

Security tightens after shooting

BY MARTIN DERBYSHIRE
Staff Writer

Owners of the home next door to where a break-in suspect was shot and killed by York Regional Police in Newmarket Thursday installed security cameras the next day.

But, ironically, it was not Thursday's late-afternoon incident that spurred on the Southwind Court homeowners' interest in added security.

Friends of their family were also victims of a home invasion in Thornhill last April, during which York Regional Police shot and killed another man, the neighbours said.

"We are concerned about this kind of thing, since (our friends) in Thornhill had their home invaded and police shot a man there," said the homeowner, who asked her name not be used.

"It's scary."
Thursday's incident was a little more than a month after police were cleared in a shooting death of a home invasion suspect on Steele Valley Road in Thornhill and the fourth time a York officer has shot and killed a man in a little more than a year.

Northern Alarm Protection's Ted Koziel, who installed the security equipment Friday, said more customers are asking for cameras than ever before.

"There is a lot of fear out there," he said. Thursday's incident began just after 4 p.m. as police responded to a break and enter call on Southwind, a secluded court in central Newmarket featuring estate homes on sprawling lots.

Officers confronted a 27-year-old man outside the front door of the home.

Shots were fired and a man was killed. Police sources confirmed the man had two knives in his hand at the time of the shooting.

The provincial Special Investigations Unit has been called in to investigate, as is routine any time an officer shoots and injures or kills a suspect.

The man's identity is not being released at this time, SIU officers said.

In addition to Thursday's shooting and the Steele Valley incident, York Regional Police shot a man attacking an officer following an industrial unit robbery in Markham and a man attacking his parents during a domestic dispute, also in Markham.

The SIU cleared officers of criminal charges in all three previous incidents.

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► **BE AWARE:** Make note of suspicious or unfamiliar people or vehicles in your neighbourhood and call police if you are concerned.

► **CALL POLICE:** If you see something suspicious, call 1-866-876-5423, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS or leave a tip online at 1800222tips.com

► **OBSERVE:** Be a good witness and take note of suspect appearance and his vehicle.

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