

Police monitor promises thorough investigation into deadly cop shooting



Police monitor promises thorough investigation into

Video 1 of 1
All Video



Wendell Allen

Related Links

[NOPD chief says man shot by police was not armed](#)

Reported by: Sabrina Wilson, Reporter

Email: swilson@fox8tv.net

Published: 3/08 5:51 pm

Updated: 3/08 7:41 pm

New Orleans—The city's independent police monitor said Thursday that she understands the public's frustration over the police shooting last night which killed 20 year old Wendell Allen.

She vows to scrutinize every inch of the NOPD's internal investigation into why the officer shot Allen.

An NOPD officer guarded the house on Prentiss in Gentilly today where the shooting happened.

And although the community seemed tranquil the day after the deadly incident, there was raw outrage moments after the shooting.

"New Orleans may be on the verge of blowing up," said resident Parnell Herbert.

Allen was killed by police gunfire while a search warrant was being executed for illegal drugs, according to police.

Superintendent Ronal Serpas said cops had previously observed drug dealing from that location.

It turned out that Allen was not armed with a weapon when he was shot. His family calls his death a murder and some community activists accuse cops of being trigger happy.

"All these cowboys they got out here, they need to start pulling these cowboys back in cause these cowboys are shooting then they ask questions later," said Norris Henderson, of the group, Safe Street Strong Communities.

Police Monitor Susan Hutson acknowledges that the anger on the streets is palpable following this police shooting and the one last week in Mid-City which left 20 year old Justin Sipp dead.

"When you have the use of lethal force so many times within a week's period, yeah, that's going to shake the department, that's going to shake the community," she said.

In the Sipp case, Serpas said Sipp jumped out of a vehicle after a traffic stop and began firing at officers. In last night's incident, Serpas said after the shooting an occupant of the house gave cops information on a weapon hidden in the Prentiss Street home. The police monitor was alongside the cops conducting the search for that gun.

"[I] Was involved in the initial walk through of the scene and the search warrant later that night, so at two o'clock in the morning I was back out at the house with the NOPD homicide, and P-I-B squads going into to look for a weapon," said Hutson.

She said she witnessed it all.

"I was there for that search, I actually watched the search go down," Hutson continued.

And Hutson said when the police department completes its investigation she will pore over every aspect of the probe.

"I want to see how thoroughly did they preserve the evidence, did they test the evidence, did they reconstruct the scene so we can see exactly where people were?" she added.

"For a policeman to go in, in their comfort zone, and kill... that ain't right, that's not right, they're corrupt," said Allen's grandmother, Deborah Allen.