

By Tobias Salinger

An Alabama man who ran at a police officer with a metal spoon in his hand after a scuffle on his balcony was shot and killed by the officer, police said.

The Tuscaloosa officer had used a stun gun that had no effect in a struggle with Jeffery Ray Tevis, 50, before he fatally shot him at Tevis' apartment at around 6 p.m. on Thursday night, according to the Tuscaloosa Police Department.

Witnesses had alerted officers that Tevis was threatening a neighbor at the Chateau Apartments on University Blvd. East, Capt. Gary Hood, commander of the Tuscaloosa County Metro Homicide Unit, told reporters at a press conference on Friday.

Tevis seemed to be having a "mental episode" when the unidentified officer showed up at the apartment, Hood said. The sheriff's office is investigating the shooting independently from the police department.



The Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Office is investigating after a police officer shot a man who apparently fought with him and attacked him with a large metal spoon at this apartment Thursday night.

(WIAT.com)

Hood said Tevis was bleeding from his face and arms before he fought with the cop on his balcony, [The Tuscaloosa News reported](#). Investigators believe he had inflicted the wounds even though he told them people had attacked him, the newspaper reported.

Police said Tevis hit the officer and appeared close to pushing him over the second-floor railing before the cop managed to get him back inside the apartment, [according to AL.com](#). The officer used his stun gun on Tevis and retreated but the shocks had no effect, [WIAT-TV reported](#).

“Witnesses said Mr. Tevis raised his hand over his head holding a large metal spoon in a threatening manner and rushed the officer,” Hood said on Friday. “At that time, the officer pulled his duty weapon as he was backing away and fired two shots, striking Mr. Tevis, causing him to immediately fall down.”



Police said Jeffery Ray Tevis, 50, had threatened a neighbor around 6 p.m. on Thursday night at the Chateau Apartments when officers showed up to find him bloody and aggressive.

(WIAT.com)

Tevis was white and the police officer's name and race haven't been released, [The Guardian reported Monday](#). The officer was wearing a body camera that wasn't turned on, investigators told the newspaper. The 16-year cop received treatment for minor injuries Thursday night and he'll be on administrative leave until the investigation is finished, according to the Tuscaloosa News.

A grand jury will decide whether the officer was justified in gunning down Tevis, Tuscaloosa County District Attorney Lyn Head told reporters on Friday.

“While all of the witness statements are indicative that there was certainly a justification of the use of deadly physical force on the part of this officer, it is the policy in this county that all cases involving injury or death to an individual where an officer is involved, they are presented to a Tuscaloosa County grand jury and this one will be as well,” Head said. “We will have an independent grand jury that will review this set of facts and witness statements.”



Capt. Gary Hood, commander of the Tuscaloosa County Metro Homicide Unit, said on Friday that Tevis seemed to be having a 'mental episode' when the officer arrived to his apartment.

(WIAT.com)

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