Incident/Investigation Report

Agency: **Sonoma County Sheriff's Office** Case #: **SD150423001**

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT - DO NOT DUPLICATE

Incident Information

Date/Time Reported: **04/22/2015 2351**	Occurred Between: **04/22/2015 2351** & **04/22/2015 2351**
Location: **2661 OLD GRAVENSTEIN HW, 95472**	
UCR Status:	Officer: **Toney, Jeffery 1101041**

Summary: A suspect was shot when deputies were assaulted during the aftermath of a vehicle pursuit. The suspect died later at the hospital. As a result, the Santa Rosa Police Department is conducting this investigation pursuant to the Sonoma County Wide Fatal Incident Protocol.

Related Cases: No Associated Cases

Charges

Statute: **000 - FATAL INCIDENT PROTOCOL**	Attempted/Completed: **Completed**
Classification: Other Offenses	Weapon:
Location: MISCELLANEOUS	

Offenders

Name (Last, First Middle):	DOB:	Age/Race/Gender:	Height/Weight:
JANKS, KAREN AUDRA	[redacted]	**46/White/Female**	**5'08"/145**
Address: [redacted] 29TH AV, SAN FRANCISCO CA 94116			
Employer/School: -			

Others Involved

Inv Type:	Name (Last, First Middle):	DOB:	Age/Race/Gender:	Height/Weight:
Other	[redacted]	[redacted]	**43/Hispanic/Male**	**/**
Address: ,				
Employer/School: -				

Vehicle

Year/Make/Model/Style/Color/License/State:	VIN:	Value:
/Honda/PILOT/Carry-all/WHITE/[redacted]/CA		$0.00
Status:		

Narrative

Initial Narrative
Written by: **Toney, Jeffery 1101041**
Date/Time: **04/23/2015 00:38:55**

Supplemental Investigative Report
Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office
Case # SD150423-001
Detective Jeff Toney
Violent Crimes Investigations Unit (VCI)

Officer Involved Shooting

Involved Deputies:

Deputy Joel Pedersen
Deputy James Falberg
Deputy Lawrence Matelli
Deputy Daniel Edwards
Deputy Eric Seibold

Witnessing Sergeant / Deputies:

Sergeant Jason Craver
Deputy John Gillette
Deputy Kalvin Gorforth
Deputy Erick Gelhaus
Deputy Jeremy Lyle
Deputy Henri Boustany
Deputy Ryan Patrick

Suspect:

Karen Audra Janks

NOTIFICATION

On 04-23-2015, at approximately 0028 hours, I was the assigned on-call VCI Detective. I was notified at my home by VCI Sergeant Shannon McAlvain that Sonoma County Sheriff`s Deputies were involved in an officer involved shooting during the aftermath of a vehicle pursuit. The unknown suspect was currently being treated for life threatening injuries at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital.

Sergeant McAlvain advised it had been determined that the Santa Rosa Police Department would be conducting the investigation pursuant to the Sonoma County Fatal Incident Protocol. Sergeant McAlvain requested I respond to the Sheriff`s main office, where the incident would be briefed further. I was assigned to be the liaison Detective for the Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office.

Upon arrival, I met with Sergeant McAlvain and VCI Detective Fowler. Sergeant McAlvain assigned Detective Fowler to assist me in a liaison role.

BRIEFING

On 04-23-2015, at approximately 0240 hours, Sonoma County Sheriff`s Lieutenant Darin Dougherty provided a briefing on the Deputy involved shooting. The briefing was held in the Sheriff`s Office`s first floor Training Room. Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office Command Staff and members of the Santa Rosa Police Departments Investigative Sergeants and Detectives were present.

BRIEFING SUMMARY

On 04-22-2015, at approximately 23:46:13 hours, Sonoma County Sheriff`s Dispatch Center received a telephone call from a citizen reporting a vehicle driving backwards (southbound) in the northbound lanes of the northbound US 101 onramp at Central Windsor. The citizen caller described the vehicle as being a gold sedan, or similar and said the vehicle made a u-turn and got off

at the Windsor exit. While taking the call, Sheriff`s dispatch broadcast a Be On the Lookout (BOL) with the information received by the citizen caller regarding the reckless driver.

Deputy Joel Pedersen was on duty in marked patrol vehicle working his assignment in Zone 2, and he was in Windsor when the BOL was broadcasted. Within minutes of the reckless driver broadcast, Deputy Pedersen was heard on the radio initiating a traffic enforcement stop on a vehicle at the intersection of Starr Road and Old Redwood Highway.

The vehicle failed to yield for Deputy Pedersen and proceeded onto southbound US 101 at a high rate of speed. Deputy Pedersen began pursuing the suspect vehicle. Hearing the pursuit broadcast, Windsor Police Department Deputies Falberg, Edwards and Matelli became involved in the pursuit. Deputies Falberg and Edwards were driving together in a marked Windsor patrol vehicle.

As the pursuit continued southbound on US 101, an attempt was made to disable the suspect vehicle tires with a Spike Strip at southbound US 101 at River Road. The vehicle avoided the Spike Strip and continued southbound at speeds exceeding 100 MPH. The suspect vehicle exited at Todd Road in Santa Rosa and continued westbound through Stony Point Road. The suspect vehicle continued westbound on Todd Road and onto Old Gravenstein Highway where it abruptly turned into a business parking lot and storefront at 2661 Old Gravenstein Highway Sebastopol, CA.

Deputies Pedersen, Falberg, Edwards and L. Matelli positioned their patrol vehicles behind the suspect vehicle and exited, giving verbal commands for the solo occupant to surrender. Seeing no response, the above listed deputies approached the suspect vehicle. As they approached the suspect vehicle, it accelerated in reverse, striking the deputies and patrol vehicle parked behind them. The force of the vehicle caused the deputies to be knocked to the ground. The female suspect then began to drive away through the parking lot. As the vehicle fled, deputies responded by firing rounds into the suspect vehicle and the vehicle came to rest. Sheriff`s Deputies removed the female from the vehicle and began rendering emergency medical aid. The suspect was transported via ambulance to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital with life threatening injuries. Based on the results of a DMV records check of the suspect vehicle, it was believed the suspect was Karen Audra Janks, the registered owner of the vehicle.

Lieutenant Dougherty identified Sheriff`s Deputies Joel Pedersen, James Falberg, Lawrence Matelli and Daniel Edwards as being the primary involved Deputies. These Deputies were currently being sequestered at the Fountain Grove Inn, located at 101 Fountain Grove Parkway, Santa Rosa, CA.

The witnessing Sergeant and Deputies who arrived on scene immediately after the shooting were identified as Sergeant Jason Craver, Deputies John Gillette, Kalvin Goforth and Eric Seibold. The witnessing Deputies who arrived on scene immediately after the shooting and rendered emergency medical aid to the suspect were identified as Deputies Erick Gelhaus, Henri Boustany and Ryan Patrick. These Deputies were not sequestered; however they were standing by to be interviewed by Detectives with the Santa Rosa Police Department.

After the briefing I met with Santa Rosa Police VCI Detective Hector De Leon. Detective De Leon was assigned as the lead investigator on the case. I provided Detective De Leon with the names of the involved and witnessing Deputies. Detective De Leon provided a preliminary action plan regarding the investigation.

***Although Deputy Eric Seibold was initially identified as being a witnessing Deputy, it was later learned he was actually involved in the pursuit, driving in a Windsor patrol vehicle with Deputy L. Matelli, and was present during the shooting.

SCENE

After the briefing, Detective Fowler and I responded to the scene located at 2661 Old Gravenstein Highway Sebastopol, CA. We arrived at approximately 0341 hours and met with members of the Santa Rosa Police Departments Investigations team and Sonoma County Deputy District Attorney Scott Jamar and Deputy District Attorney Investigator Ed Hemphill. The scenes perimeter was cordoned with crime scene tape and it was being managed by the Santa Rosa Police Department.

At approximately 0351 hours, I signed into the crime scene log and entered the crime scene to conduct an investigative walk through with members of the Santa Rosa Police Department and District Attorney`s Office. My investigative walk through consisted of viewing the scene from afar. I did not approach any of the vehicles within the scene. At approximately 0417 hours, I exited the crime scene and signed out of the crime scene log.

INVESTIGATION

Detective Fowler and I returned to the Sheriff`s main office building where I assisted Detectives from the Santa Rosa Police Department with obtaining information and services as requested. During this time, Detectives from the Santa Rosa Police Department conducted interviews with the Deputies who were witnesses to the incident and Deputies who rendered medical aid to the suspect. I did not personally monitor any of these interviews.

At approximately 0820 hours, Detective Fowler and I responded to the Fountain Grove Inn, room number 250, where we met with Detectives and Sergeants from the Santa Rosa Police Departments VCI Bureau. Deputy District Attorney Scott Jamar and Deputy District Attorney Investigator Ed Hemphill were also present.

For the next several hours, I monitored the interviews of Deputies Joel Pedersen and Daniel Edwards via CCTV. The interviews were conducted in room number 256 by SRPD VCI Detectives Tim Hughes and Hector De Leon. Attorney Terry Leoni, from Rains Lucia Stern PC, represented the Deputies and accompanied them during the interviews. I watched the interviews in room number 250 via CCTV which was not video recorded, but able to be viewed for audio and video.

During a break after the interview of Deputy Joel Pedersen, Attorney, Terry Leoni, met with Deputies Falberg, L. Matelli and Edwards to provide them with a time estimate of when their interviews would commence. After consulting with the Deputies, it was determined that Deputies Falberg and L. Matelli would be interviewed on 04-24-2015 at 1000 hours.

At approximately 1300 hours, SRPD Detectives completed their interview with Deputy Daniel Edwards. Detective Fowler and I left the Fountain Grove Inn. I received a telephone call from SRPD CSI Sergeant Isachsen telling me that all of the SCSO patrol vehicles at the scene had been processed and ready for pick up. I contacted SCSO Windsor PD Sergeant Murphy and asked for his assistance in retrieving WPD vehicles W38, W34 and W31. Sergeant Murphy told me he would arrange to have the vehicles retrieved from the scene.

Detective Freitas drove Detective Fowler and I to the scene where we met with SRPD CSI Sergeant Tom Isachsen. Sergeant Isachsen released SCSO patrol vehicles A803 and A810 and we returned them to the Sheriff`s main office. I received a telephone call from SRPD VCI Detective Greg Wojick requesting I assist him with obtaining the Spike Strip from Deputy Kalvin Goforth`s patrol vehicle. I remembered seeing Deputy Goforth carrying a Spike Strip from his vehicle into the Sheriff`s office building when I initially arrived at 0108 hours. Deputy Goforth placed his Spike Strip at SCSO Community Service Officer Pat Moffitt`s desk to be serviced. I secured the Spike Strip which was partially enclosed in a hard plastic carrying case with protective gloves. SRPD VCI Detective Wojick later responded to the Sheriff`s office and I provided him the Spike Strip.

On 04-24-2015, at approximately 0930 hours, I met with members of the SRPD VCI Bureau and at the Sheriff`s main Office building Investigations Bureau. Sonoma County Deputy District Attorney Scott Jamar and Deputy District Attorney Investigator Ed Hemphill were also present. Attorney Terry Leoni from Rains Lucia Stern, PC arrived moments later along with SCSO Deputies James Falberg and Lawrence Matelli.

At approximately 1025 hours, SRPD VCI Detectives Hector De Leon and Tim Hughes began their independent interviews with Deputies Falberg and Matelli in conference room 2D, located on the second floor of the Sheriff`s Office. I monitored the interviews via CCTV from the VCI Investigations Office. The interviews were completed at approximately 1400 hours.

On 04-28-2015, at approximately 1100 hours, I met with SRPD Detective Hector De Leon at the Sheriff`s Office and provided him with A CD-R disc I received from Deputy Henri Boustany which contained three photographs of Deputy James Falberg. The photographs, which depict Deputy Falberg`s injuries, were taken by Deputy Henri Boustany immediately after the pursuit while Deputy Falberg was being treated at Santa Rosa Kaiser Hospital on 04-23-2015. I also provided Detective De Leon with an EMS Patient Care Report, authored by Deputy Henri Boustany as required per his EMT duties. Detective De Leon also received SCSO Spike Strip ID # 71 which was provided to me by Deputy John Peterson.

During the course of this investigation, I acted in a liaison role for the Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office, providing information and

services as requested by the Santa Rosa Police Department. I assisted where I could, but left the investigation and its details to the Santa Rosa Police Department.

End of Supplemental Report

CHRO - GELHAUS, E - 04/23/2015
Written by: **Gelhaus, Erick 110623**
Date/Time: **04/23/2015 01:41:23**

On 04/22/2015 at about 2355 hours, I heard north beat deputies attempt to stop a car that they ended up pursuing. My trainee, Deputy J. Lyle and I responded to assist from the Main Office. After the pursuit passed us, for training purposes, I had him trail the pursuit to its termination point.

Shortly before 0006 hours, we heard Sgt Craver radio "shots fired" just before we arrived at the business park. I had activated my PVR as well. Initially, I saw several deputies attending to the driver of a car located to the left of the lot`s entrance. There was a significant water flow going several feet in the air.

At that point, Deputy Joel Pedersen approached me and I told me, "I shot her." I checked on his welfare and then turned off my PVR as I was beginning to sequester him. He did not tell me anything else about the event.

I directed Deputy Lyle to obtain crime scene tape and begin a crime scene log.

At some point later, I replaced by another deputy in the sequestering role.

I was asked to assist in the medical treatment of the driver of the car, a white female. I turned my PVR back on and using my own trauma dressings assisted by treating a penetrating to the upper chest until relieved by paramedics.

Deputy Lyle and I were later released from the scene.

I downloaded the videos from my PVR and secured them on the server. I described both of them and showed the first one to Detective Toney, Sgt Naugle and Captain Schubel.

Nothing Further.

CHRO - LYLE, J - 04/23/2015
Written by: **Lyle, Jeremy 1102369**
Date/Time: **04/23/2015 02:26:07**

At approximately 2350 hours on 4-22-15 Deputy Gelhaus and I responded to a vehicle pursuit on Southbound Highway 101. We trailed the pursuit starting at Highway 101 at Bicentennial Way South on-ramp.

We arrived on scene at the 2661 Old Gravenstein Hwy driveway at approximately 0006 Hours. Deputy Gelhaus instructed me to

obtain an incident log and crime scene tape. I taped-off the street at Highway 116 and Old Gravenstein Hwy and taped across Old Gravenstein Hwy. After the ambulance left the scene, I taped across the driveway. We then cleared the scene.

Deputy Gelhaus had taken a few photos of the scene, I downloaded them onto CD and booked them into evidence.

-Nothing Further-

CHRO - BLOUNT, C - 04/23/2015
Written by: **CHARLES BLOUNT 1101130**
Date/Time: **04/23/2015 05:12:34**

On Wednesday April 22, 2015 at approximately 2351 hours, I was working patrol, in uniform, driving a marked patrol vehicle. I heard a vehicle pursuit start in the Windsor area.

The pursuit came southbound on Hwy 101 and I began to trail the pursuit. The pursuit quickly left Hwy 101 on Todd Rd. and went west. I continued to trail behind the pursuit until its` terminus in a parking lot at 2661 Old Gravenstein Hwy. I heard radio traffic stating that a felony car stop was being initiated. As I approached the parking lot I heard gunshots. I pulled into the lot on the other side of the median running down the middle of the lot. I saw the suspect`s car accelerate hard traveling over the end of the center median and coming to rest on the other side of the lot. I drove quickly to the end of the lot and turned around and returned to a position near the suspect car.

I approached the passenger side of the car with another deputy, I reached in through the window and turned off the ignition, leaving the key in. The driver was the sole occupant and she was slumped forward against the wheel.

Other deputies removed the driver and placed her on the ground. They began to assess her and performed CPR as needed. I held a flashlight so the deputies could see. I did not get involved in any other way.

Once the ambulance arrived and the suspect was loaded, I followed the ambulance to Memorial ER. Once at the ER I remained with the suspect. The ER staff put all of the suspect`s clothing in a bin. I followed the suspect to a CT scan and then back to the same ER bed. Later the suspect was moved to ICU room W269. I brought all the suspect`s clothing with me to the room.

SRPD Officer Ludikhuize arrived and releaved me at 0320 hours.

Nothing further.

FLUP - MESTROVICH, V - 04/23/2015
Written by: **VINCE MESTROVICH 1101031**
Date/Time: **04/23/2015 11:27:11**

On 4/22/15 at about 2351 hrs, I monitored a pursuit that was initiated by Deputy Pedersen. At about 0010 hrs, I arrived to 2661 Hwy 116S, Sebastopol and was directed by Sgt Cutting to start a crime scene log. I began the log and remained on scene with it until I was relieved by SRPD Officer Thompson at 0330 hrs.

No further information.

CHRO - AUSTIN, B - 04/23/2015
Written by: **BRANDON AUSTIN 1101629**
Date/Time: **04/23/2015 20:29:48**

On 4/22/15, I was assigned to MAGNET and doubled with CHP Officer Ball. We were at the SCSO main on paper work when we overheard the listed pursuit take place. We left the main office in our unmarked gang unit patrol vehicle and traveled to southbound highway 101 in an attempt to set spikes in front of the suspect vehicle.

I pulled onto southbound 101 from Bicentennial and proceeded to the College off ramp and stopped. I evaluated the situation but based on the speed of the suspect vehicle and the fact that the suspect had turned the vehicle`s lights off, I decided it was unsafe to attempt such a task. A few moments later, I observed the vehicle travel pass me at a high rate of speed. I pulled onto southbound 101 again but based on the amount of the units involved in the pursuit, I proceeded to trail it without emergency equipment activated.

I continued to the Todd off ramp where I exited and traveled westbound to Stony Point Rd. At that time, Officer Ball and I decided to travel to Stony Point Rd at Hwy 116 in anticipation that the suspect may travel back toward Cotati where we may be in a position to set spikes again.

While traveling south, we heard the suspect`s vehicle was stopped and shots had been fired. We changed course and traveled to the scene to assist. Upon arrival, I contacted Sgt. Cutting and Craver and after a discussion, it was decided I would transport Deputy Pederson to the hotel to be sequestered. Deputy Pederson, Officer Ball and I traveled to the Fountain Grove Inn where we met with Detective Dulworth and Sgt. Dave Pederson. Sgt. Pederson then took over sequestering duties of Deputy Pederson at which time Officer Ball and I left the hotel.

I returned to the Sheriff`s Office with Officer Ball where we ultimately concluded our shift.

Nothing further.

FLUP - ALLISON, M - 04/24/2015
Written by: **Allison, Michael 1102342**
Date/Time: **04/24/2015 06:22:50**

On 04/23/15, at approximately 0035 hrs, I responded to the area of US S/B Hwy 101 and River Rd in order to conduct an area check for citizens that may have struck a spike strip during this incident. I observed a white colored Honda Pilot (CA [redacted]) on the west edge of the roadway with its` hazard lights illuminated. I parked my patrol vehicle behind it and spoke with the driver/sole occupant, [redacted].

[redacted] stated he was traveling S/B on US Hwy 101, in the number two lane, when he ran over a set up spike strips in the roadway. [redacted] said he simply did not see the device and pulled to the side of the road once he realized his vehicle was damaged.

I conducted a walk around of [redacted] vehicle and observed the two front Michelin brand tires had been flattened and the vehicle did not appear to be in a safe operating condition. I did not observe any additional damage to [redacted] vehicle. I arranged for a tow company to respond via Sheriff`s Dispatch and provided [redacted] with my business card, should he have any additional questions regarding making a claim for compensation.

Supplemental report generated for documentation only.

Nothing further.

CHRO - ALLISON, M - 04/25/2015
Written by: **Allison, Michael 1102342**
Date/Time: **04/25/2015 06:50:25**

On 04/22/15, at approximately 2351 hrs, I was in full Deputy Sheriff uniform and driving a fully marked Sheriff`s Office patrol vehicle. I heard via police radio a pursuit was initiated by SCSO Deputies and was heading S/B on US Highway 101. I responded to Todd Rd at the US Hwy 101 S/B on-ramp in case additional assistance was needed.

The pursuit continued S/B on US Hwy 101 towards my location and I prepared to deploy spike strips. I observed the suspect vehicle, traveling with no headlights illuminated, take the Todd Rd off ramp prior to traveling past my location. I did not depoly spike strips.

I traveled behind the pursuit W/B on Todd Rd and turned onto N/B Llano Rd. I stopped my patrol vehicle at Llano Rd/ Hwy 12 in case the suspect vehicle looped back around to that location and the pursuit terminated shortly after.

Nothing further.

NL - SCHARBIUS, J - 04/27/2015
Written by: **Scharbius, Joan 110272**
Date/Time: **04/27/2015 18:16:06**

EV SHTS, 4-27-15, 272-JS
ev shts 4/28/15 2381sf
Ltr from Nationwide Ins re Deep Roots Hydro 6/21/15 #2387 vr
NOC, 1/7/16, 1881-MCM
EVD SHT, BM2509 5/27/17

CHRO - PETERSON, J - 04/28/2015
Written by: **JOHN PETERSON 1101038**
Date/Time: **04/28/2015 04:04:49**

Inif On 4/22/15 at about 2351 hours, I heard on the Sheriff`s Radio Channel-1, a vehicle pursuit traveling southbound Highway 101 from the Windsor area. I parked my patrol car on the right shoulder of Highway 101 near the Hopper on ramp. I retrieved my spike strips from the trunk of my marked patrol car. Within a few minutes I could hear the sirens of the patrol vehicles in the vehicle pursuit. When I was able to see the vehicle pursuit coming towards my location, the suspect`s vehicle did not have it`s head lights on and was blacked out. The vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed. I attempted to throw my spike strips in the oncoming path of the suspect`s vehicle, from the right shoulder of the roadway. It appeared that the suspect`s vehicle did not run over the spikes strip and they were ineffective.

Nothing further to report.

CHRO - CLARKSON, M - 04/29/2015
Written by: **Clarkson, Melanie 1101562**
Date/Time: **04/29/2015 23:50:33**

On 4-23-15 at approximately 2351 hours, I was on patrol in the area of Forestville. I heard the dispatch report of a pursuit starting in the area of Windsor. I trailed the pursuit and was in the area of Hwy 116 and Hwy 101 at the time I heard deputies report the terminiation of the pursuit and "shots fired". I responded to the area and shut down traffic flow on Hwy 116 south of the incident. After determining the scene was contained, I responded to the scene to see if any assistance was needed. Deputy Salkin and I checked the area to see if any stray bullets had endangered surrounding residents, and determined the backdrop of the shooting was clear of any potential residential dwellings.

At approximatley 0050, Sergeant Craver requested I transport Deputy Edwards to the Fountaingrove Inn and act as his Sequestering Deputy. I stayed with Edwards in this roll until 4-23-15 at approximately 0719 hours, when my duties were relieved by Deputy Chris Taylor.

Nothing further.

FLUP - SALKIN, E - 05/03/2015
Written by: **Salkin, Eric 1101501**
Date/Time: **05/03/2015 17:05:26**

On 4-23-15, I responded to the report of a wrong way driver in Windsor. I arrived at the termination point of the pursuit.
I assisted in placing crime scene tape up around the event.
I drove Deputy Matelli to Kaiser hospital for treatment for his injuries, then to the Hotel as directed by supervisor.

Nothing further.

RTE - SCHARBIUS, J - 05/31/2015
Written by: **Scharbius, Joan 110272**
Date/Time: **05/31/2015 13:48:51**

COPY OF #2342 4-24 FLUP TO LEXIS NEXIS FOR IO#1, 5-31-15, 272-JS
Full report including all supps to Hector De Leon SRPD, 1/6/16, rab/2409

CHRO - MATELLI, M - 06/09/2015
Written by: **Matelli, Michael 1102310**
Date/Time: **06/09/2015 09:58:56**

On 04-23-2015, at approximately 0100 hours, while off duty, I was contacted over the telephone by Deputy L. Matelli. Deputy L. Matelli advised me that he was involved in a critical incident and asked if I would sequester him. I responded to Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Santa Rosa where Deputy L. Matelli and Deputy Salkin were.

After Deputy L. Matelli was cleared from the hospital, Deputy Salkin drove Deputy L. Matelli to the Fountain Grove Inn. Once at the hotel, Deputy L. Matelli and I were provided a room. After an unknown amount of time, Deputy Seibold was brought into the same room where I then acted as his sequestering deputy as well. This remained the same until we were advised we could leave by detectives.

Nothing Further.