



# TARPON SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA RELEASE

*Robert P. Kochen*  
CHIEF OF POLICE

*"Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing"*

Date: March 9, 2018

Time: 12:00 p.m.

The Tarpon Springs Police Department received a call for service on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at approximately 10:05 a.m. in the 400 block of Riverside Drive. A report was received that a black female was saying something to the effect as call the police. Patrol units were dispatched to the location where two officers made contact with this individual at 442 Riverside Dr. During the encounter the female produced at least one knife and aggressively charged the officers. A Taser was deployed and struck the female however, it did not stop her and she continued to charge the officers while still in possession of the knife. One of the officers was backing up and subsequently fell to the ground and the female aggressively advanced towards him while holding the knife. The officer fired at the female with his duty weapon striking the female. The female was transported to Florida Hospital-North Pinellas where she was pronounced deceased at 10:58 a.m. The female has not been identified as of this release and the identity of the officer involved will be released at a later time. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is presently on scene and will be conducting an investigation into the incident per department protocol. The officer was placed on paid administrative leave according to department policy.

Sgt. Robert Faugno (727) 420-1962



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