

# DPS: Officer shot in Payson during traffic stop

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PAYSON, AZ - Authorities have identified a man they say shot a Department of Public Safety officer during a routine traffic stop in Payson.

DPS spokesman Carrick Cook said the Highway Patrol officer was shot multiple times just after 10

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The suspect has been identified as 22-year-old Cody Archuleta of Tempe.

Cook said the suspect started shooting at the officer through the car window as the officer approached.

He then fled the scene traveling northbound. Another officer, on his first night in the field, happened to be in the area and witnessed the suspect run a red light.

Officers with DPS, the Payson Police Department and deputies with the Gila County Sheriff's Office chased the suspect for 40 miles along State Route 87.

Cook said Archuleta stopped in a field and more gunfire was exchanged. He said eventually the suspect shot and killed himself. A gun was found



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in Archuleta's vehicle and other evidence was found that gives more insight into the shooting, but officials aren't releasing specific information at this time.

The injured officer managed to drive himself to a nearby hospital, where he was airlifted to a Phoenix hospital.

Cook said Sunday morning that the officer is in stable condition and out of surgery.

"He is in good spirits and expected to survive," Cook tweeted Sunday.

"The fact that we've got people getting shot and then taking themselves to the hospital that says a lot," Cook said. "If they're willing to do that for themselves and they're in a career to help others, it can only offer comfort to the people in those communities to know these are the types of

people looking out for them."

The 39-year-old officer has worked with the Arizona Department of Public Safety for 14 years. Cook said his name wouldn't be released until Monday.

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