



St. Louis Park Police Department

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Case SL19000303

Printed on January 22, 2019

Status	Approved
Report Type	Patrol
CIBRS Classification	Private
Primary Officer	Aaron Balvin
Investigator	None
Reported At	01/19/19 17:03
Incident Date	01/19/19 17:03
Incident Code	DOMEST/V : Verbal Domestic
Location	2760 LOUISIANA CT UNIT 7, ST LOUIS PARK, MN 55426
Zone	Texa Tonka
Beat	SL43
Disposition	Case Report Created
Disposition Date/Time	01/19/19 17:42
Review for Gang Activity	None
Bias Based On	
Bias Targets	
Bias Circumstances	

Case Comments

VERBAL ARGUMENT BETWEEN TWO WITH A CHILD IN COMMON

Primary Narrative By Aaron Balvin, 01/19/19 22:52

On 01-19-19 at approximately 1703 hours, officers were dispatched to 2760 Louisiana Court Unit 7 for a verbal domestic. The RP, Mylee Jane Workman (07-08-81) stated her child's father, Matthew Neil Tuhkanen (08-04-83) was currently outside of her apartment knocking on the door. Workman also advised that Tuhkanen had outstanding warrants for his arrest. While officers were en route, dispatch advised to officers they confirmed Tuhkanen did have warrants out for his arrest as well as cautioned officers Tuhkanen has mental health issues and violent tendencies.

Upon arriving on scene, Officers observed Tuhkanen attempt to flee out of the building before retreating to an unknown apartment located on the third floor. Officers attempted to make contact with the residents on the third floor but were unable to make contact with anyone. Officers spoke with a resident who stated Tuhkanen knew all of the residents who lived on the third floor so they did not know which apartment he would've run into. It was determined after speaking with Workman that no crime had occurred between her and Tuhkanen so officers cleared the scene at approximately 1742 hours.

At approximately 1757 hours, dispatch received a phone call from Jessica Marie Stillday (03-07-81) who stated she lives at 2760 Louisiana Court Unit 8 and the male officers had previously been looking for was now back in Unit 7. Stillday stated after officers cleared the scene, she observed Workman go up to the third floor and get Tuhkanen from where he was hiding and they were now both inside Unit 7.

A short time after officers arrived on scene for the second time, they stated they were making entry into apartment 7 to check for Tuhkanen. I heard over the radio that officers were out with the suspect and he was non compliant. Officers

then called for a hold on the main before saying a short time later that shots had been fired and requested paramedics to the scene. I then advised dispatch to start Hennepin County Crime Lab and I responded to the scene.

Upon arriving to the scene, I observed Officer Heffernan and Officer Erickson standing behind a squad parked in the cul-de-sac just east of the 2760 Louisiana Court building. I then went and made contact with Officers Heffernan and Erickson and asked if everyone was OK and who was involved to which Officer Heffernan then raised his hand indicating that he was. After verifying he and no other officers were hurt, I had him sit in my squad car while I read him the public safety questions. After reading the public safety questions and determining there was no threat to the public, I assigned Officer Erickson to stay with Officer Heffernan and escort him back to the PD. I then remained on scene until members of the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office arrived and took control of the scene.

Supplemental Narrative By Michael Merwin, 01/19/19 21:11

On Saturday, January 19th, at 1824 hours, I received a call from Sgt Lewis. He told me there was an critical incident involving St. Louis Park officers and that we need to meet at the station. I arrived just before 1900 hours and was told by Sgt Lewis that officers were being transported to the station and that I was to be the Care Officer for Troy Peek. I waited by the garage as Officer Peek was brought to me and I took him to my office. I stepped out of my office only when Officer Peek received calls from Union Reps or Lawyers and he made no outgoing calls while I was with him. He received one call from another officer shortly after we got to my office. I could hear that officer ask, "what the hell is going on at work?". Officer Peek told him that a critical incident had occurred and that he could not talk about it. At one point an attorney used my office to speak to Officer Peek (I stepped out) and he was removed from my office only once by Hennepin County for photographs. Officer Peek and I discussed our families, his teaching experience at Skills, retirement, and other trivial topics but never discussed the incident. Deputies from the County would check in with us often and Deputy Nelson met with Officer Peek to set up a time for him to be interviewed by the County. Once this appointment was made, Officer Peek was told to go home.

Supplemental Narrative By Bryan Kruelle, 01/19/19 22:13

On 1/19/19 I provided copies of the three 911 calls received by the dispatch center as well all radio traffic on both the police and fire channels during the incident. The information was forwarded to Detective Cory McLouden of the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office via email. Copies of the emails are attached as well.

Supplemental Narrative By Aaron Trant, 01/19/19 22:37

On 01/19/2019 I responded to the St Louis Park Police Headquarters to assist with an officer involved shooting. Upon arrival I was advised by Sgt. Lewis that officers involved in the incident were being transported back to the St Louis Park Police Headquarters and I was going to be assigned as a support officer to one of the patrol officers involved.

Sgt. Lewis transported Officer Smith back to the St Louis Park Police Headquarters where I brought him to my office and stayed with him until we were both released from our duties. Officer Smith and I did not engage in conversation pertaining to the incident and at no time did Officer Smith speak with any other officer involved.

Supplemental Narrative By Arthur Carlson, 01/20/19 00:24

On 01/20/2019 at approximately 1833 hours, I received a phone call from Sgt. Lewis to respond to the St. Louis Park Police Department for an officer involved shooting. Upon arrival at the St. Louis Park Police Department Sgt. Lewis and I responded to the Louisiana Court Apartments (2720 Louisiana Ct.) to assist as care officers. Sgt. Lewis and I returned to the St. Louis Park Police Department with officers involved in this incident. Sgt. Lewis advised that Community Service Officer Gorder was involved in this incident.

Sgt. Lewis advised that I was assigned as the care officer for Community Service Officer Gorder. Community Service Officer Gorder and I sat in my office at the St. Louis Park Police Department. A union representative/attorney requested to use the office to speak with Community Service Officer Gorder, and I stepped out of the office. Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Detectives later escorted Community Service Officer Gorder from my office to the St. Louis Park

Police Department for an interview. Community Service Officer Gorder completed the interview with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Detectives and left the St. Louis Park Police Department. At no time during my assignment as care officer for Community Service Officer Gorder did I witness or participate in any conversation regarding this incident.

Supplemental Narrative By Donald Lewis, 01/20/19 01:04

On 01/19/2019 at approximately 1820 hours, I received a call from Sgt. Balvin advising me of a Critical Incident that had occurred. Balvin requested my assistance with this matter and I responded to The Police Department. While in transit to the Department, I requested that Police Chaplains be paged out and I began attempting to make contact with Investigators to assist. Phone contact was made with Investigators Merwin, Carlson, and Trant and they responded to the PD as well.

Upon arrival it was determined that the four involved Officers would each require a Personal Care Officer. Inv. Carlson and I responded to the scene and located Officers Peek, Pacholke, and Smith along with C.S.O. Gorder. Each was advised to leave the scene in their own vehicles to respond to the PD to meet their Personal Care Officer. As I rode to the scene with Carlson initially, I drove Officer Smith back to the PD in his squad. It should be noted that neither Smith nor I spoke about the incident of this case file. As we arrived at the PD Officer Smith was directed to Inv. Trant for his Care Officer, Officer Peek was directed to Inv. Merwin, and Officer Pacholke was directed to Inv. Carlson. After a few minutes, we learned that C.S.O. Gorder was possibly an audible witness to the event and she was directed to Inv. Carlson and I began to serve as Officer Pacholke's Personal Care Officer. Officer Pacholke and I remained in my office together while I made arrangements for Officers to respond for Patrol coverage. During our time together, we only had general conversation which never included the topic of this incident. Officer Pacholke left the room on two occasions, first to be photographed by a Hennepin County Crime Lab Technician, and a second to receive a consultation from an attorney from L.E.L.S. Legal Defense Fund. One other time, I exited the room and allowed Pacholke a chance to make a personal phone call to his wife. Investigators from The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office entered my office and asked Pacholke if he wanted to give them a formal statement, which he agreed to do in a room across the hall from my office. I was not present for his statement and upon its completion, Pacholke was advised that he was free to leave, which he did not long after. Please refer to Officer Balvin's initial report and other Investigators' Personal Care Officer supplemental reports. No further action taken.

Supplemental Narrative By Alex Forsman, 01/20/19 01:49

On 01/19/2018 at approximately 1843 hours I was dispatched to 2760 LOUISIANA CT UNIT 7 to assist with scene management.

I arrived on scene and was directed to keep a crime scene log. I was cleared at approximately 0130 hours by Hennepin County Sheriff's office. The crime scene log was turned over to Hennepin County Sheriff's Office.

Supplemental Narrative By Robert Boies, 01/20/19 01:55

On 01/19/2019 at approximately 1815 hours, I arrived at work and began setting up a squad car in the west lot. At approximately 1816 hours, I heard "3923 shots fired" over the squad radio. I immediately got ready for my shift in order to respond to the scene. I was also asked to contact Officer Eisel and Officer Forsman and request them to the station as soon as possible. I spoke with both of them and they advised they were enroute to the Police Department.

I arrived at 2760 Louisiana Court with Sergeant Nadem. I was asked to perform scene security by applying crime scene tape around the apartment building and the cul-de-sac. I maintained a security perimeter along with other Officers. Please refer to other reports for further details.

Supplemental Narrative By Jacob Erickson, 01/20/19 02:29

On 1/19/19 at approximately 1812 hours, I had cleared a vehicle theft call near 97 Blake Rd. in Hopkins. It was aired that Officers were on a return call at 2760 Louisiana Court Unit #7. Dispatch relayed that the RP stated the male which

officers were previously looking for was back at the Unit.

As I was enroute from the area of Blake Rd. and Excelsior Blvd. Officers who were already on scene had requested a hold on the main and advised that they were out with one who was non-compliant. As I got closer to the location, it was aired that there was shots fired and that medical aid was requested. Upon arriving I grabbed Squad 1804's medical bag and made contact with CSO Gorder in person who was outside of the building near the entryway. I told her to start moving squads up onto the sidewalks to make more room for the responders that were enroute. CSO Gorder told me that my partners were somewhere inside Unit #7.

Upon entering the Unit I proceeded further inside entering the back bedroom where my partners were located. I immediately recognized that my partners were involved in a Critical Incident. It was made clear to me by Officer Heffernan that he was specifically involved in the Critical Incident. I then started assisting with life saving efforts. Once I concluded the other officers on scene had the resources needed, I left my medical bag with my partners in the room and I removed Officer Heffernan from the scene. Upon exiting the building, Officer Heffernan appeared physically distraught and immediately stated to me "I thought he was going to shoot me". Officer Heffernan and I continued walking toward his squad car and away from the scene. We stood behind his squad car and upon further examining Officer Heffernan physically, he had beads of sweat near his right temple while in temperatures nearing 0 degrees. Officer Heffernan met with Sgt. Balvin inside of his squad car for a brief period of time. SLPPFD evaluated Officer Heffernan on scene and cleared him. After Officer Heffernan was cleared by SLPPFD, I briefly met with Sgt. Balvin who asked me to stay with Officer Heffernan and instructed me not to discuss any details of the incident with him. Officer Heffernan and I then entered my squad car and I drove him back to the Police Department. We then sat down in the Shift Commanders Office near the front entrance of the Police Department. Officer Heffernan was then evaluated further by Hennepin County Paramedics and cleared. Officer Heffernan and I remained in contact the entire time and we did not discuss the case or other Officers /persons involved in the incident.

I stepped out when Officer Heffernan made contact with his Legal Council, his spouse, his Clergy, and his attorney.

I remained in contact with Officer Heffernan when a Hennepin County Crime Lab Technician arrived and processed his Duty Gear. Officer Heffernan was then allowed to change into new clothing and he and I then returned to the Shift Commanders Office.

After Officer Heffernan finished meeting with his attorney he was advised that he could go home and rest for the evening.

I along with a Police Chaplain assisted in driving Officer Heffernan home.

After dropping Officer Heffernan off at his home, and while back enroute to the Police Department. Sgt. Lewis advised that Officer Heffernan's cellular phones needed to be collected per Investigators from The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. He requested that I return to the Police Department and drop off the Chaplain. I made contact with Sgt. Lewis, and he advised me that I would be assisting a member of the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. The HCSO Investigator and I returned to Officer Heffernan's home to collect his phones.

Upon arriving at the Officer Heffernan's home, I took possession of his department issued work cellular phone. I brought the phone back to the Police Department and immediately released it to the Chief of Police.

It should be noted that this is not meant to be a full and complete report of the incident. This is to give an overview of the events in which I was involved with, pending the investigation and interview with the HCSO.

End of report.

Supplemental Narrative By Siar Nadem, 01/20/19 05:02

On 01/20/19 as I was coming on duty at around 0615 hours, Sgt. Balvin made me aware of what was going on, including a incident at 2760 Louisiana Ct. As I was getting ready, Sgt. Balvin notified me that shots fired had been aired

on the radio. I immediately responded to the scene and took command. The following is my involvement in the investigation:

- Sgt. Balvin had assigned Officer Erickson to Officer Heffernan.
- The officers that were initially on the call were identified.
- Officer Pacholke and CSO Gorder was assigned to Unit 7
- The officers that had were initially at the scene were released as additional officer arrived to assist.
- Officer Peek, A HCSO deputy and Officer Forsman were assigned to maintain a scene log.
- Officer Smith and later Eisel was instructed to be with the female tenant of Unit 7 who was in Unit 8.
- The female tenant along with her child were later transported to police headquarters.
- Officer Boies was instructed to set police tape around the general area.
- I had SLP Fire drop off our Mobile Communication Vehicle at the scene.
- Sgt. Balvin and I met with the HCSO officers and updated them on incident.
- I assisted Lt. Parker with setting up perimeter around the crime scene using our and neighboring officers.
- I was assigned as the liaison to the HCSO.
- The perimeter was broken down once I was advised by HCSO to do so.

Supplemental Narrative By Bradley Eisel, 01/20/19 06:23

On 1/19/2019 I was called in to respond to 2760 Louisiana Ct. Unit 7 for an officer involved shooting.

Upon arrival I was instructed by Sgt. Nadem to sit with Mylee Jane Workman (DOB 7/8/1981) and her son [REDACTED] I transported them back to the St Louis Park Police department and sat with them until Hennepin County investigators were able to speak with them.

Supplemental Narrative By Jon Parker, 01/21/19 12:36

Domestic Disturbance

On 1/19/19, I was contacted by DC Kraayenbrink that an officer involved shooting incident had occurred at 2760 Louisiana Ct. Unit #7. I arrived on scene at 1852 hr. and was quickly briefed of basic information related to the incident by Sgt. Balvin and Sgt. Nadem. Hennepin County Deputies were already on scene and had taken responsibility of investigating the incident. I assumed command for the purpose of a setting up a safety perimeter. An initial perimeter was set up with crime scene tape around the 2760 Louisiana Court building and the adjacent cul-de-sac. Initially Hopkins Squad 3631, Minnetonka Squad 6268, Edina Squad 160, and Golden Valley Squad 3512 assisted Officer Boies, and Officer Forsman with perimeter assignments. Shortly after, all assisting officers were relieved of duty by Officer London, Officer Ford, and CSO Pham. I relinquished command to Sgt. Balvin at approximately 1130 hours and returned to the station.

Supplemental Narrative By Michael Harcey, 01/22/19 14:10

On 01-20-19 at approximately 0145 hours Officer Jacob Erickson returned from meeting with Officer Heffernan to take custody of his work phone. Officer Erickson turned over Officer Heffernan's department issued iPhone to me. At the request of the Hennepin County Sheriff Department I placed the phone in my locked file cabinet in my secured office until they were able to take custody of it. On 01-22-19 at 1410 hours I met with Hennepin County Detective Nestrud to turn over Officer Heffernan's work phone to him.

Case Forms

Supplemental Narrative 1/19/19 by Michael Merwin
Supplemental Narrative 1/19/19 by Bryan Kruelle
Supplemental Narrative 1/19/19 by Aaron Trant
Primary Narrative 1/19/19 by Aaron Balvin
Supplemental Narrative 1/20/19 by Arthur Carlson
Supplemental Narrative 1/20/19 by Donald Lewis

Supplemental Narrative 1/20/19 by Alex Forsman
Supplemental Narrative 1/20/19 by Robert Boies
Supplemental Narrative 1/20/19 by Jacob Erickson
Supplemental Narrative 1/20/19 by Siar Nadem
Supplemental Narrative 1/20/19 by Bradley Eisel
Attached Document 1/20/19 - 19000303 911 calls
Supplemental Narrative (Domestic Disturbance) 1/21/19 by Jon Parker
Supplemental Narrative 1/22/19 by Michael Harcey

Property / Evidence

Item #	Category	Type	Status	Location	Description
SL19000303-001		Digital	In Digital Files		Audio - 19000303 911 Calls