Internal Affairs Investigation
19-AR-0007
SPD Office Ethan Stockton Protocol Interview

Detective Vickers: All right. It is Saturday, November 30 at 1:03 p.m. My name's Detective Vickers with the Santa Rosa Police Department. This is my partner –

Other Speaker: **** sorry.

Detective Vickers: – Detective Matt White.

Other Speaker: Hello.

Other Speaker: Hi.

Detective Vickers: Uh, your name, sir?

Ethan Stockton: Ethan Stockton.

Detective Vickers: And your department?

Ethan Stockton: Sebastopol.

Other Speaker: And I'm Andrew Ganz with the Rains, Lucia, and Stern on behalf of Officer Stockton.

Detective Vickers: Thank you. All right. Um, we're just clarifying, um, this is a statement that we're seeking, um, on a voluntary basis from you. You're free to leave at any time, and you're not obligated to answer any questions. Do you understand?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Um, have you had ample time to gather your thoughts and otherwise prepare for the interview?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Um, is there anything that would hinder you from giving a statement?

Ethan Stockton: No.

Detective Vickers: Uh, do, you've never met me before?

Ethan Stockton: No, sir.

Detective Vickers: Have you ever met my partner before?

Ethan Stockton: No, sir.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: Not to my recollection anyway.

Detective Vickers: Right. Are you sick or injured?

Ethan Stockton: No, sir.

Detective Vickers: Um, did you receive any injuries as a result of the incident?

Ethan Stockton: A very mild, uh, either laceration or puncture from I believe a piece of glass.

Detective Vickers: And that's on your left hand –

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: – just below the thumb?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Uh, at the time of the incident, were you suffering from any medical condition or taking any medication that may have impaired your ability as a law enforcement officer?

Ethan Stockton: No.

Detective Vickers: And when did you last sleep?

Ethan Stockton: Uh, last night.

Detective Vickers: Okay. For how long?

Ethan Stockton: Approximately 8 hours.

Detective Vickers: And what about when's the last time you ate?

Ethan Stockton: I had a small snack before I got here.

Detective Vickers: Okay. What kind of snack?

Ethan Stockton: Just a little bean burrito.

Detective Vickers: All right. And, um, have you consumed any alcoholic beverages in the last 24 hours?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: And what time did you start?

Ethan Stockton: Oh, probably 1900 yesterday.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And what time did you stop?

Ethan Stockton: Probably 2030.

Detective Vickers: All right. And you said you currently work for Sebastopol PD?

Ethan Stockton: Yes, sir.

Detective Vickers: How long have you worked there?

Ethan Stockton: I was hired as a reserve slightly over 2 years ago.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And when did you assume the duties as a full time?

Ethan Stockton: One year ago tomorrow.

Detective Vickers: All right. Congratulations.

Ethan Stockton: Thank you.

Detective Vickers: Any prior agencies?

Ethan Stockton: No, sir.

Detective Vickers: Um, have you held any collateral assignments, SWAT, detective, anything like that?

Ethan Stockton: No.

Detective Vickers: All right. Uh, are you a drug recognition expert or hold any kind of, uh, certifications in that regard?

Ethan Stockton: No, sir.

Detective Vickers: All right. And so, um, can you describe the nature of your duties as you were assigned that night?

Ethan Stockton: Uh, general patrol, uh, in a uniform in a marked-patrol vehicle to enforce traffic and any other penal code violations.

Detective Vickers: And what were the hours for your shift?

Ethan Stockton: I was, began at 2100 and was scheduled to be off duty at 0700.

Detective Vickers: And, um, is that considered graveyard shift?

Ethan Stockton: Yes, sir.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And what's your call sign?

Ethan Stockton: 3 Lincoln 9.

Detective Vickers: And how long have you been working as 3 Lincoln 9 or on the graveyard shift?

Ethan Stockton: I'm actually a relief shift so I go to all different shifts kind of at the needs of the department.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And what days of the week do you work?

Ethan Stockton: Uh, I don't have a set shift by any means.

Detective Vickers: Okay. So, uh, let's say the three shifts prior to the incident, what were they?

Ethan Stockton: Uh, to the, began on a Tuesday. I was, uh, graveyard the night before. I might actually have to look at a schedule. I don't recall.

Detective Vickers: That's okay. You don't know. Sure. Um, the patrol car that you were driving in did it have any mechanical defects that you're aware of?

Ethan Stockton: Not to my knowledge.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Um, can you describe your uniform?

Ethan Stockton: Um, can you be a little more specific?

Detective Vickers: Sure. Um, color, where, if you have a badge or a patch or where those things are.

Ethan Stockton: Okay. Uh, so we wear a LAPD blue.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: A dark blue. We have Sebastopol Police patches on both shoulders. I wear a star on my left breast and I have a, uh, metal name plate with my name, my first initial and last name on my right breast right above my pockets.

Detective Vickers: Do you wear a duty belt or do you have a new patrol vest?

Ethan Stockton: I wear a full duty belt.

Detective Vickers: And can you describe what's on your belt, uh, either from left to right or right to left, whichever's easier?

Ethan Stockton: I will start, uh, front and go –

Detective Vickers: Sure.

Ethan Stockton: – right and around the back. Uh, I have a set of keys. Well, in the middle I keep my, I keep my primary keys and I have an extra set of keys in a little holder. Uh, do you want location of keepers too or –

Detective Vickers: No.

Ethan Stockton: Okay. Uh, next would be my duty firearm, one pair of handcuffs, nothing in the middle of my back. The other side would be my other pair of handcuffs, my radio, collapsible baton, taser and then extra magazines.

Detective Vickers: And do you wear a body-worn camera?

Ethan Stockton: Yes, I do.

Detective Vickers: Where do you keep that?

Ethan Stockton: Right in the middle of my chest.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And your duty firearm, do you know the make and the, uh, caliber?

Ethan Stockton: Yes. It is a Springfield Armory. It's a 45 ACP.

Detective Vickers: All right. Do you carry an audio recorder separate from your body-worn camera?

Ethan Stockton: I do not.

Detective Vickers: And other than your taser, do you carry any other less lethal options on your person or in your car?

Ethan Stockton: I do have a can of pepper spray in my gear bag in the vehicle.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And then do you carry any other, um, weapons or firearms on you other than the one on your person and that you carry in your car?

Ethan Stockton: Uh, I do have a, uh, spare firearm in my right pocket.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: Um, back up. And then there are two long guns in the patrol vehicle.

Detective Vickers: And what, what's your backup make and caliber?

Ethan Stockton: It's a Ruger and it's 380 ACP.

Detective Vickers: And you said there's two other guns or rifles in the car?

Ethan Stockton: There is a rifle and a shotgun.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And, uh, shotgun, do you know the make and the caliber?

Ethan Stockton: It's a Benelli.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: Twelve gauge.

Detective Vickers: And the rifle?

Ethan Stockton: The rifle is a Ruger 5.56.

Detective Vickers: All right.

Ethan Stockton: I'd have to check my barrel stamp, but I, it's 5.56, 223.

Detective Vickers: Sure.

Ethan Stockton: It'd be a 223 Wilde.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: It's one of those.

Detective Vickers: Yeah. Uh, so the nature of this investigation concerns a significant, uh, incident that you were recently involved in. Uh, it occurred in the general area of Hillview Street and Sutton Street I think.

Ethan Stockton: Mm hmm.

Detective Vickers: Uh, in Bloomfield. I want you to please describe the event in as much detail as you can include the time of the event, names of witnesses and officers as you know them, um, and include all the information you can remember relative to the circumstances.

Ethan Stockton: I don't recall the exact time of dispatch although I do know it was closer to 6:00 in the morning, but not quite there, um, without referring to other documents that have been released by other agencies. Um, we were dispatched to assist a Sonoma County deputy who was following a vehicle that had reportedly been involved in a carjacking and to the best of my recollection, it was mentioned that a 38-caliber revolver had possibly been involved. Uh, we were getting frequent updates as to the deputy's location so that we could catch up to 'em to assist, um, and followed the path as directly as we could 'till we caught up to him in the vicinity of Bloomfield Road and Pleasant Hill Road. Um, he was a little ways down but that's about where we started to get close. Shortly after turning I believe that'd be southbound on Bloomfield from Pleasant Hill, we could, I could see the deputy's lights flashing. We were monitoring. I was monitoring, uh, my Sebastopol Police dispatch channel in my vehicle as well as Sonoma County Sheriff's dispatch, so I was hearing some of both. I recall hearing the deputy announce that he was going to initiate a traffic enforcement stop. Shortly after is when I saw his, I could see the reflection of his lights, red and blue lights, on the trees. Um, not long after that, I heard him announce via the radio that the vehicle had taken off, he was in pursuit. I don't recall the exact words he used, but alluding to that he was now in pursuit. I could hear my partner, Officer Bauer, announce on the radio on Sebastopol's channel that, um, the deputy was in pursuit. We were assisting with that pursuit and we would be switching to sheriff's, the Sonoma County Sheriff's Channel 1 for the duration. We switched channels. I recall hearing Officer Bauer announce that he was on Sheriff's 1 via the radio. I don't know if they copied him or not. I didn't make any announcements trying to preserve radio, uh, brevity. Um, we followed the – shortly after that, we were able to catch up to the deputy and the suspect vehicle. Um, very, I should have mentioned earlier in addition to the additional broadcast we were provided the vehicle description and the possible license plate. Once we were able to catch up to the deputy and the suspect vehicle, I was not able to read the license plate; however, I was able to see that the vehicle matched the description provided. We continued to pursue the vehicle on Bloomfield Road for a couple of miles. I couldn't tell you exactly how long it lasted timewise or mileage without referring to a map. Um, but from a Y, there's a, a split on Bloomfield. From approximately that area

to along, there's a couple of long straights. It's a very twisty road, not a ton of markers. Um, we continued to follow the vehicle. I did hear over the radio the deputy was providing standard pursuit updates, um, locations, speed, conditions and I did hear that a PIT maneuver was authorized if speed and conditions were met. Um, I don't know their protocols for that, so I, I'm not sure what that exactly referred to. Um, a little ways down there was a fairly long straight, a little bit of a bend and then there's another long straight. In that bend, uh, I believe the deputy attempted a PIT there. I was a little far back so I couldn't – and I was the third car at that point, so I wasn't actually able to see the maneuver. I came around the corner, found the deputy with the vehicle right in front of him stopped. My partner, I believe, had gone to the right-hand side. I went to the left, briefly exited my vehicle, could see the driver at that time. I was maybe out of my vehicle if just guessing no more than 10 seconds, uh, before the suspect vehicle drove off again. Um, the deputy continued in the No. 1 position behind it, and at that point I became the No. 2 vehicle. I was back in my car a little faster than my partner and immediately behind the deputy. We continued on Bloomfield Road until we got down kinda into the town of Bloomfield, at which time the suspect turned right, which again I'd have to look at a map for the actual direction, um, onto Sutton I believe it was, and we continued Sutton past several blocks, um, through several stop signs without the suspect vehicle stopping. As we got towards the end, it wasn't, I didn't know it at the time, but it, Sutton was a dead end at that point, and it appeared that the suspect vehicle either making a left-hand turn or something along those lines and it looked to me like the, the road was ending, um, and the vehicle, suspect may be coming back towards me. As I got a little closer, I could see the deputy, it, it appeared the deputy was actually pushing the back left corner of the vehicle causing it to turn and point more towards down with later ended up being another road, uh. Again, I wasn't familiar with the area, so didn't know exactly what was over there. I pulled up to the left of the deputy because I could see that that would be the direction the suspect vehicle could potentially leave in so I pulled to that side to block his egress. Um, once the, all the vehicles were stopped, I exited my patrol vehicle, drew my weapon and shortly after activated my body camera for the first time. I had not been able to do that before. From there, it got a little hectic. Um, I'll do my best to, to recall. The deputy was giving the driver commands to keep his hands up. The driver would put his hands up and then for a brief moment and then quickly drop his hands back down towards his waist. I don't recall the exact number of times that that happened, but it was multiple times. Um, I did at one point when he dropped his hands back down I gave a command to put his hands up. Uh, again, he was, he would comply briefly, but only very briefly. I'm not sure exactly at what point Officer Bauer arrived on scene. I know he was not far behind me, um, and he moved to the right side of the deputy. We were there for – after having – from my memory, I couldn't tell you but having to review my video we were on scene for approximately 1 minute, maybe just a, excuse me, touch more before a second deputy arrived. Once the second deputy arrived, they approached the vehicle. Both deputies approached the driver's side door. I approached towards the front of the vehicle. Multiple commands were given to – some of this memory is from the vi, from reviewing my video. Um, they attempted to open the door, but it appeared locked. They instructed the driver to unlock the door. He didn't. He reached down onto the door

panel. I'm not sure what he was doing, if he was trying to unlock it or not, and after several attempts to tell him to open the door or unlock the door and then open it, nothing was working. Uh, after having reviewed my video I, I saw that the driver without being instructed to rolled down his driver's side window and I'm not sure if that's because the, he was unable to unlock the door or what the reason for that was, but he, uh, appeared to press the button and the, the window rolled down. I don't recall if there were commands for him to exit the vehicle or if the deputies reached in to try to extract him through the window. Um, I do know that at one, at some point they reached in and began pulling him out. As he was starting to be pulled from the vehicle, I approached closer after having re-holstered my weapon, took a hold of his right arm –

Other Speaker: (Cough) Excuse me.

Ethan Stockton: - in an attempt to pull him out of the vehicle through the window. Shortly thereafter, I felt a grab at my leg, um, and I don't recall if I looked down. I believe I looked down and saw him clutching my right leg with what would of been his left hand because I was the, the lower part of his body. Um, I ordered him to let go of my leg, which he did. Very shortly thereafter, I heard one deputy say that he had been bitten and shortly after that again I'm not sure timeframe how many seconds, I did hear a, a deputy say he bit me. Um, I believe that I heard two different voices say that, so I believe two deputies were bitten, but not, with everything going on, I'm not 100 percent sure, but I'm pretty sure I heard two different voices. At some point, it appeared that his leg was trapped near the steering wheel and I couldn't tell if he was stuck or if he was just, if he was keeping his leg there to prevent us from extracting him from the vehicle. I asked one of the other, I asked one of the deputies to take control of his right arm so that I could go to the passenger side and attempt to gain access to the vehicle there. I went over to the passenger side, tried to open the door, but it was also locked, so, and I wasn't able to get in.

Other Speaker: (Cough) Excuse me.

Ethan Stockton: So I went back to the driver's side. The, as I walked up I recall seeing a deputy with his taser drawn and very shortly thereafter I heard a taser deploy and activate. I believe I heard the taser deploy a second time or not deploy, but activate a second time. Um, and I believe when I reviewed my video I, I did hear two activations. At around the same time as the second activation, I believe I noticed a deputy attempting to use a carotid restraint on the suspect; however, with everything going on and where I was located I did not have a good view of how it was being applied. It just appeared that one may be being attempted. I believe at that point I went back to the passenger side to again attempt access, pulled on the handle several times and it ended up breaking off in my hand. Uh, again, not having been able to make access, I began to walk back to the driver's side at which point a deputy said, "Break that window." Went back and used my collapsible baton to smash the passenger side window and clear most of the debris out so I could reach inside to open the door. I believe it was at about that time that I sustained a mild puncture wound to my left hand

presumably from a piece of glass. Uh, I recall feeling something, but not knowing what it was and far later in the, after the event had calmed down I realized I had had some blood on my hand and after cleaning it that's when I discovered the puncture wound. I was unable to open the door at first. It was locked. There was a, uh, the little lock mechanism appeared like it had been up possibly in an unlocked position, um, which is why I'd been trying to open the door. Later after I had broken the window and was able to get into the passenger area and press the unlock button, I realized that the lock extended further up when it was actually unlocked. Once – it took a couple of attempts to actually unlock it. It would unlock and then immediately lock again. I was able to unlock it and open the door after a couple of attempts. Opened the door. Officer Bauer approached and began removing the suspect through the passenger side. I don't recall at that time what the suspect's condition was. He was not fighting as much as he had been, but I don't recall if he was conscious or unconscious or any additional details like that. After attempting to collapse my baton to put it away, I was able to get it partially collapsed, I returned and assisted Officer Bauer in extracting the suspect through the passengers, the open passenger door. Once he was on the ground, I again had control of his right arm. Yes, right arm. Um, rolled him onto his stomach and moved into a position for handcuff. Um, I don't recall which deputy, but a deputy arrived, um, from the suspect's feet side and placed him in handcuffs. Um, I don't recall if we immediately rolled him onto his back. I do know that he was rolled onto his back very shortly after handcuffing. Um, once he was detained, um, I stepped away for a little bit, collapsed my baton, put it away. I do recall hearing a deputy ask if he was conscious, uh, if he wasn't conscious saying check for a pulse and start CPR. The reply was, I believe to the best of my recollection, he's not conscious, but he is breathing. I believe I heard that before I started to collapse my baton completely. I do recall hearing deputies say, uh, have medical personnel respond. I don't recall exactly when that was first said, um, but it was very shortly after he was handcuffed I do know I heard that. Um, a little while after he was handcuffed or after I'd stepped away, I came back. I don't recall if a deputy asked what his condition was or if somebody just said he's not breathing or he's stopped breathing at which point another deputy said begin CPR, which began immediately. He was moved into a position where CPR could be performed. A deputy began compressions. I went to my patrol vehicle to look for an AED, which unfortunately I did not have, and also a Breath for Life bag or ambubag. Um, I retrieved that from my patrol car, went back over to the area. The first one, package that I opened was a child's mask, put that aside, grabbed another adult mask. I was able to open that. Returned and took up a position at the head to provide breaths, um, when appropriate during CPR. I don't recall how long I was in that position, uh, but I remained there until, um, additional medical personnel arrived. I'm not sure how they arrived, what vehicle they were driving at first, um. I was there for a moment. The medical professionals arrived, attached AED pads to the suspect, um. We stepped back momentarily to let it analyze, said no shock was advised, continue CPR, so we did. Um, at some point during that, the medical professional, don't know if he was an EMT or a paramedic, um, inserted what appeared to be, um, what are they called? Basically a, an artificial airway, um, into the suspect for a, to make sure that the airway was open and air could flow. Continued to provide breaths as necessary during CPR. A second

round of the AED. We stepped back. It was again no shock advised. I believe the medical professional took over the breath, breaths at that point. I stepped away and that was to the best of my recollection the end of my involvement.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Um, so we'll just do a few follow-up questions.

Ethan Stockton: Mm hmm.

Detective Vickers: Um, so can you walk me through, um – well, let me ask you this. So you said you were, um, a swing shift, right? Or your shifts are different from time to time, right?

Ethan Stockton: Yes. I'm a relief shift so, uh, just as an example, um, the night before and that night I was grave shift. I was scheduled to have Wednesday off and then scheduled to work, um, 1100 to 2100 Thursday and Friday, have Saturday off and then work 07 to 1700 Monday through Wednesday or something like that.

Detective Vickers: Sure. Do you ever work with deputies? Do you ever run across them?

Ethan Stockton: Every once in a while.

Detective Vickers: Did you know any of the other deputies that were on the call that night?

Ethan Stockton: I did know Deputy Little.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: He was it turned out to be the primary deputy, the one that we were following during the pursuit. Um, other than that, I don't believe I recognized any of them.

Detective Vickers: When did you recognize Deputy Little?

Ethan Stockton: I don't recall if it was the first attempted pit on Bloomfield or once we were out of the vehicles on Sutton. I don't recall.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Um, so we'll go back over it again, but when you refer to the deputy or the second deputy, we'll just use names, all right?

Ethan Stockton: Okay.

Detective Vickers: All right. If you know it's Deputy Little, we'll say that was –

Ethan Stockton: Okay.

Detective Vickers: – Deputy Little if, if that's what you know to be true.

Ethan Stockton: Okay.

Detective Vickers: So can you walk me through, um, when you heard the radio traffic, specifically kinda what you heard and, uh, your mindset when you were hearing what you were hearing?

Ethan Stockton: As far as the, my initial dispatch or –

Detective Vickers: All the way through the, uh, until I suppose you stopped hearing radio traffic.

Ethan Stockton: Okay. Um, so the initial radio traffic from our dispatch, uh, to the best of my recollection, was, uh, to assist a deputy with, uh, vehicle that was possibly involved in a carjacking with a possibly involving a firearm.

Detective Vickers: Did anyone mention a tracker on the vehicle?

Ethan Stockton: I recall hearing something about a tracker, but I don't recall if that was via the radio or my dispatcher as I was walking out.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: So I, I recall something about a tracker, but it, beyond that I couldn't tell you when I heard it.

Detective Vickers: Okay. So you hear the initial call and what are you thinking when you hear it?

Ethan Stockton: Um, based on the nature of the offense, it was going to be a high-risk stop, um, particularly since a firearm would be involved, um, and that was a big part of why we were probably going as they didn't have another deputy in the area. That would, was my guess at that time. Um, so it's – yeah. I was prepared for a high-risk stop, um.

Detective Vickers: And why do you do a high-risk stop?

Ethan Stockton: For officer-safety reasons. Um, we don't know if the suspect is actually armed or not. There was, again to the best of my recollection, a mention of a firearm so for, for our safety and for his safety, we wanted to make sure that we control the, the situation.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Uh, so you hear the initial update. You start going and did you get anymore updates on the radio as the pursuit was happening?

Ethan Stockton: Um, initially the updates we were getting were just the deputy and suspect location so that we could catch up to them. Um, we basically followed their route. We didn't know how far behind we were. Um, let's see. And then once we caught up to them, I believe I heard Officer Bauer announce to our radio that we had caught up, our channel. Um, and that's about when we could see, or I could see the, who turned out to be Deputy Little's, uh, emergency lights activated in the, probably a couple of corners ahead of us. Um, shortly after that, I recall, to the best of my recollection I recall hearing him say something to the effect of he was in pursuit, the vehicle had taken off at which time I activated my emergency lights and siren, um, and I stepped up my, my speed proportionally to what my partner, who was in front of me, had it, so we were still maintaining a safe distance, um, and several corners later we were, we had caught up with, uh, with Deputy Little and the suspect. I recall hearing standard pursuit updates. I don't recall exactly what they were, uh, basically speeds that we were traveling, um. I believe in the neighborhood of 70 miles an hour. Um, I recall hearing somebody from the, the sheriff's office I would presume it was a sergeant authorizing use of a PIT maneuver. Um, I don't recall 100 percent for sure if Deputy Little said that we were not within the parameters or if that's just something that seemed correct to me. I'm not 100 percent sure on that.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: Um, I believe I heard one or two more standard pursuit updates after the authorization of the PIT. A short time later is when I came upon the Deputy Little and Officer Bauer with the vehicle stopped and after I exited my vehicle and the suspect drove off again, I fell in line second and I believe I heard Deputy Little say something to the effect of attempted to pit, but it turned more, into more of a ram. Um, I don't know if those were the, the words exactly but it was, I believe it was something along those lines and then from there it was the only other radio traffic I recall hearing was when we turned onto Sutton. I don't recall any radio traffic after that. I believe there may have been some, but since I was out of my vehicle and only my vehicle's radio had been switched to the sheriff's channel, not my portable, I didn't hear any further updates.

Detective Vickers: And so at that point, um, the vehicle has been, was it pitted again a second time after the frist stop?

Ethan Stockton: No. It appeared to be.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And so, um, can you describe everyone including the suspect's positioning and the vehicles, um, right as that was taking place? I guess as you made your way out of your vehicle, right?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: The suspect is still in his car?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: And you guys started taking up positions. Can you describe where everyone was?

Ethan Stockton: Okay. Uh, the only people that I could actually see or notice were Deputy Little, who, um, I, from memory I don't recall, but having reviewed my video saw that he was in the V of his door and I believe I moved slightly to the front of my vehicle but still behind the front left corner for cover. Um, just because of my vehicle's location I couldn't really see the suspect from the V of my door. Um, Officer Bauer arrives not too long after that. I know he went to the right-hand side, but I, but that's only because I, I can kinda see if I recall his car pull up a little bit, but I, I didn't see where he went after that.

Detective Vickers: And the suspect was still in the driver's –

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: – seat?

Ethan Stockton: Suspect was still seated in the driver's seat.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Um, and can you talk to me a little bit about that, uh, initial movement towards the suspect vehicle and how that was initiated and how that went down?

Ethan Stockton: Uh, again, some of this is from reviewing my video. Um, a second deputy that I did not recognize arrived on scene. Um, he and Deputy Little moved to the driver's door. I don't recall who was in which, what side at that point, and I moved to the front of the vehicle where I could see the suspect clearly through the windshield.

Detective Vickers: Was there any communication with you as if that was going to happen?

Ethan Stockton: No.

Detective Vickers: It was very, kinda fluid?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Um, so you make your way up. Is anyone giving verbal commands?

Ethan Stockton: Other, at that point, other than keep your hands up until we're at the vehicle, I don't believe there were any other commands. At which time I was instructed to unlock the door after they were unable to open.

Detective Vickers: And do you remember who gave you that instruction?

Ethan Stockton: I don't. I don't know who, which deputy was saying unlock the door.

Detective Vickers: And that was for the driver's door?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: Okay. Uh, so you tried to unlock the driver's door and it was locked, correct?

Ethan Stockton: They were, they were instructing the driver to unlock the door.

Detective Vickers: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: Um, and he reached towards the door handle area where those controls typically are –

Detective Vickers: Yeah.

Ethan Stockton: – a couple a times, but it didn't seem to unlock it.

Detective Vickers: And then the only, I had another question. Um, you had mentioned that you were taking control I think of one of the suspect's arms.

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: Uh, this is after the driver's door was open, right?

Ethan Stockton: Driver's window.

Detective Vickers: Driver's window. Excuse me.

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: And, um, you guys were you still giving him commands at that point?

Ethan Stockton: From my memory, I don't recall.

Detective Vickers: Do you remember if he was saying anything, the suspect?

Ethan Stockton: I don't recall.

Detective Vickers: And you had described, uh, him grabbing at one of your legs?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: And, um, why is it cause for concern for him to grab at your leg?

Ethan Stockton: He, uh, I guess he could trip me or gain control of me if, if he did, or if he continued to hold onto me.

Detective Vickers: Did you feel like he was being non-compliant essentially?

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: And did you perform any CPR yourself?

Ethan Stockton: The only action I took during CPR was the Breath for Life ambubag.

Detective Vickers: Okay. And can you talk about how, what you did with that?

Ethan Stockton: Uh, once I had opened the package and returned to his head, um, the first breath or two I gave I wasn't sure if I had his head in the correct position, um, but I gave two full squeezes. I believe I mentioned something to the effect of I wasn't sure if it was working or not and I believe a deputy replied I feel chest rises, uh, while he was not performing CPR indicating that air was being pushed into his lungs.

Detective Vickers: I see. And, uh, you mentioned, uh, a deputy use of a taser.

Ethan Stockton: Yes.

Detective Vickers: And you mentioned, um, a deputy, which you thought could have been a, um, carotid restraint, but you weren't in a position to see completely?

Ethan Stockton: Not clearly.

Detective Vickers: Did you witness any other force that was used?

Ethan Stockton: I could see, uh, deputies performing knee and elbow strikes to the suspect's torso, which I believe began after the bites.

Detective Vickers: And, um, had you seen the bitemarks or just heard or –

Ethan Stockton: I, I just heard two people say, I say I heard something about bites twice.

Detective Vickers: All right.

Ethan Stockton: And I believe it was two different people.

Detective Vickers: Do you remember who those people were?

Ethan Stockton: I believe one was Deputy Little, and I'm not – I believe that the other one was the second deputy to arrive, um, which I'm not positive of his name.

Detective Vickers: And, um, did you see who was delivering torso or elbow strikes?

Ethan Stockton: I could not see clearly. I, I know it was deputies, but it wasn't overtly clear. I believe possibly both, but I'm not 100 percent sure. Um, and I believe I saw Deputy Little deliver knee and elbow strikes, but, again, I'm not – it was happening very quickly and with my proximity I didn't have very clear vision.

Detective Vickers: Okay. I don't have anything else. Do you?

Other Speaker: Uh, not for right now, no.

Detective Vickers: All right. Thank you guys.

Other Speaker: ****.

Detective Vickers: Yes.

Other Speaker: **** an hour later?

Detective Vickers: No, sir. Right now's fine.

Other Speaker: So when you described he grabbed your leg, do you remember which leg specifically?

Ethan Stockton: It was my right leg.

Other Speaker: What part of your leg?

Ethan Stockton: My calf.

Other Speaker: And in what way was he grabbing it? Can you describe?

Ethan Stockton: Um, it, I b, I know I looked down. I don't recall if I saw him actually grabbing my leg or if just the way I, I felt it, um. His left arm was down, which would of been, considering I had control of his right arm and his left arm was down, would of been his left hand grabbing my leg and based on his, the way he was out of the window, um, I believe his fingers would have been on the inside of my calf and his thumb would of been towards the outside of the calf.

Other Speaker: Okay. And was he, could you just describe what it felt like?

Ethan Stockton: Um –

Other Speaker: If you, if you remember.

Ethan Stockton: I, it felt like somebody grabbing your calf hard.

Other Speaker: Okay. I mean was the, was the hard part of it a sort of pulling? You described one of your concerns might have been being tripped. Was it a pulling or was it a pressure?

Ethan Stockton: Um, probably more of a pressure.

Other Speaker: Okay.

Ethan Stockton: Um –

Other Speaker: And where is your firearm in relationship to where his hand was?

Ethan Stockton: At that point, my firearm was in my holster on my right-hand side, so he was fairly close to that.

Other Speaker: Okay. And then just one other thing. When you were talking about, um, him being given commands to unlock or open the door and you said you saw his hand in the area where a door unlock would be, were you able to specifically see his fingers and his hand as to what he was doing in that area?

Ethan Stockton: No.

Other Speaker: Okay.

Detective Vickers: All right. Recording's off.

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