Supplement Report

Agency: **Sonoma County Sheriff's Office** Case #: **SD220729008.006**

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Narrative

SUPPLEMENT
Written by: **Berg, Nicholas 1102224**
Date/Time: **08/21/2022 13:32:00**

Supplemental Report

SCSO Case #: 220719-008

Sergeant N. Berg

On 7/29/2022 I was on duty as the dayshift sergeant assigned to the SCSO main office. At approximately 0820 hours, I heard a call for service in the unincorporated Geyserville/ Healdsburg area. The call was regarding a suspicious circumstance where a suspect had thrown a large rock through an occupied residence window. Further, the reporting party (21 year old with mental disabilities) indicated their father was armed with a firearm and was out looking for the suspect. The RP also indicated their property was 60 acres.

Prior to this call, I was aware that a deputy had responded to a somewhat close in proximity residence where a subject had parked their vehicle and abandoned it before running off into the woods. This vehicle was registered to a Hispanic subject out Clearlake. The vehicle was not towed and was left on scene since there was no authority to tow it. I later believed these two incidents were likely connected.

As this second call progressed and deputies arrived to the area, I continued to monitor its progress. I shortly after heard Deputy Dietrick indicate over the radio that he had learned the same suspect who had thrown the rock, had also just stolen a gardener's truck from the same property (5285 Tre Monte Ln). Deputy Dietrick indicated that he learned the suspect had rammed through several gates on the property and he was attempting to catch up to the suspect. Deputy Dietrick then provided an update that a neighbor (also armed with a firearm) had called in to report that suspect was now on his property (5656 Tre Monte Ln) and was on his knee's and yelling something in Spanish. Deputy Dietrick indicated he then observed the suspect running down a hill and described him as a Hispanic male adult wearing gray pants/ blue shirt, barefoot, and armed with several rocks. Deputy Dietrick further indicated that the second resident had indicated the suspect was begging to be killed by the resident.

At this point, I had begun responding to this incident. Based on the direction of travel Deputy Dietrick provided, I inquired from dispatch what property it appeared the suspect was heading towards. They indicated 5100 Thomas Rd. After reviewing the map on my MDC, my knowledge of the area, and the progression of this call I inquired about an air unit to assist. I knew that our helicopter was on a 30 minute call back and requested CHP's air unit if it was available. After waiting approximately 10 minutes, CHP indicated they not available. I then requested to call out our helicopter (Henry-1) to assist. I knew that based on the terrain alone, it would have been difficult for me and other resources to reach Deputy Dietrick and Deputy Powers (who had also responded). I had also early on requested Deputy Clegg respond with me to the area.

Due to the circumstances and the threat to the public (suspect's demonstrated aggressive/ erratic behavior and being armed with rocks), I requested SCSO dispatch send out a Nixle to the area with the suspect's description with the intention of warning the public and to ask for assistance if he was spotted.

Deputy Clegg and I arrived to the area and made our way to [redacted]. Deputy Dietrick indicated the suspect had stolen a side by side UTV from a property and had continued to ram through gates on properties. I learned that Deputy Dietrick and Deputy Powers had been provided transport via a resident's side by side. Deputy Dietrick indicated patrol vehicles would not be able to access where they were and heading. Deputy Dietrick eventually located the unoccupied stolen side by side on the property of [redacted] and indicated the suspect was moving east. For reference, [redacted] is a very large property consisting of very rural terrain.

The location of this incident provided us with radio difficulties, and it was often times impossible/difficult to have clear radio contact with Deputy Dietrick and Powers. Deputy Clegg and I utilized a property owner's ([redacted]) side by side to attempt to catch up with Deputy Dietrick. At one point I heard either Deputy Dietrick or Powers indicate the suspect had armed himself with a hatchet or hammer and was continuing east (after clarification with initial westbound reports). Deputy Dietrick and Powers later indicated they had become somewhat close to the suspect and were monitoring him from a distance. Meanwhile Deputy Clegg and I reached a point where the side by side could not proceed and we proceed on foot. I heard Deputy Powers indicate he observed the suspect striking a tree with one of the above mentioned weapons.

When Henry-1 arrived I attempted for some time to assist them in finding Deputy Dietrick, Powers, and/or the suspect. My intention at this point was for Henry-1 to locate the deputies and then have them either fly and/or longline in additional resources. Due to the terrain and dense tree line, Henry-1 was not able to immediately locate them. Henry-1 eventually located them in a river bed, which I later learned was approximately ½ mile from where Deputy Clegg and I had hiked into. Shorty after Henry-1 located them, I heard Deputy Dietrick indicate shots fired, suspect down, and life saving measures were implemented.

I requested Henry-1 longline Deputy Clegg and I to their location after they were done transporting a waiting nearby paramedic to the scene. The access to the scene from where Deputy Clegg and I were at was blocked due to a body of water and very steep embankments on either side.

Henry-1 eventually longlined us in and I made contact with the Deputies Dietrick and Powers. I observed a Hispanic male adult lying supine in a rock bed. At this point the paramedic had pronounced the suspect deceased. I observed both Deputies Dietrick and Powers, who were visibly exhausted. I obtained a public safety statement from both separately and collected their body worn camera's just prior to them being longlined out.

I left Deputy Clegg on scene and coordinated further crime scene security. Prior to clearing the scene, I took several overall photos of the scene. I later placed them onto the evidence.com server.

After being longlined out, I immediately responded to the SCSO main office and placed Deputy Dietrick and Powers' BWC's on the docking station. I was also equipped with a BWC which had been activated and later placed onto the docking station.

I later assisted with the incident briefing at the SCSO main office with Santa Rosa Police attending.

I later responded back out [redacted] where I assisted with coordinating the investigative team to the scene via Henry-1. Due to the extremely remote location, access by any other method would either have been extremely difficult (if not impossible) and also exposed those responding to injury.

End of supplement