



**ONE  
ALBUQUE  
RQUE**

**For immediate release**

Contact: [Gilbert Gallegos](#) | 505-377-6952  
Friday, Sept. 4, 2020

---

## **APD Releases Details of Recent Officer-Involved Shooting on Sooner Trail N.W.**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – The Albuquerque Police Department released details today of the Aug. 10, 2020 officer-involved shooting at 4800 Sooner Trail N.W.

### **Summary of Incident**

Officers were dispatched to 4800 Sooner Trail N.W. about a dispute between neighbors. Officers were advised one of the neighbors in the dispute, later identified as Jose Vallejos, was pointing a gun at the caller.

The caller advised his daughter was hiding in a vehicle parked outside of the residence.

As officers arrived, they approached the scene and shouted, “Albuquerque Police! You need to drop the gun. Get on the ground!” They continued toward Vallejos and stopped at a house approximately 75 yards from his location.

Vallejos was given another command to keep his hands free and empty.

Officers observed Vallejos armed with a handgun. Officers commanded Vallejos to put his hands up. Vallejos raised a handgun toward the caller. Lt. Sanchez responded by firing two shots at Vallejos who was struck once. He succumbed to his injury.

Lt. Sanchez stated in his interview he observed Mr. Vallejos raise his arm parallel to the ground with a black firearm in his hand. He stated Mr. Vallejos had a clear intent of pointing the firearm in the direction of the caller. Lt. Sanchez believed the caller was going to be shot by Mr. Vallejos. Lt. Sanchez was scared for the caller’s life and felt he had no choice but to fire his weapon.

An interview was conducted with the caller who stated he was at his friend’s house for a party. When he was about to leave, Mr. Vallejos confronted him with what the caller believed to be a rifle.

The caller had already placed his daughter in his vehicle and did not want to confront Mr. Vallejos, although the caller was armed with a handgun. The caller went inside the house to call police. He exited the House to see if Mr. Vallejos was still outside and observed Vallejos was now armed with a handgun.

The caller drew his weapon and told Vallejos to drop his gun. Officers had arrived at this time and were also commanding Vallejos to drop his gun. The caller said Vallejos pointed the gun at him and police officers. The caller heard a couple of gunshots and observed Vallejos fall to the ground.

The caller's daughter was interviewed and stated her father told her to stay in the car and hide. She also called 911 from inside the car and could hear the offender yelling that he was going to shoot the neighbor. She stated she was afraid Vallejos was going to harm her father.

The caller and his family were innocent bystanders in an ongoing dispute between Vallejos and his neighbor.

**Involved individual:** Jose F. Vallejos

**The officer involved in the shooting was:**

- **Lt. Jose Sanchez**, who has been with the department since 2006, has been not been involved in any prior officer-involved shootings.

###