MINNEAPOLIS

Man, 3 Mpls. police officers who traded shots are identified

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Police on Thursday identified the three officers who fired on a 22-year-old man in a late-night exchange of gunfire in south Minneapolis.

David T. Embaye, of Minneapolis, was wounded about 11 p.m. Wednesday near E. 38th Street and Columbus Avenue S. after he fled for several blocks from a stopped vehicle, then shot at officers, police said.

Police recovered a weapon connected to Embaye, said Sgt. William Palmer, a police spokesman.

The police who shot at Embaye were officers Walter Alvarado, Omar Foulkes and Brandon Kitzerow. Alvarado started as a community service officer with the department in 2007. Foulkes started in 2006 and Kitzerow in 2001. The three and another officer who witnessed the incident are on standard paid administrative leave.

Terry Hake, 57, who lives near a pond at E. 37th Street and Chicago Avenue, said he was in bed Wednesday night when at least 20 shots rang out. One bullet came through the wall and hit his dresser at the foot of his bed.

"I got lucky," said Hake, a quadriplegic. "My dresser was sitting in the right place."

When his personal care assistant took out a shirt from the dresser and shook it, a bullet fell out, Hake said. Several other disabled occupants live in the duplex, but nobody was hurt, he said. However, three vehicles in the home's garages were damaged.

Incoming Police Chief Janeé Harteau gave this account of what happened:

Police went to the area after their ShotSpotter system was activated. Upon arrival, they noticed a suspicious vehicle leaving the area. Police stopped the vehicle and a man got out. As he was running from the vehicle, he fired at officers.

They returned fire and hit him. He was taken to Hennepin County Medical Center and police said he is expected to survive. The driver of the stopped vehicle was in custody, Harteau said.

Embaye was under arrest at the hospital on probable cause of prohibited person in possession of a gun. His criminal history in Minnesota includes a felony conviction in 2009 for first-degree aggravated robbery.

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Police tape lies on the ground on the 3700 block of Columbus Avenue where a suspect and Minneapolis police exchanged gunfire.

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