

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Suspect fatally shoots himself after fleeing police.

[Lancaster, Ohio, February 20, 2015] “Detectives are investigating an early morning shooting incident,” stated Sheriff Dave Phalen.

Detectives from the Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office Street Crimes Unit and Major Crimes Unit were working surveillance in various locations in Fairfield County when the target of their investigation was spotted on Cherry St and Angle St in Lancaster OH. The suspect, Shane Allen Clark then fled the area east on Main St to Sells Rd Apartments. He then ran on foot towards the corner of Sells Rd and E. Main St. As detectives and officers closed in on the suspect he stopped and began negotiating with the officers on the scene. After approximately 45 minutes the suspect made several threats with a handgun before shooting himself.

The suspect, Shane A Clark was known to have several firearms and body armor. He was wanted for questioning in several narcotics related crimes and was recently making threats that he wanted a shootout with cops. Detectives believe Clark wanted officers to shoot him in this incident. Currently Clark has active warrants for Drug Crimes and Failure to Appear in court. Prosecutors were contacted to discuss these occurrences. Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney Gregg Marx stated " I spoke with some of the officers that were involved: The situation presented to these officers by the armed suspect was exceedingly dangerous and demanding and we are appreciative that there was no further injury or loss of life to the officers or to the general public. However, under our standard protocol, we will undertake a review of the incident."

The suspect was transported to Fairfield Medical Center then transported by Life Flight to Grant Hospital where he expired at 6:20am.