

Authorities look for link between Illinois - Meadville Tribune, The (PA) - July 26, 2018

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Authorities in Illinois and Pennsylvania are trying to determine if a man killed by police in Illinois this morning is the Cochran man wanted for the murder of an elderly Springboro area man.

Chris Covelli, a spokesman for the Lake County (Illinois) Major Crimes Task Force, confirmed to the Tribune that there was a fatal shooting by police just after 5 a.m. Central Daylight Time in Lakemoor, Ill., about 50 miles northwest of Chicago.

Covelli said the man killed was driving a vehicle with Pennsylvania plates.

Covelli confirmed authorities in Lake County are working with Pennsylvania State Police to determine the man's identity and if there's any connection with the recent northwest Pennsylvania homicide.

Kenneth Edwin Martell, 36, of Cochran is wanted by Pennsylvania State Police for the killing Theodore M. Garver, 88, of 2443 Parker Road, Springboro area, during a robbery at Garver's home on Monday. Martell was driving a Kia Sorento with a Pennsylvania license plate, according to state police.

Covelli said a female Lakemoor Police Department officer observed a suspicious SUV backed into a gravel area, on the west side of Four Seasons Boulevard. The officer exited her squad car to check on the vehicle and adult male occupant.

Covelli said that while the officer was speaking to the man, he produced a handgun and a struggle ensued.

During the struggle, a second Lakemoor officer arrived at the scene. As he approached, he observed the man was in possession of a second handgun. At least one of the two Lakemoor Officers fired at the man. The man was struck and subsequently pronounced deceased at the scene.

Both officers were transported to a local hospital for evaluation, Covelli said.

The Lake County Major Crime Task Force currently is investigating the incident. The Lake County Coroner's Office responded to the scene and an autopsy is scheduled for this afternoon.