



CITY OF CLEARWATER

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

RELEASE 09-056

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UNDERCOVER NARCOTICS DEAL RESULTS IN SHOOTING

WHO: Jeffery Lee (Suspect)
B/M DOB 5-19-89
LKA: 1560 Jefferson Ave., Apartment H
Clearwater, Fla.
CHARGES: Aggravated Assault on LEO (2 counts)
Fleeing and Eluding

WHAT: Police-Involved Shooting

WHEN: April 27, 2009
9:01 p.m.

WHERE: McDonald's (parking lot)
1860 Gulf to Bay Boulevard
Clearwater, Fla.

WHY: Undercover detectives from the Clearwater Police Vice/Narcotics Unit made an arrangement to purchase a trafficking amount of cocaine from the suspect, Jeffery Lee in the McDonald's parking lot on 1860 Gulf to Bay Boulevard. Once the transaction had been completed, officers moved in for the arrest. Two police vehicles pinched Lee's vehicle, to prevent him from leaving. Lee aggressively accelerated and rammed one of the police vehicles. Detectives got out their vehicles and immediately identified themselves as police and gave several lawful commands for him to stop.

Lee continued to aggressively accelerate his vehicle and began pushing one of the police vehicles out of the way. At least one police officer was directly in the suspect vehicle's path. In fear for his life, he and another officer fired shots at Lee's vehicle.

The suspect was struck by gunfire. Officers immediately summoned for Clearwater Fire & Rescue to respond to treat Lee for his injuries. He was treated and transported by air to a local hospital. Lee is currently listed in critical, but stable condition. He will be charged with two counts of Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer and Fleeing and Eluding. Additional narcotics charges are pending.

The two officers involved in the shooting have more than 20 and 13 years of experience. Due to their undercover assignment, their names will not be released. They have been placed on paid administrative leave, which is standard procedure following a shooting.

The information in this release should be regarded as preliminary in nature. No further information will be released until an investigation by the Office of Professional Standards (Internal Affairs) and the Criminal Investigations Division have been completed.

