

Owasso police release video of deadly encounter - Tulsa World (OK) - April 2, 2018

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The Owasso Police Department has released the names of two officers who shot and killed a reported military veteran who pointed a loaded AK-47 and a handgun at them in addition to lapel-cam footage of the deadly encounter.

Officers Casey Lawson and Laura Lehner responded to reports of a man, identified as 39-year-old **Duane Preciado**, threatening suicide at a residence on 108th Place North in the Lake Valley Addition on the night of March 21.

When they arrived, the officers made contact with Preciado, who they were told was a veteran of the war in Afghanistan, at the front door of the home.

Preciado threatened to shoot the two within seconds of Lawson and Lehner identifying themselves as officers, according to a statement from Owasso Police Chief Scott Chambless. One of the officers reportedly saw the man carrying what he believed to be a rifle or shotgun, prompting them to retreat and take cover behind a vehicle in a neighboring driveway.

As they moved away from the house, the officers heard what sounded like a bullet being chambered into a gun, Chambless said in the statement.

Lawson and Lehner waited for backup as they discussed "their options to handle the situation safely." Preciado allegedly continued yelling at the officers that he was going to start shooting and kill them.

The suspect eventually exited the home and began walking toward the officers' patrol vehicles while holding a loaded AK-47 rifle and a loaded handgun while yelling, "Kill me, kill me," Chambless said.

Officers reportedly yelled at the man to drop the guns, to which he responded by shouting, "F- — you."

Preciado turned toward the officers and raised both guns in their direction, which resulted in Lawson and Lehner opening fire, according to Chambless. The confrontation lasted less than five minutes.

Chambless said officers are able to de-escalate a situation or use non-lethal force in the majority of incidents but that Preciado gave them "no choice but to defend their lives and the lives of innocent citizens in the neighborhood."

"Mr. Preciado spent many years in defense of our country," Chambless said. "His life should be

honored for this service and not tarnished by the choices he made on this one day."

Footage from Lehner's lapel cam shows her and her partner standing on Preciado's porch and trying to communicate with him through the closed door. Near the beginning of the video, Preciado can be heard demanding the officers to get out of his house before he shoots them.

Lehner tells him not to threaten them and says they're not there to hurt him, while also informing him that they're not in his house. The officers back up as the threats continue.

"All righty then," Lehner can be heard saying to her partner. "Let's f---ing play this game."

When an officer sees a gun through a door window, the officers retreat to a nearby car. Shortly later, both officers repeatedly tell the man to drop the gun before firing multiple shots at him. The actual shooting cannot be seen because it's dark outside, but a moaning Preciado comes into view when the officers approach him as he's lying in the front yard.

Lehner tells him to roll over, to which he continues to respond with, "F- — you." She then kicks a pistol away from him while Lawson places him in handcuffs.

"Dude, we did not want to do that," Lawson can be heard telling him.

Toward the end of the video, Lehner can be heard saying she believed she fired her gun twice, while Lawson says he thought he fired once.

Rogers County District Attorney Matt Ballard said in a statement that his office has not requested any further information and is satisfied the investigation is complete after reviewing evidence collected by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

Ballard said he will announce his formal findings when the final report is complete, which he believes will be soon.