

Police: Video shows man knock down officer before - Associated Press State Wire: Maryland (MD) - June 12, 2018

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BALTIMORE (AP) — Body camera video shows a Maryland man knock down a police officer and stand over him as the officer fatally shoots him, police said Tuesday without publicly releasing the footage.

The Montgomery County Police Department identified the officer as Anand Badgujar, a patrolman who has spent roughly two years with the department. He was placed on paid administrative leave after the Monday shooting death in Silver Spring, a Washington suburb.

Police Chief J. Thomas Manger told reporters that the 41-year-old black man became "combative" in a parking lot of a townhouse community. Manger told reporters that the man was shot "multiple times" and apparently was unarmed.

The dead man was identified Tuesday as **Robert Lawrence White** of Silver Spring. His relatives could not immediately be reached by telephone, and a home number listed for White was not working.

After interviewing an uninvolved witness and reviewing video from Badgujar's body-worn camera as well as images taken from a colleague's camera, police said White assaulted Badgujar after the officer "attempted to speak" with him.

The patrolman had come to the area on an unrelated call and it was not immediately clear what caused him to focus on White. With the situation quickly escalating, the officer tried to pepper spray White, police said, and then requested assistance after the man moved away.

When Badgujar returned to his cruiser to switch off the ignition, White "began approaching" him, according to police. They assert White started "running at the officer," forcing Badgujar to back-pedal away. They say White "knocked him down as the officer discharged his weapon."

"White fell, got up, stood over the officer who was still on the ground, and continued to assault the officer, at which time the officer fired additional rounds," the Tuesday statement reads.

Authorities have not yet released audio or video from the officer's body-worn camera, but Montgomery County police scanner recordings on Broadcastify.com capture a male officer's voice saying there could be a "suicide-by-cop thing" taking place. The voice also specifically makes mention of the suspect putting his hands in a pocket.

Minutes later, an officer's voice can be heard saying: "Start fire-rescue for a gunshot, or for several gunshots! Officers coming in, start with a med kit. Next officers coming in, start me a perimeter. Get your crime scene tape out."

A county police spokesman declined to say anything about the audio captured by Broadcastify.

The shooting death is being investigated by county detectives. Once completed, their findings will be reviewed by the state's attorney's office in neighboring Howard County to determine if Badgujar acted within the law and if the case needs to go before a grand jury.

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