



**CITY OF WAUWATOSA
POLICE DEPARTMENT**
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Investigative Synopsis – Officer-Involved Shooting of Anthony A. Virginia (M/W, 10/16/83)

On March 8th, 2024, the Milwaukee Area Investigative Team (MAIT) was activated to investigate an officer-involved shooting to the rear of 5024 N. 37 St. in the City of Milwaukee, County of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin, pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute §175.47. The request was made by the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD). The person shot was identified as Anthony A. Virginia (M/W, 10/16/83).

The Wauwatosa Police Department was designated as the lead agency for the investigation. The following agencies assisted with the investigation: Greendale Police Department, Fox Point Police Department, South Milwaukee Police Department, West Allis Police Department, Oak Creek Police Department, Glendale Police Department, City of Brookfield Police Department, Brown Deer Police Department, Greenfield Police Department, Waukesha Police Department, and the Wisconsin State Crime Lab. The Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office responded to the scene for oversight.

On March 8th, 2024, Milwaukee Police Officers Andrew Schnell, Justino Rodriguez, and Sgt. Jesse Busshardt responded to the area of N. 37 St. and W. Lancaster Ave. The officers were checking the area for suspects from a burglary and shots fired incident which had just occurred at 5150 N. 32 St. While checking the area, Sgt. Busshardt had located two subjects matching the description of the suspects (Anthony Virginia and Orlando M. Lagar (M/W, 03/02/91). Virginia and Lagar were walking Southeast on the railroad tracks from the crossing at N. 37 St. and W. Lancaster Ave. Sgt. Busshardt identified himself and ordered Virginia and Lagar to stop. Both Virginia and Lagar fled on foot from Sgt. Busshardt along the railroad tracks. Officer Schnell and Rodriguez were at the crossing in the 3500 block of W. Fairmount Ave. Officer Schnell moved Northwest on the railroad tracks while Officer Rodriguez returned to their squad.

As Sgt. Busshardt and Officer Schnell approached the subjects, Virginia produced a handgun and raised it toward Officer Schnell. Officer Schnell fired three shots from a rifle striking Virginia. A firearm was removed from Virginia's hand and Lagar was taken into custody nearby. Officers then provided medical aid to Virginia. The Milwaukee Fire Department responded and transported Virginia to a local hospital where he died from his injuries. The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office conducted an autopsy of Virginia. During the autopsy, a bullet was recovered from Virginia's head. The WSCL confirmed the bullet recovered from Virginia's head was fired from the firearm that Virginia was carrying.

All three Milwaukee Police Officers provided statements to MAIT investigators and cooperated with this investigation. This case was presented to the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office on May 8th, 2025.