

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Office of Public Information

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Douglas C. Gillespie, Sheriff

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EXOTIC ANIMALS ESCAPE THEIR ENCLOSURE

LVMPD OFFICER USES FIREARM TO STOP RAMPAGING CHIMPANZEE

On Thursday July 12th 2012 at approximately 10:13 a.m., the LVMPD dispatch center received several calls stating two adult chimpanzees, a male and a female, had escaped their enclosure, located behind a residence in the 5700 block of Rowland Avenue in Northwest Las Vegas.

Residents advised arriving patrol officers they were afraid for their safety, and the officers witnessed the animals in a highly agitated state. The male chimpanzee in particular was observed as he jumped and pounded on LVMPD patrol vehicles and citizen's cars.

Officers established a containment area and requested the assistance of Animal Control Officers, however before they could arrive the male chimpanzee began to cross Ann Road and escape the containment area.

The sole officer who stood between the agitated animal and a large group of citizens including many children fired multiple shotgun rounds, striking and killing the animal.

The second chimpanzee was eventually tranquilized by Animal Control and safely returned to an enclosure at original Rowland address.

The investigation into this incident remains ongoing. Per LVMPD policy the name of the officer involved in the officer involved shooting will be released after 48 hours.

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