



# TEHAMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dave Kain, Sheriff-Coroner

Jeff Garrett, Undersheriff

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 729, Red Bluff, CA 96080

Main Office: 22840 Antelope Blvd., Red Bluff, CA 96080 (530) 529-7940 / (530) 529-7933 FAX  
Jail/Dispatch: 502 Oak St., Red Bluff, CA 96080 (530) 529-7900 / (530) 528-7614 FAX

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## PRESS INFORMATION

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\*\*\*UPDATED 10/16/2023 at 2:00 PM\*\*\*

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Attempted homicide of a Peace Officer

CASE NUMBER: 23-02362

GENERAL LOCATION: Southbound I-5, south of Flores Ave & Southbound I-5, north of Finnell Ave.

DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT: 10/15/2023 at 11:38 AM

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VICTIM NAME(S): Withheld

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SUSPECT NAME: **Joseph Michael Pate**

AGE: **39**

ADDRESS: **Pittsburg, CA**

STATUS: **DECEASED**

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### SUMMARY OF INCIDENT:

On 10/15/2023 around 11:38 AM, a CHP Officer from the CHP Red Bluff Office responded to the area of Southbound I-5, north of Flores Avenue for a report of a disabled motorist.

Shortly after arriving on scene the Officer broadcasted emergency radio traffic that he had been struck by gunfire from a rifle fired by the driver of the disabled vehicle. The driver was later identified as Joseph Michael PATE, a 39 year old man from Pittsburg, CA.

Tehama County Sheriff's Deputies, along with allied agencies, including the Red Bluff Police Department, Corning Police Department, CHP, and CalFire immediately began a response to the scene. Prior to Officers arriving on scene, PATE stole the CHP vehicle and fled southbound on Interstate 5. PATE was believed to have been hit by gunfire when the CHP Officer initially returned fire.

Near the area of Interstate 5, north of Finnell avenue, the stolen CHP vehicle collided with a semi-truck. The semi-truck rolled over onto its side and came to a stop on the West shoulder of the freeway. The stolen CHP vehicle crashed into a field, West of Interstate 5 and caught fire.

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PATE was detained at the scene and emergency aid was rendered for multiple gunshot wounds. PATE was transported to Enloe Medical Center; however, despite lifesaving efforts, he was later pronounced deceased.

The driver of the semi-truck suffered minor injuries.

The CHP Officer sustained serious injuries but is expected to survive. Additional questions regarding the Officer's status should be referred to the California Highway Patrol.

The Tehama County Officer Involved Shooting Protocol has been activated and the Tehama County Sheriff's Office is conducting a criminal investigation into PATE's actions. The Tehama County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigations is conducting an investigation into the Officer's involvement in the shooting. The California Highway Patrol will also be conducting a separate, internal investigation of the incident.

As the case progresses, Investigators are actively seeking to establish PATE's motive for his actions during this tragic event.

Anyone with information, or any video recordings of the incident is encouraged to contact the Tehama County Sheriff's Office investigations unit at 530-529-7920.

**Reported By: Captain D. Sherrill**

**\*\*\*UPDATED 10/16/2023 at 2:00 PM\*\*\***