

Officer Matt Cooper improving slowly - Walton Tribune, The (Monroe, GA) - September 9, 2018

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Covington police Officer Matt Cooper is slowly recovering nearly a week after being shot in the line of duty.

In a Facebook post Sunday afternoon, the Covington Police Department said Cooper remains at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta "and is slowly improving."

"The doctors are pleased with his progress," the post said. "He still has a long way to go, but prayers are being answered. Please continue to pray for Officer Cooper!"

Cooper, 34, was shot outside the Walmart at 10300 Industrial Blvd. NE on Monday afternoon when he gave chase to a shoplifting suspect. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation has said that suspect, 21-year-old **Aaron Demonta Fleming**, shot at Cooper then shot himself fatally.

Cooper sustained a bullet to the carotid artery. He was flown to WellStar Atlanta Medical Center on Monday afternoon, then transferred to Grady on Tuesday.

Doctors performed surgery Wednesday to reduce swelling on Cooper's brain.

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