

# The Star-Ledger

## **Man who shot officer killed by police after standoff as apartment catches fire, authorities say**

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A man was killed by police in Long Branch early Saturday at the end of an hours-long standoff that also saw an officer shot and an apartment on fire, the state attorney general's office announced.

The wounded officer has already been released from the hospital, and officials declined to name him or the dead man amid the ongoing investigation.

On Friday evening, members of the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office travelled to an apartment near the coast with a warrant as part of a homicide investigation, according to a press release.

After they arrived at Apt. 1 at 274 Chelsea Ave., a man inside opened fire, officials said.

A bullet hit one of the officers "in the lower leg," according to the release. The other officers backed up outside the apartment while the man "barricaded himself inside," officials said.

The standoff lasted until about 2 a.m. Saturday, when a fire broke out in the apartment, according to authorities.

The man then left the building and started shooting, officials said. He was shot by police and pronounced dead at the scene.

Neighbors told The Asbury Park Press they were ordered to leave their homes around 8:30 p.m. and weren't allowed to return until the following morning, where they found the apartment building burned out with its roof destroyed.

Marlene Cano, who lives nearby, told the Press she saw the area swarmed with officers while another resident said they heard more than a dozen shots around 2 a.m.

The wounded officer was treated at a local hospital and discharged Friday evening, the release said.

By law, all fatal shootings in New Jersey are investigated by the state attorney general's office.

The Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office directed questions to the attorney general. The Long Branch Fire Department declined comment on the cause of the fire.