

**NEWS**

# Minneapolis police involved in disputed shooting death honored

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PUBLISHED: October 12, 2013 at 11:01 p.m. | UPDATED: November 7, 2015 at 12:06 p.m.

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Two of the Minneapolis police officers involved in the shooting death of Terrance Franklin in May received an honor Saturday for their service in the line of duty.

Officers Ricardo Muro and Michael Meath were awarded the Purple Heart from the Military Order of the Purple Heart's First Responder program, Minneapolis police said.

The honor goes to Minnesota officers wounded or killed for their sacrifices in the line of duty, police said. Muro and Meath were shot by Franklin, who had broken into a home and fired on officers, Minneapolis police said.

"Congratulations to both officers for their sacrifice, service and heroism," Minneapolis police said.

According to the police version of events, officers cornered Franklin in the basement of a home he took refuge in after he wrecked his car during a police chase May 10. Franklin struggled, grabbed an officer's submachine gun and fired, wounding Muro and Meath. Neither of their wounds were life-threatening.

Officers returned fire and shot Franklin dead.



Franklin's family challenged the officers' version of the events; in September, a grand jury cleared Minneapolis police of wrongdoing.

"I respect it, and the community should respect it," said Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman of the grand jury's decision in Franklin's death.

Officer Mark Durand told investigators that Franklin fought for the MP5 submachine gun before firing it at the officers.

Officer Luke Peterson shot Franklin four times with his handgun and Meath also shot Franklin four times.

Franklin was shot in the head, neck and upper torso, police officials said. Officials said Franklin's DNA was found on the MP5's pistol grip and trigger.



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Andy Greder covers the Gophers and Minnesota United for the Pioneer Press. Since joining the paper full time in November 2013, he has also covered the Timberwolves as a beat and spot duty from the Vikings to high schools. He was a part-time breaking news reporter at the Pioneer Press from 2011-13, when he was also a freelance writer and organic farmer. He started at the Duluth News Tribune in 2006, covering sports, news and business until living abroad in 2010.

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