

City of Richmond, California
Community Police Review Commission

PUBLIC CASE SUMMARY

Case #	Date Received	Date Completed
2020-1 (Ayon-Barraza)	4/16/2020	10/4/2021

CATEGORY OF CONDUCT: (check one)

Unnecessary Force	Racial Bias
<u>X</u>	

FINDINGS OF FACT: (brief summary of complaint and investigation)

On April 16, 2020, RPD assisted Oakland PD with a vehicle pursuit of a murder suspect, Ayon-Barraza, who fled on local highways and exited onto Richmond city streets. During the chase. Ayon-Barraza pointed a handgun at officers and civilian drivers and drove at high rates of speed and in a reckless manner through city traffic. An RPD Officer spotted the White Chevy van in question at the intersection of Cutting Boulevard and South 37th Street and took a lead in the vehicle pursuit.

As the van approached Carlson Boulevard on S. 37th, it made a U-turn and headed back toward the RPD officer, readying and raising a handgun out the window at the officer. The officer believed his life was in imminent danger and therefore fired multiple shots at the van as it made a U-turn and came back toward him. The van continued past the officers and crashed head-on into Oakland PD officers' cars at an intersection in the road. Multiple officers from Oakland and the RPD officer all fired into the van. After several hours, the suspect was removed from the van and pronounced dead. The coroner determined the cause of death to be two gunshot wounds.

The Commission found that the RPD officer faced a threat of imminent death or serious bodily harm , as did other officers. However, the Commission also found that the RPD officer fired multiple shots from and at a moving vehicle in a dense residential area under chaotic circumstances, and that the officer also fired shots at the suspect van while Oakland PD officers were in the line of fire.

Given the totality of the circumstances the Commission reached a finding of ***NOT SUSTAINED*** on the issue of unreasonable force used by the RPD officer against Ayon-Barraza.

RECOMMENDED FINDINGS: (check one)

Unnecessary Force

<u>SUSTAINED</u>	<u>NOT-SUSTAINED</u>	<u>UNFOUNDED</u>	<u>EXONERATED.</u>
	<u>X</u>		