**Police shoot college football player in Texas**

By [Sandhya Somashekhar](http://www.washingtonpost.com/people/sandhya-somashekhar) August 7

A police officer in Arlington, Tex., shot and killed a 19-year-old Angelo State University student Friday after responding to a report of a burglary in progress at a car dealership.

Christian J. Taylor, 19, was shot after an “altercation” with an Arlington officer. Taylor was unarmed at the time, police said. He was one of 585 people shot and killed by police so far this year, according to a[Washington Post database](http://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/police-shootings/)of fatal police shootings.

Taylor, who would have started his sophomore year at the school this fall, played as a free safety on the university’s football team. As news of his death spread, friends and teammates responded with an outpouring of grief on social media.

“Heart is hurting,” Will Wagner, coach of the football team, wrote Friday afternoon on Twitter.

Police say Taylor’s death stemmed from an incident at a car dealership in Arlington, which is just west of Dallas. Police were summoned to the dealership about 1 a.m. after a security company monitoring the property noticed a figure on a surveillance camera and called 911. Police arrived to find that a vehicle had been driven through the front of the building, police said.

Police confronted Taylor and a fight ensued during which at least one officer discharged his weapon, killing Taylor, police said. No weapon was found on Taylor.

Police have identified the officer as Brad Miller, 49, who graduated from the police academy in March, police said. He has no record of disciplinary action and no commendations, they said. He has been placed on administrative leave, which is customary in incidents in which deadly force is used.

Arlington officers do not wear body cameras, but the department is implementing a pilot program to use them. Officials have begun examining surveillance video from the scene but so far have not found images of the shooting.

One teammate of Taylor’s, who asked not to be identified because Taylor’s family has asked that no one speak to the media, described Taylor as a caring person who loved playing football and had recently found God. Once, the teammate said, a woman Taylor didn’t know needed a ride to see her family in Dallas, five hours from the university, and Taylor helped her.

Becky Brackin, a spokeswoman for Angelo State College, said she did not know the details surrounding Taylor’s death. However, she said, “I can tell you we have some sad friends here and as a university we want to send our condolences to his family and friends.”

[According to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram](http://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/community/arlington/article30387390.html#storylink=cpy), Taylor had no convictions but was sentenced to six months’ probation last year on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. Taylor had been found in possession of 11 hydrocodone tablets that were not prescribed to him, the newspaper reported.

The case was dismissed last month after Taylor completed his probation, the newspaper reported.