



Incident Summary

Brief Overview

This note covers **incident response** and was created from the [April 10, 2026, Eastbound Highway 58, Bakersfield, CA- Critical Incident Release](#) YouTube video. The notes cover the incident timeline, key personnel, evidence collection, pursuit details, and investigative outcomes.

Key Points

- Incident timeline and route of pursuit
 - **Key personnel** and law-enforcement actions
 - Evidence collection and use-of-force policy
 - Investigation outcomes and agency involvement
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Incident Overview

- **Date & Time:** April 10 2026, ≈ 5:30 p.m.
- **Location:** 500 block of South Pepper Drive, Kern County, CA; subsequent movements on Highway 58, Coffee Road, Ming Ave, Old River Rd, Campus Park Dr, Harris Rd, Buena Vista Rd, Panama Lane, Taft Hwy, and Highway 99.
- **Primary Individuals:**
 - **Suspect:** Giovanni Montoya Guzman, 41 years old.
 - **Law Enforcement:** Kern County Sheriff's Office deputies (including Deputy Javaris Dillard and Senior Deputy Isaac Asua), HSI agent (non-bodied-cam).
 - **Victim:** 40-year-old female (injured prior to deputy arrival).



Timeline of Events

1. **5:30 p.m.** – Dispatch receives 911 call reporting a shooting on South Pepper Drive.
2. **Arrival** – Deputies find victim already transported to hospital; suspect seen fleeing at high speed.
3. **Initial Stop Attempt** – Suspect's vehicle entered westbound Highway 58; deputies attempt traffic stop; suspect does not comply → pursuit begins.
4. **Pursuit Route (first termination)** –

- Exits Westside Parkway → Coffee Road (southbound in northbound lanes).
 - Pursuit terminated for public-safety risk.
5. **Pursuit Re-initiated** –
 - Southbound on Coffee Road → right turn onto westbound Ming Ave → drives wrong-direction on Old River Rd.
 - Second termination for public-safety risk.
 6. **Second Re-engagement** –
 - Exits neighborhood at Campus Park Drive → follows at safe distance through Harris Rd → Buena Vista Rd → Panama Lane → Old River Rd → eastbound Taft Hwy → onto Highway 99 (northbound).
 - Air 1 launched; suspect collides with a pickup-truck hauling a trailer just past Weedpatch Hwy; vehicle flips upside-down in Highway 58 median.
 7. **High-Risk Stop** – Deputies issue surrender commands; suspect opens fire, deputies return fire.
 8. **Outcome** – Montoya Guzman pronounced deceased on scene.



Evidence Collected

- **Video:** Edited body-worn camera footage (deputy on scene) and map-overlay video.
- **Audio:**
 - 911 call transcript (victim reporting shooter).
 - Dispatch radio logs (e.g., “40-year-old female to yield... danger at 100”).
- **Photos:** Scene-wide images, damage to deputy patrol vehicle, close-up of suspect’s firearm.
- **Other:** HSI agent presence (no body cam), homicide detectives’ field notes.



Law Enforcement Actions

- **Pursuit Management:**
 - Conducted at safe distances; terminated twice due to risk to public.
 - Re-initiated when suspect continued evasive maneuvers.
- **Command Protocol (high-risk stop):**
 - Repeated verbal commands to “show hands.”
 - escalation language (“I WILL SHOOT YOU”) followed by discharge of firearms.
- **Use of Force:**
 - Deputy and HSI agent fired after suspect shot at officers.

Use-of-Force Policy

Definition – Reasonable Belief: *A peace officer is justified in using deadly force upon another person only when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury.*

Standard – Totality of Circumstances: *The evaluation must be from the perspective of a reasonable law-enforcement officer at the time, without hindsight, accounting for rapid decision-making.*

- **Key Elements Applied:**

1. **Imminent threat:** Suspect discharged firearm at deputies and officers.
2. **Officer perception:** Deputies heard shots, observed gunfire directed at them.
3. **Policy compliance:** Incident Review Board (May 13 2026) concluded force was **within policy**.

Investigations & Outcomes

Agency/Entity	Role	Status
Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO)	Primary responders, investigators	Conducted internal use-of-force review; placed deputies on critical-incident leave pending investigation.
HSI (Homeland Security Investigations)	Agent riding with deputy (non-body-cam)	Subject to separate FBI independent investigation.
Kern County District Attorney's Office	Criminal review of deputy actions	Receives use-of-force investigation reports.
FBI	Independent review of HSI agent's use of force	Ongoing at time of report.
Incident Review Board (KCSO)	Policy compliance assessment	Determined use of force within policy (May 13 2026).

- **Legal Follow-up:** Individuals with additional information encouraged to contact KC SO (661-861-3110) or Kern Secret Witness line (661-322-4040).

Contact Information

- **Kern County Sheriff's Office:** 661-861-3110
- **Kern Secret Witness Hotline:** 661-322-4040