Supplement Report

Agency: **Santa Rosa Police Department** Case #: **SR220008672.014**

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Narrative

SCENE PROCESSING
Written by: **Fix, Allisha 1068916**
Date/Time: **08/23/2022 19:47:00**

SUPPLEMENT:

On 7/29/22 I was the oncall FET. At approximately 1101 hours, SRPD dispatch called me at home and advised me the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) had been involved in a fatal shooting and the critical incident protocol was being invoked. SRPD was going to do the investigation and I was needed to come in to process the scene. I contacted VCI Sergeant Matthies who advised me there was a briefing at the SCSO at 1230 hours.

I contacted FET's Brady, Fiori, and Rowsey and advised them of the critical incident and the briefing at 1230. All three agreed to come in to assist. I proceeded to SRPD where I gathered my equipment and then proceeded to the SCSO located at 2796 Ventura Avenue. Several SRPD personnel were in attendance as well as various SCSO and Sonoma County District Attorney's Office personnel.

The briefing was delayed until 1330 hours. At that time SCSO VCI Sergeant Les Bottomley conducted the briefing and told us the following in essence. An individual, later identified as David Pelaez, vandalized several homes and property, stole several vehicles, and then hiked up a creek carrying a hammer, pickaxe, and rocks. SCSO Deputies pursued Pelaez on foot and caught up to him in the creek. There was an altercation, and one deputy fired his pistol and the other fired his Taser. Pelaez was announced deceased at the scene. We were advised the incident took place in a remote area of Healdsburg that could not be accessed by vehicle.

I was primary FET, and we broke into two groups. Fiori and Rowsey were responsible for processing the involved officers and going to any secondary crime scenes (refer to their supplements for further). Brady and I were going to the primary crime scene. I was responsible for scene description, evidence collection, and photography. Brady was responsible for the scene video and diagram (refer to her supplement for further).

Brady and I proceeded to the meeting location at [redacted] Thomas Road in Healdsburg. Due to the remote location of the incident, Brady and I were helicoptered into the scene by SCSO Henry 1. When we arrived at the primary crime scene, I signed into the crime scene log with SCSO Deputy Trevor Doherty at 1533 hours.

The location had approximate GPS coordinates of [redacted] and was approximately 1.2 miles southeast of [redacted] Thomas Road. The scene was located in a small ravine, with hills on the east and west sides. A small creek ran in a north/south direction and was located on the west side of the valley floor. The terrain was mostly flat with trees, brush, and various vegetation.

Brady and I walked through the scene, and I observed the following. Pelaez, the deceased, was on the ground east of the creek. He was lying on his back, with his head to the west and his feet to the east. His shirt was cut off and he had defibrillator pads attached to his chest as well as a chest seal. There was various medical equipment on the ground north and northeast of Pelaez.

I located a fired Taser south of Pelaez's feet. I also observed a handheld pickaxe and a hammer in some vegetation northwest of Pelaez.

Brady began videotaping the area (refer to her supplement for further). During that time, VCI Sergeant Matthies and VCI Detective Avina arrived at the location. When Brady was finished with the video, I conducted a walk through with Matthies and Avina.

Matthies, Brady, Avina and I then conducted a search of the area for cartridge casings. Matthies and Avina located two cartridge casings northeast of Pelaez's feet. Brady placed folded paper next to them to mark their locations.

I took overall, midrange, and close up photographs of the scene, Pelaez, and various evidence. I then placed yellow flags next to each item of evidence. I marked each flag with a number to indicate the evidence placard number (EP). I then took additional overall, midrange, and close up photographs with the yellow flags.

At some point during this photography sequence, the medical equipment was removed from the scene and returned to medical personnel. I then located a pair of broken sunglasses that had been under one of the medical bags. I added a yellow flag and took additional overall, midrange, and close up photographs.

I then assisted Brady with obtaining measurements for her diagram. When that was completed, I collected all items of evidence and removed the yellow flags. After everything was collected, Avina located a third cartridge casing. I took overall, midrange, and close up photographs of the cartridge case. I then placed a numbered yellow flag next to it and took additional overall, midrange, and close up photographs.

I collected the following items of evidence:

-Hornandy .40 S&W cartridge casing (item 2, EP1), located northeast of Pelaez's feet

-Hornandy .40 S&W cartridge casing (item 3, EP2), located northeast of Pelaez's feet

-Hornandy .40 S&W cartridge casing (item 4, EP7), located northeast of Pelaez's feet

-yellow Taser, fired, with two probes attached (S#X3000CXDR) (item 5, EP3), located south of Pelaez's feet

-yellow and grey Stanley hammer, approximately 13 ½ inches, with apparent blood on handle (item 6, EP4), located northwest of Pelaez's head

-black and yellow multipurpose garden tool with three prong cultivator and hoe, approximately 15 inches (item 8, EP5), located northwest of Pelaez's head

-black Oakley sunglasses, broken in three pieces (item 9, EP6), located northeast of Pelaez's feet

Marin County Sheriff's Office Coroner Deputy Alexandra Torres and SCSO Coroner Deputy Mike Peters arrived at the location. Torres removed a key fob and wallet from Pelaez's left front pocket and a cell phone from his right pocket. Torres removed a Mexican ID with the name Juan Aparicio Cuencas from the wallet. I photographed the ID, which Torres collected. I then photographed the back side of Pelaez and collected his shirt (item 13) which was underneath him.

Due to time constraints with the SCSO helicopter Henry 1, Torres did not fingerprint Pelaez prior to sealing the body bag. She used lock # 3594838 to seal the bag.

I signed out of the crime scene log with SCSO Deputy Scott McCracken at 1938 hours. I was then helicoptered back to the meeting location at 5600 Thomas Road.

After arriving back at the meeting location, Torres cut off the body bag lock to reopen the bag and fingerprint Pelaez. When she was done fingerprinting, she resealed the bag with two locks, (#'s 4338909 and 3594672).

I collected the following items from Torres (see attachment labeled "receipt"):

-blue Motorola Cricket cellphone, collected from Pelaez's right front pants pocket

-Nissan car key fob (item 10), collected from Pelaez's left front pants pocket

-black wallet (item 11), collected from Pelaez's left front pocket

-red body bag lock # 3594838 (item 14)

I left the meeting location and returned to SRPD. I placed the shirt, key fob, wallet, and cell phone into a secure Evidence Drying Cabinet and all other items in a secure evidence locker.

On 7/30/22 I returned to work and removed all items from the secure evidence locker and Evidence Drying Cabinet. I

photographed the blue Motorola Cricket cellphone and gave it to VCI Detective Rantissi. Refer to his supplement for further.

I took close up photographs of the three cartridge casings (items 2-4) with scale and took overall photographs of the Taser (item 5), Stanley hammer (item 6), multipurpose garden tool (item 8), sunglasses (item 9), and the Nissan key fob (item 10).

I located apparent blood on the handle of the Stanley hammer (item 6) which I swabbed for DNA (item 7). I also photographed the contents of the wallet (item 11) which consisted of a bank card for "[redacted]", a gift card, a piece of paper with "[redacted]" on it, a religious card, and a punch card with the name "David." I also removed $350 cash (item 12), consisting of 1 $100 and 5 $50's, from the wallet and booked it in separately.

I then examined the shirt (item 13) that was collected from under Pelaez. The shirt (unknown brand) was a grey long-sleeve hooded t-shirt with dirt and apparent blood on both the front and back. The shirt was cut up the right side and across the chest area from right to left (described as if wearing). Both sleeves were also cut from the cuff to the armpit area. The cuts were made by medical personnel at the scene prior to my arrival. I also located a Taser probe in the cuff of the right sleeve.

I reconstructed the shirt and took overall and midrange photographs of the front of the shirt. I located three defects on the front of the shirt and took additional overall, midrange, and close up photographs of the defects. I then placed scales next to each defect and labeled them A-C. I took overall, midrange, and close up photographs of the defects with the scales.

The defects on the front of the shirt were located in the following areas (described as if wearing):

A- small defect in right shoulder

B- large defect in upper left arm

C- large defect in lower left torso area

I then turned the shirt over and took overall and midrange photographs of the back. I did not locate any defects on the back side of the shirt.

I booked items 2-14 into SRPD Property and Evidence using SAFE Tracker. I also imported my photographs into Evidence.com. I labeled the photographs from the scene "scene" and the photographs of the evidence "evidence."

DISPOSITION:

Attach to original report.