Incident/Investigation Report

Agency: **Sonoma County Sheriff's Office** Case #: **SD191127004**

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT - DO NOT DUPLICATE

Incident Information

Date/Time Reported: **11/27/2019 0541**	Occurred Between: **11/27/2019 0541** & **11/27/2019 0541**
Location: **HILLVIEW ST / SUTTON ST, BLOOMFIELD CA**	
UCR Status:	Officer: **Berg, Nicholas 1102224**

Summary: A suspect (Ward) led SCSO deputies on a vehicle pursuit. The vehicle had been reported stolen and a suspect responsible for the theft was reported to be armed with a firearm. Ward had retrieved his own vehicle and not reported it to law enforcement. Force had to be used to take Ward into custody and he subsequently suffered a medical emergency and later died at a hospital. SCSO invoked the critical incident protocol and the remainder of the investigation was conducted by the Santa Rosa Police Department.

Charges

Statute: **000 - AGENCY ASSIST**		Attempted/Completed: **Completed**
Classification: Other Offenses	Weapon:	
Location: HIGHWAY (STREETS, ALLEYS, ETC.)		
Statute: **000 - CRITICAL INCIDENT PROTOCOL**		Attempted/Completed: **Completed**
Classification: Other Offenses	Weapon:	
Location: HIGHWAY (STREETS, ALLEYS, ETC.)		

Offenders

Name (Last, First Middle): **WARD, DAVE GLEN**	DOB: [redacted]	Age/Race/Gender: **52/Other/Male**	Height/Weight: **5'11"/152**
Address: [redacted]			[redacted]
Employer/School: -			

Narrative

Initial Narrative
Written by: **Berg, Nicholas 1102224**
Date/Time: **11/27/2019 07:11:43**

CRITICAL INCIDENT - IN CUSTODY DEATH OF DAVID WARD

Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office Case #191127-004
Santa Rosa Police Department Case #19-0016259
Sonoma County Coroner Case #19-1121
Marin County Coroner Case #19-283

Detective Nicholas Berg
Violent Crime Investigations Unit

NOTIFICATION

On 11/27/2019 at approximately 0635 hours, I was the on-call VCI Detective. I was contacted by Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office Violent Crimes Investigation Detective Sergeant Fowler and he informed me a suspect who had died in our custody following a vehicle pursuit. The location of the incident was Sutton St and Hillview St in Bloomfield. Sgt. Fowler requested I respond to the Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office.

AT THE SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFF`S OFFICE

At approximately 0700 hours, I arrived at the Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office. I met with Investigations VCI Sgt. Fowler and other VCI detectives. Sgt. Fowler informed us the Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office had invoked the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chief`s Association Critical Incident Protocol (93-1), and that the Santa Rosa Police Department would be the lead investigative agency. I would assume the role of point of contact / liaison for the Santa Rosa Police Department. A briefing was held at the Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office, which included members from the Santa Rosa and Sebastopol Police Departments. Representatives from the Sonoma County District Attorney`s Office were also present.

The briefing consisted of Sgt. Fowler presenting the known details of the incident. I learned that suspect David Ward had led deputies on a pursuit that ended when Deputy Little performed a "PIT" maneuver on the vehicle. Ward`s vehicle had been reported stolen and the suspect responsible for the vehicle theft was believed to be driving the vehicle and potentially armed with a firearm. Ward had not notified law enforcement he had retrieved his vehicle on his own. Force had to be used to remove Ward from the vehicle and subsequent to his arrest, he suffered a medical emergency and was later pronounced deceased at the Petaluma Valley Hospital.

Later during this day, I was provided thumb drives by Lt. Cutting from the involved deputies body worn cameras. I was asked to provide the thumb drives to SRPD VCI detectives. I responded to the SRPD main station and provided SRPD VCI Ryan Cogbill the thumb drives.

CRIME SCENE

At approximately 1000 hours, VCI Detectives Mitchell and Anderson arrived at the crime scene along with Santa Rosa Police Department personnel. Santa Rosa personnel processed the scene, conducted neighborhood canvasses, collected evidence and took digital photographs.

INTERVIEWS WITH INVOLVED DEPUTIES

On 11/30/19, Sgt Fowler, Detective Vellis and I were present for the interviews of involved deputies/officers. The interviews were in order as follows;

SCSO Deputy Glosser interviewed by SRPD Detectives Vickers and White
SCSO Deputy Jax interviewed by SRPD Detectives Andrews and Gillote
SCSO Deputy Falberg interviewed by SRPD Detectives Vickers and White
Sebastopol PD Officer Stockton interviewed by SRPD Detectives Vickers and White
Sebastopol PD Officer Bower interviewed by SRPD Detectives Cogbill and Gillote
SCSO Deputy Little interviewed by SRPD Detectives Turner and Cogbill

The remaining involved SCSO deputy (Deputy Blount) was not interviewed until 12/2/19. VCI Detectives Hanshew and Anderson were present for this interview conducted by SRPD detectives.

CASE CLOSED

FLUP - AKIN, M - 11/27/2019

Written by: **Akin, Mike 1102546**
Date/Time: **11/27/2019 14:04:50**

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT:
On 11-27-19 at about 0810 hours, I was assigned to respond to the scene of this incident to provide scene security. I met with Deputy Mario Jimenez, Sgt Seibold and Sgt Burris at the SCSO Main office. Sgt Burris and Sgt Seibold provided body worn cameras to Deputy Jimenez and me and requested that we activate the cameras to record once we were on scene. Deputy Jimenez and I then drove together as a single unit to the intersection of Sutton St and Hillview St in Bloomfield. We arrived at about 0950 hours and met with Deputy Schemmel, who was stationed at the edge of the taped off crime scene area on the west end of Sutton St. Deputy Jimenez and I activated our body-worn cameras. Deputy Schemmel briefed us on the location and gave me the crime scene log. After entering my name on the crime scene log it was determined that I would releive Dep. McGoon, who was stationed at the edge of the scene on the north end of Hillview St. I then gave the crime scene log to Deputy Jimenez and I releived Deputy McGoon on Hillview St.

I remained on Hillview St, south of the crime scene tape and did not allow anyone to enter the scene from my location. Deputy Jimenez and I could see each-other from our respective locations. At one point, I left my location on Hillview St and walked back to Sutton St to retreive something from our patrol car, however, Deputy Jimenez maintained a visual on the Hillview St location during this whole time. Deputy Jimenez maintained the crime scene log on Sutton St, where several members of the Sonoma County District Attorney`s Office and Santa Rosa Police Department entered the crime scene during our assignment. Deputy Jimenez and I remained outside of the taped off area and at no time did either one of us enter within that taped off area.

At about 1253 hours, SRPD Officer Christine Morrison arrived on Sutton St and took over crime scene security from Deputy Jimenez. Deputy Jimenez told me that Officer Morrison began her own crime scene log. At about 1300 hours, SRPD Officer Matt Crosby arrived on Hillview St and releived me. Deputy Jimenez and I deactivated our body-worn cameras and left the scene. Later, at the SCSO main office, we met with Lt. Cash. Deputy Jimenez and I turned over our body-worn cameras and the crime scene log to Lt Cash before going off-duty.

DISPOSITION:
Forward to original report.

FLUP - HIGGENBOTTOM, D - 11/27/2019
Written by: **Higgenbottom, David 1102551**
Date/Time: **11/27/2019 16:11:14**

Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office
Deputy D. Higgenbottom
CR# 191127-004
Supplemental Report

On 11/27/2019, at approximately 0821 hours, I was assigned to scene security at Petaluma Valley Hospital (PVH) Emergency Room #12, 400 N McDowell Boulevard in Petaluma. At the direction of Sergeant E. Seibold and prior to responding to PVH I retrieved Sergeant K. Burris`s department issued body worn camera (BWC) (Serial Number [redacted] to record my involvement with this incident.

At approximately 0915 I arrived, activated Sergeant K. Burris`s body worn camera and relieved Deputy D. Glosser. I remained in PVH Emergency Room #12 and did not allow anyone to touch, alter or move in anyway the decedent`s body.

At approximately 1010 hours Marin County Coroner Investigator S. Cowan arrived to take custody of the body. Santa Rosa Police Department Evidence Technician Shannon Brady and Sonoma County Sheriff`s Office Sergeant J. Haugen arrived at approximately 1031 hours. I remained on scene until the decedent had been transported out of PVH.

I returned to the SCSO main office and returned Sergeant K. Burris`s BWC.

DISPOSITION:
Attach to original report.

CHRO - MCGOON, K - 12/05/2019
Written by: **McGoon, Kevin 1102504**
Date/Time: **12/05/2019 15:34:38**

Supplement:

On 11/27/2019, I was assigned to work scene security in Bloomfield for several hours during the morning hours. Deputy Akin relieved me.

While I was assigned to scene security, nothing noteworthy occurred.

Nothing further.

CHRO - SCHEMMEL, M - 12/06/2019
Written by: **Schemmel, Michael 1102240**
Date/Time: **12/06/2019 18:53:16**

Supplement:

On 11/27/2019, Sergeant E. Seibold requested I respond for scene security at the above location. I arrived at 0738 hours and met with Deputy Kyle Smith who was working scene security. Deputy K. Smith handed me a crime scene log that he already started. I conducted scene security until 0945 when I relieved by Deputy Akin and Deputy Jimenez. I gave the crime scene log to Deputy Jimenez.

While I was assigned to scene security, nothing noteworthy occurred.

Nothing further.

FLUP - WONNEBERGER, F - 12/06/2019
Written by: **Wonneberger, Francisco 1102631**
Date/Time: **12/06/2019 21:37:08**

On the listed date and time I overheard Deputies being dispatched regarding a vehicle that was reported stolen from a prior carjacking. At the time I was assigned to Sonoma PD. I was dressed in full uniform, driving a marked patrol car.

Based on my training and experience I know suspects driving carjacked vehicles are prone to fleeing from law enforcement. As I drove westbound on Hwy 12 in Santa Rosa I heard Deputy Little initiate a pursuit with the vehicle. As I was far away from the pursuit I did not attempt to join, rather I paralleled it to the east so that I could deploy spikes etc should the pursuit come my direction.

Eventually I heard Deputy`s announce that the pursuit had terminated at the end of Sutton St, Bloomfield. Shortly after I heard Deputies were performing CPR on the suspect and medical had been requested. I arrived on scene at approximately the same time as Sgt Diehm and activated my body worn camera. He asked that I move patrol cars out of the roadway so medics could quickly access the suspect. I moved Deputy Glosser and Deputy Blount`s car off the roadway. I then stood by until after medics arrived on scene.

As medics were treating the suspect, Sgt Diehm advised me to leave the scene with Deputy Little and deactivate my BWC. I departed the scene with Deputy Little and ultimately drove him to the Deputy Sheriff`s Association hall where Deputy J. Peterson became his sequestering Deputy.

Case status: supplemental report only.

During the investigation, I was wearing my body worn camera (BWC). This report is merely a summary of the incident and is not intended to be an exact transcript of the entire investigation.

RTE - MINOR, B - 12/07/2019
Written by: **Minor, Beth 1102604**
Date/Time: **12/07/2019 21:13:02**

[redacted]