



January 24, 2012  
DPS PR #12-005

### Trooper Involved in Wasilla Shooting Identified

(WASILLA, Alaska) – The Alaska State Trooper involved in the trooper-involved shooting near Wasilla, Alaska on January 22, 2012 was:

Trooper David Eastwood-Kolezar, Alaska State Troopers, Palmer Post

It is still undetermined if the round fired by Eastwood-Kolezar resulted in any injury to Mr. Tanner.

The incident is still under investigation by the Alaska Bureau of Investigation. As part of the process ABI conducts a thorough investigation. The Department of Law's Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals (OSPA) reviews the investigation conducted by ABI to determine if the trooper acted within the law. The Department of Public Safety then reviews the case to determine if the trooper's actions were appropriate under the circumstance, in accordance with department policy. The review also determines if the trooper used every reasonable option to try to avoid using deadly force and the final outcome of the incident.

#### Original Release:

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Location: Wasilla  
Case Number: 12-6757  
Type: MIWIV, trooper-involved shooting

Text: At approximately 1234 hours on 1/21/12, Mat-Com dispatch received a 911 call from a Wolverine Avenue residence from a Russell W. Tanner age 56. In communications with dispatchers Tanner and his wife both reported a home invasion by armed persons. Upon arrival on scene, troopers heard shots being fired from the within the residence. R. Tanner was then observed by Troopers leaping from a second story balcony carrying a firearm. An Alaska State Trooper fired one round. Tanner was contacted and evacuated from the scene by Trooper and medics to Mat-Su Regional Medical Center where he was treated and released for a gunshot wound to his elbow. Tanner was then arrested and lodged into Mat-Su Pre-Trial for one count of Misconduct Involving Weapons 4th degree for possession of a firearm while under the influence. Tanner's 53-year-old wife exited the residence and was also evacuated from the scene by Alaska State Troopers and medics to Mat-Su Regional Medical Center where she was also treated and released for an undisclosed medical reason. Members of the Southern Special Emergency Reaction Team were called to the scene to search the residence for intruders.

Although a search of the residence did locate several firearms and evidence that several shots had been fired within the home the ensuing investigation did not find any evidence of a home invasion or that any intruders had been in the home. At this time it is still unclear whether the injury to Tanner occurred within the home, or outside of the home when the State Trooper fired. Investigation into the incident will continue by members of the Alaska Bureau of Investigation and the investigative report will be routed to the Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals for screening to determine if additional criminal charges may be applicable. As is standard policy the identity of the Alaska State Trooper will be not be released until 1/24/12.

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