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## Police trying to trace rifle used to kill deputy

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Investigators are trying to determine how Matthew M. Connor got the AK-47 semi-automatic rifle he used to fatally shoot a Berks County deputy sheriff, District Attorney John T. Adams said Friday.

Adams said he believes the rifle Connor used to kill Kyle D. Pagerly can be legally purchased.

However, Connor was ineligible to have a firearm because of a felony conviction for burglary as a juvenile, officials said.

People who provide guns to those they know are ineligible should be prosecuted, Adams said.

He said state police are trying to determine who the registered owner of the rifle is and how it got into Connor's hands.

"This is an individual who was not eligible to possess a firearm," Adams said of Connor. "I would like to find out who gave him the firearm or how he obtained that firearm. This could lead to prosecution."

Pagerly, 28, a member of the sheriff's fugitive warrants division, and Connor were killed in a shootout Wednesday night near the Connor family home in Albany Township.

Pagerly, one of two K-9 officers in the department, was struck by several bullets, and at least one penetrated his body armor into his chest, investigators said.

He was flown to Lehigh Valley Hospital near Allentown, where he died a short time later, officials said.

Pagerly was the first Berks deputy killed in the line of duty.

Coroner Dennis J. Hess said Connor died of a gunshot wound to the head.

Investigators said they haven't determined who fired the fatal shot.

Officials said both deaths have been ruled homicides because they were intentionally caused by another person.

According to state police:

Two days before the shooting, troopers were called to the Connor home in the first block of Pine Swamp Road after Connor threatened to kill relatives and fired a pistol into the ground near them several times.

He ran into the woods after throwing a suicide note in the yard.

On Wednesday, authorities learned Connor was again in the vicinity of the home and a team went there after him.

While talking to relatives of Connor, authorities learned he was in a nearby house.

Connor fled up a wooded hill behind the house and the team followed.

Located by Pagerly's dog, Jynx, Connor stood up, holding a rifle. Pagerly, who was wearing a helmet and body armor, ordered him to drop the rifle and gunfire erupted.

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