



NEWS RELEASE

29 S. State Street | Westerville, Ohio 43081

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject:	Suspect Charged with Two Counts of Aggravated Murder		
Releasing Officer:	Public Information Officer Christa Dickey		
Date:	Sunday, February 11, 2018		
Press Release Log:		Report #:	N/A

(Westerville, Ohio) – The Columbus Division of Police has filed two counts of aggravated murder charges against Quentin L. Smith, 30. Smith is the suspect in the killing of Westerville officers Officer Anthony Morelli, 54, and Officer Eric Joering, 39. Both officers were shot while responding to a hang-up 9-1-1 call. Officer Morelli was a 29-year veteran of WPD; Officer Joering has been with WPD for 16 years.

The incident occurred around 12 p.m. Saturday, February 10. Officers Morelli and Joering were fired upon during their arrival at an address on Crosswind Dr. from where the 9-1-1 call originated. Smith remains in the hospital in stable condition. He is expected to survive his wounds.

The Columbus Division of Police continues to lead the criminal investigation.

WPD will escort the bodies of Officers Morelli and Joering home from the Franklin County Coroner's Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, February 12. Officer Morelli will be escorted to Moreland Funeral Home (55 E. Schrock Rd); Officer Joering will be taken to Hill Funeral Home (220 S. State St.). Funeral information will be provided later. The public is invited to line S. State St. from 1-270 north to Uptown Westerville around 11:30 a.m. (check www.westerville.org for updated times)

The City of Westerville and Westerville Division of Police continue to request

your thoughts and prayers for the officers and their families.
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