



PRESS RELEASE

Tacoma Police Department
Tacoma, Washington
cityoftacoma.org/police

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Newly Released Information Regarding the Manuel Ellis Case

Tacoma, Wash. – According to media reports, a Tacoma police officer has been named in the Washington State Patrol report as having placed a spit hood on Manuel Ellis the night of his death. Based on the independent nature of the investigation, the City of Tacoma was only recently notified of the officer's reported actions on the scene.

As of December 31, 2020, the Tacoma Police Department placed Officer Armando Farinas on paid administrative leave pending the final investigative report and charging decision by the Attorney General's Office. Officer Farinas is a 26-year-old male and has been with the department three years.

While redacted copies of the investigation have been made available to parties and the media through the Public Disclosure Act, the City is awaiting the finalization of the investigation and charging decisions by the Attorney General's Office prior to receiving and reviewing final reports. It is the Department's position that awaiting this complete record helps to maintain the full independence of the investigative process and the spirit of 1940 by avoiding the appearance of undue influence on a process that is not yet final.

The Tacoma Police Department stands ready to take prompt and appropriate steps upon receipt of the final investigative report and charging decision.

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