach County.

Chowtie is scheduled to be released from the Broward General Medical Center sometime today and transported to a juvenile detention facility.

Chowtie has been charged with the following:

- Auto Theft
- Reckless Driving
- Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer

Investigators believe that Chowtie is also the suspect in another violent crime and further charges are pending.

This is still an active investigation and detectives are urging anyone with further information to contact Detective Mark Breen at 954-828-5708 or Detective Jack DiCristofalo at 954-828-6096.

**Original (1/20/2012):**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is investigating an officer involved shooting that occurred at approximately 5:00 P.M. on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The shooting occurred on Northeast 4<sup>th</sup> Street, just east of North Andrews Avenue, in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that at approximately 4:55 P.M., Fort Lauderdale Police Officers received a "Lo-Jack" notification that a stolen vehicle was in the vicinity of a BP Gas Station located at Northwest 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and West Sunrise Boulevard.

Officers responding to the area were able to locate the vehicle near the BP Gas Station, at which point one of the three occupants exited the vehicle. That suspect was quickly detained as the driver sped off eastbound on West Sunrise Boulevard, then southbound on Northwest 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, with one passenger still in the vehicle.

Officers in unmarked vehicles observed the suspect crash the stolen car into a parking meter located on Northeast 4<sup>th</sup> Street, just east of North Andrews Avenue. As officers exited their unmarked vehicles and conducted a high risk felony stop, the driver of the stolen vehicle accelerated towards the officers. Fearing for the safety of others, as well as himself, an officer discharged his firearm, striking the driver. The suspects then briefly drove off eastbound on Northeast 4<sup>th</sup> Street, voluntarily coming to a stop just west of Northeast 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Realizing the suspect sustained a gun shot wound, responding officers rendered first aid to the suspect while waiting for Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue to arrive on scene. Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue then transported the suspect to Broward General Medical Center, where he is currently listed in stable condition and is expected to recover.

The incident is under active investigation and detectives are urging anyone with information regarding the police involved shooting to contact Detective Mark Breen at 954-828-5708 or Detective Jack DiCristofalo at 954-828-6096.

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