



State of Connecticut

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

ELIOT D. PRESCOTT
INSPECTOR GENERAL

P.O. BOX 460
CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT 06410
ELIOT.PRESCOTT@CT.GOV
Telephone: (203) 806-1595

July 21, 2026

Preliminary Status Report Regarding the Use of Deadly Force by the Meriden Police Department on July 19, 2026

In accordance with General Statutes §51-277a(a)(5),¹ Inspector General Eliot D. Prescott submits this preliminary status report regarding the use of deadly force by the Meriden Police Department on July 19, 2026. During this incident, Robert Lee Jenkins III, a white male, age 38, died as a result of the use of deadly force by a law enforcement officer.

According to our preliminary investigation, on July 19, 2026, at approximately 10:00 a.m., Meriden police officers were dispatched to a residence on Sagamore Road in Meriden in response to an active domestic violence incident. Officer Anthony Offiaeli was first to arrive at the residence. When he arrived, Jenkins III was bludgeoning a male,² who was laying motionless on the front lawn, in the head with a baseball bat. Officer Offiaeli ordered Jenkins III to drop the baseball bat four times but he did not comply and continued to strike the prone male on the head with the bat. Officer Offiaeli then discharged his service firearm numerous times at Jenkins III. Several rounds struck Jenkins III who then dropped the bat and fell to the ground.

Jenkins III received medical treatment at the scene, was transported to Hartford Hospital, and died as a result of his injuries at 11:30 p.m. The male assaulted by Jenkins III was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Office of Inspector General responded to the scene. The scene was processed by detectives from the State Police Central District Major Crime Squad.

On July 20, 2026, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) performed an autopsy of Jenkins III. The medical examiner determined the cause of death to be "multiple gunshot wounds of the torso" and the manner of death to be "homicide." A copy of the Medical

¹ General Statutes §51-277a(a)(5) mandates that, in cases in which "a peace officer, in the performance of such officer's duties, uses physical force or deadly physical force upon another person and such person dies *as a result thereof*," the Inspector General complete a preliminary report within five business days after the cause of death is available.

² Pursuant to General Statutes §54-86e, the identity of individuals who may be the victim of a family violence crime shall not be disclosed.

July 21, 2026

Page 2

Examiner's Notification to Police is [attached](#). As of the date of this report, neither the death certificate nor toxicology results are available.

On July 20, 2026, the OCME also performed an autopsy of the male assaulted by Jenkins III. The medical examiner determined his cause of death to "blunt force head injuries" and the manner of death to be "homicide."

The Office of Inspector General, Connecticut State Police Central District Major Crime Squad, the Meriden Police Department, and the New Haven Judicial District State's Attorney's Office are conducting the investigation into these matters, which is continuing.

[To view video from Officer Offiaeli's body worn camera and his cruiser's dashcam, click [here](#) and [here](#)]

[WARNING – THE VIDEOS CONTAINS GRAPHIC IMAGES AND VULGAR LANGUAGE THAT MAY BE DISTURBING TO VIEWERS]

State of Connecticut

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

11 Shuttle Road, Farmington, CT 06032

Telephone: (860) 679-3980



07/20/2026

RE: NOTIFICATION TO POLICE

OCME CASE # 26-14101

PD CASE #

This is to inform you that the cause of death of the following person is as stated below.

Name of the Deceased	Found Dead On:	Autopsy Performed:
Robert Jenkins III	07/19/2026	Yes, 07/20/2026

The cause of death has been certified as:

MULTIPLE GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF THE TORSO

The manner of death has been certified as: **Homicide**

Sincerely,

James R. Gill, M.D.

Chief Medical Examiner

COMPLETION INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1- Complete as required.
- 2- Make one copy for case file.
- 3- Original to Police Department.



26-14101NOPO