

ACLU-Illinois Issues Statement on Suburban Police Shooting of Hero Security Guard

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FULL TEXT

The American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois issued the following statement by Karen Sheley, director of Police Practices Project:

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On early Sunday morning, Jemel Roberson was working as a security guard in a nightclub in Robbins, a Chicago suburb. As he tried to detain a man apparently involved in a shooting, he was shot by police officers arriving at the scene.

"Jemel Roberson should be alive today. Working as a security guard while Black should not be a death sentence.

"In this case, police were more dangerous to him than an active shooter who he apparently subdued.

The police killing of Mr. Roberson was avoidable. Here, a police officer's assumptions about Mr. Roberson, apparently impacted by bias, rather than a clear-headed assessment of the situation, resulted in a tragedy."

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