



STATE OF CONNECTICUT, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-
INVESTIGATION REPORT (DPS-302-E) (REVISED 2/3/06)

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Report #: 1200704559 - 00258158

Report Type: Initial Report: ☐ Prosecutors Report: ☐ Supplement: ☒ Re-open: ☐ Assist: ☐ Closing: ☐

Attachments: Statements: ☒ Teletype: ☐ Photos: ☐ Sketchmap: ☐ Evidence: ☐ Other: ☒

CFS NO 1200704559	INCIDENT DATE 12/14/2012	TIME 09:41	INCIDENT DATE 12/14/2012	TIME	PRIMARY OFFICER JEWISS, DANIEL E.	BADGE NO 0034	INVESTIGATING OFFICER COMBES, JEREMY	BADGE NO 1085
INCIDENT ADDRESS 00012 Dickenson Dr Newtown 06482					APARTMENT NO	TOWN CD	TYPE OF EXCEPTIONAL CLEARANCE Not Applicable	CASE STATUS Active
STATUS CODE C=COMPLAINANT V=VICTIM A=ARRESTEE J=JUVENILE H=OTHER M=MISSING W=WITNESS O=OFFENDER D=DRIVER S=SUSPECT P=POLICE OFFICER T=TOT								
STATUS	NAME	SEX	RACE	D.O.B.	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS	OP STATE & NO.	
W P	Chapman, William	M	W	03	Bus	(203) 426 - 5841 3 Main St Newtown CT	CT	

INTERVIEW REPORT

Date and Time of Interview:

12/15/12 beginning at 1428 hours and concluding at 1703 hours.

Place of Interview:

Newtown Police Department

Detectives Division

3 Main Street

Newtown, CT

Interviewee:

Officer William Chapman

Newtown Police Department

Action Taken:

Officer Chapman, provided a typed statement.

THE UNDERSIGNED, AN INVESTIGATOR HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT: I AM THE WRITER OF THE ATTACHED POLICE REPORT PERTAINING TO THIS INCIDENT NUMBER. THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN WAS SECURED AS A RESULT OF (1) MY PERSONAL OBSERVATION AND KNOWLEDGE; OR (2) INFORMATION RELAYED TO ME BY OTHER MEMBERS OF MY POLICE DEPARTMENT OR OF ANOTHER POLICE DEPARTMENT; OR (3) INFORMATION SECURED BY MYSELF OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF A POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM THE PERSON OR PERSONS NAMED OR IDENTIFIED THEREIN, AS INDICATED IN THE ATTACHED REPORT. THAT THE REPORT IS AN ACCURATE STATEMENT OF THE INFORMATION SO RECEIVED BY ME.				
INVESTIGATOR SIGNATURE: /TRP JEREMY COMBES/	INVESTIGATOR I.D.#: 1085	REPORT DATE: 12/28/2012 02:32 pm	SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE /SGT MARK DAVISON/	SUPERVISOR I.D.#: 0204

JAN 04 2013

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"My name is Ofc. William Chapman. I have been a sworn member of the Newtown Police Department since 1/23/2008. On 12/14/2012 at approximately 9:30 AM I was in the classroom of police headquarters and heard units being dispatched to Sandy Hook school for a report of shots fired in the building. Recognizing that the call was in my patrol sector I immediately left the building and got into patrol cruiser #18, activated the overhead strobe lights and sirens, and proceeded Northbound on Main street. I believe but do not recall specifically that I advised dispatch that I was en-route to the incident. I then turned right (Eastbound) onto Church Hill Rd. I was following two other marked police vehicles with lights and sirens activated. I recognized that my heart rate was elevated and began a controlled breathing exercise. While en-route I heard a radio transmission from Sgt. Kullgren advising someone to enter from Crestwood Drive. I believe, but do not recall specifically, that one of the vehicles in front of me turned right (Southbound onto Washington Ave. to head to Crestwood Drive. I proceeded straight (Eastbound) through the intersection Onto Riverside Rd, still following at least one marked police vehicle. We then turned Right (Southbound) onto Dickenson Drive. I parked my patrol cruiser in the Northeast corner of the parking lot near the baseball field. At some point while en-route, I deactivated the locking bracket for my patrol rifle to ensure immediate access once at the scene.

I believe but do not specifically recall that I advised dispatch that I was on scene. I exited my patrol vehicle and grabbed my rifle. I pulled back and released the charging handle, ejecting the safeport device and putting a round into the chamber. I then heard rifle fire coming from the area of the front (the Northeast wall) of the school building. I turned the selector lever from 'safe' to 'fire.' I observed Ofc. Smith somewhere to my right, and Sgt. Kullgren somewhere to my left. I instructed and gave hand signals to Ofc. Smith and Sgt. Kullgren to move forward and seek cover behind vehicles in the third row of parking from the building. I stated, "I'm going behind the green SUV." I continued to hear rifle fire which sounded like it was coming from outside the building in the parking lot. I looked for an identifiable threat and could not see anyone shooting. I then observed two females behind a dumpster near the Northern corner of the building. I yelled "get down." They yelled back, "we're parents." I yelled back, "did you see anyone?" They yelled back, "No." I yelled back, "Stay there." I believe but do not recall specifically that I then heard Ofc. McGowan put out a radio transmission that he had someone in custody. It was unclear at the time how many shooters were present. I then heard what I recall to have been four more rifle reports followed by a single pistol report. Sgt. Kullgren then announced that he was heading around to the Southeast area of the building to assist and cover Ofc. McGowan. Since I believed that the shots were being fired on the exterior of the building, but did not see an active shooter, Ofc. Smith and myself then went around the Northwest side of the building and continued checking the perimeter of the school for a shooter until we could see police officers and were confident that no threat existed immediately outside of the school. Ofc. Smith and myself then went back to the front entrance of the building and I observed Sgt. Bahamonde and Lt. Vanghele in the lobby. I observed empty shell casings on the ground outside of the front entrance and that one of the front windows of the school was broken with a large hole in it. I believe but do not specifically recall that Sgt. Bahamonde opened the front door of the school for me. Ofc. Smith and myself then entered the school. Sgt. Bahamonde and Lt. Vanghele and possibly one or two other officers were in the lobby shouting verbal commands at someone down the Northwest

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hallway. It did not sound as if they were speaking with a suspect. I observed many shell casings, broken glass, and blood on the lobby floor. I observed to bodies which appeared to be of adults lying on the ground unconscious and unresponsive. Since there were officers available to provide cover fire I took a moment to check signs of life on the two adults laying in the hallway. Neither had any pulse or breathing. Ofc. Smith and myself then proceeded slowly down the Northeast hallway checking rooms systematically beginning with the first door on the interior side of the hallway. We agreed before opening the door that I would clear the right side of the room and he would clear the left side. We entered the room and found no occupants. We then crossed the hallway and checked the first classroom finding no occupants. We then crossed back to the interior side of the hallway and entered a room and observed some adults and some children crouched down at various locations in the room. I observed an adult female laying down with obvious injuries to what I believe but do not specifically recall to have been her leg and hand. She was conscious and responsive. I advised everyone in the room to stay where they were, and that the police would keep them safe. I exited the room and saw a Msgt. From CSP standing in the lobby as well as possibly two or three other troopers. I advised him that if cover was available we needed two troopers to remove the injured female. I recall that every time I looked behind me toward the entrance to the school I could see more and more troopers coming onto the scene.

I then crossed the hallway expecting to find another roomful of frightened staff and students crouched on the ground. Instead, I observed a Glock handgun which appeared to have a feeding malfunction lying on the ground. I announced "gun" to the Msgt. I made eye contact with him and confirmed that he heard my announcement. I then entered the room and observed a white male laying on his right side. He had brown hair and very fair skin. He was wearing neon yellow or green earplugs. He was wearing what appeared to be fatigue-style clothing and a tactical vest. He was wearing a tactical leg holster on his right leg which appeared to be empty. He was unconscious and unresponsive and had obviously suffered massive head trauma. There was blood pooling heavily in the area of his head. I observed an empty shell casing and some loose live pistol rounds all over the room. I observed [REDACTED] 03, 12 [REDACTED] I walked further into the room and cleared it for additional shooters. I observed a [REDACTED] 03, 12 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My heart broke and I walked around the room saying to myself, "no,no,no." I observed an AR-15 style carbine with a collapsible stock lying on the ground in the northern corner of the classroom. I believe but do not recall specifically that I observed two thirty round magazines on the ground somewhere in the room as well. I thought it was odd that the rifle was so far away from the shooter and thought that one of the adult staff possibly was able to take it away from him.

I cleared the next classroom down on the same side as the first two classrooms and observed a pile of dead children in a bathroom closet [REDACTED] 03, 12 [REDACTED]. It was the most horrific thing that I had ever seen. It appeared to me that the deceased teachers and staff, by their

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/TRP JEREMY COMBES/

INVESTIGATOR I.D.#:
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REPORT DATE:
12/28/2012 02:32 pm

SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE
/SGT MARK DAVISON/

SUPERVISOR I.D.#:
0204

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positions, were actively trying to protect the children at all costs. I remember at some point, due either to information shouted from other officers at the scene or my own conclusions, thinking, "someone has to be alive, the shooter is down, it's time to get people out of here." I then put my rifle on 'safe' went back into the classroom that the shooter was in and began triage of the victims. I walked past the shooter, I recall noting that he had injuries incompatible with life, but still having no desire to offer him medical aid either way. I moved from victim to victim checking their pulse and for breathing. The last victim that I checked was a little girl. I do not know her name at this time. 03, 12

I slung my rifle across my back. The only injury that I observed 03, 12 I briefly ran out into the hallway and I do not recall my exact statements but I requested that an ambulance come and requested officers to provide cover while I took someone out. Someone told me, "go." I went back into the classroom and 03, 12 picked her up and carried her out of the building. I saw Lt. Vanghele and told him that I needed an ambulance. I began running across the parking lot towards Dickenson Drive with the girl in my arms praying that she would live and telling her that she was safe, that Jesus loved her, and that I was protecting her. I stopped several times and got down on one knee to check her pulse. 03, 12

I saw multiple adult civilians at the far Northeastern corner of the parking lot and police officers instructing them to get back and stay back. The civilians were screaming for the ambulance to "get up here." I recall being terrified that the girl's parents were among the civilians present. I realized that the ambulance was remaining staged per their procedure and that they would not come further onto the scene. I then got up and ran down onto Dickenson drive with the girl and got onto the ambulance. I advised the ambulance crew that 03, 12. I then exited the ambulance, donned my rifle and sprinted back to the school to continue clearing rooms.

When I entered the school for the second time I checked with several troopers to confirm that the classrooms on the Northeast hallway had all been cleared. We then assembled a team at the Eastern corner and began clearing the Southeast hallway. I could see Sgt. Kullgren at the Southern corner on the other side of the school. Several troopers, an Oxford officer, and myself then began systematically clearing classrooms. I remember it being apparent that our active shooter training was adequate and that we were cooperating as one unit despite never having met each other. Everyone knew their task. As we worked our way down the hallway we encountered several empty rooms. Several of the classrooms were locked and we could see movement inside. We announced ourselves and attempted to show badges and patches through the cracks in the windows. The teachers unlocked the doors and we told them to exit the building in a prescribed safe direction toward the Northeast end of the building. We instructed them to stay in single file lines with a teacher in front and a teacher in back. We advised the children to keep their eyes closed, to follow the police, and that they were safe now. We cleared all the classrooms on the Southeast hallway in the same manner. As we approached the South corner of the building I could see many uniform and plain-clothes troopers, Chief Kehoe, and several other Newtown officers. I became aware that the 01 02 and I advised a CSP Lt. and a CSP Sgt. that he should be watched because he may

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begin to have difficulties.

We then continued to clear the Southwest hallway and evacuate children. Evacuation became faster and faster and I remember that the Southwest hallway was lined with police officers on either side. I told all of the children, "You're safe now, follow the police, follow your teacher, it's safe now." Many of the children were crying and very upset. I was impressed by the composure and professionalism of the teachers and staff. It was clear that their quick and decisive actions were instrumental in preventing further casualties. We then moved up the Northwest hallway. Officers stated that the rooms had already been checked. I began propping doors open and advising other officers that if a door was open it had been checked. I then went back into a classroom on the Northeast hallway, where I observed a trooper in ESU equipment moving a bookcase. The bookcase was in front of a bathroom door that I did not see on my initial clear. Inside the bathroom there were children and an adult female yelling. We were trying to get her to open the door and telling her that we were the police and they were safe. She replied, "go away, I don't believe you." Someone slid a badge under the door and it opened slightly. We then pushed the door open and removed the children one by one. We assembled them in the classroom and told them to keep their eyes closed. A little girl ran up to me with her arms out and I picked her up and hugged her and told her that she was safe. Her name was [REDACTED] 01 02 03 12 A little boy came up to me with his hand out and I held his hand. I told them to close their eyes and I walked them out of the classroom, carrying [REDACTED] 01 02 03 12 I continued assuring them that they were safe and to follow the police. The boy told me, "I want my brother." I brought them out of the building through the exit on the Eastern corner and passed them to someone who was going to take them to the firehouse. I then sprinted back into the building where I was instructed to take a post on the doorway of the shooter's classroom and control access. Paramedics arrived and began their mass casualty triage process. I was then relieved by a state trooper and exited the building. I performed various other secondary tasks throughout the evening."

Officer Chapman further provided a reference map of Sandy Hook Elementary School identifying movement and personnel on scene.

The typed statement was signed by Chapman, witnessed by Detective Lukienchuk #573 and I notarized the statement.

Attachments:

Five page typed statement

Reference Map

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