

## Capital Metro IIT Media Release

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### Thurston County Coroner Office findings for Lacey Police Department Officer Involved Shooting Investigation

08 February 2022

The Capital Metro IIT is continuing to investigate the Lacey Police Department officer-involved shooting that occurred on January 20, 2022. As noted in our last media update about this case, an autopsy was completed by the Thurston County Coroner Office for this investigation. The Coroner's office found that the deceased had a self-inflicted gunshot wound that was the cause of death. Additionally, the deceased had gunshot wounds to the torso, but those wounds did not create a life-threatening injury.

Thurston County Coroner Gary Warnock stated:

*"Autopsy examination revealed multiple indeterminate-range gunshot wounds of the torso, none of which struck vital anatomic structures or resulted in life-threatening injury. A single, contact-range entrance wound was identified on the decedent's right temple that resulted in a penetrating gunshot wound of the head and non-survivable brain injury. Therefore, the cause of death was attributed to a gunshot wound of the head. Other significant conditions included gunshot wounds of the torso. Given the autopsy findings and investigative information currently available, the manner of death was determined to be consistent with suicide. For purposes of vital statistics and public health surveillance, the death certificate will document that this man's death occurred in the context of an engagement with law enforcement personnel. Should additional information become available that significantly changes the cause and/or manner of death, the Thurston County Coroner's Office reserves the right to amend the death certificate."*

The Coroner's findings are consistent with the evidence that has been gathered by the Capital Metro IIT to date. The investigation is on-going at this time and updates are released weekly.

You can find information about the Capital Metro IIT, read previous media releases, and follow this investigation at: <http://www.capmetroinvestigations.org/>

#### CONTACTS:

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