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FORCE INVESTIGATION DIVISION REPORT NUMBER

F003-23

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Force Investigation Division

F003-23

OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING

Force Investigation Division Investigators

Administrative Team:

DII J. Fuller
Serial No. 37232

DIII A. Rheault
Serial No. 33961

Criminal Team:

DII H. Hyung
Serial No. 40248

DI J. Whang
Serial No. 39021

DII D. Johnson
Serial No. 37738

DII O. Davis
Serial No. 36304

Date and Time of Incident:	January 03, 2023, 1750 Hours
Location of Incident:	■■■■ 28 th Street
Area of Occurrence:	Newton Area, RD 1325
Suspect:	Oscar Sanchez Male, Hispanic, 35 years of age
Injuries:	Multiple gunshot wounds
Criminal Activity:	Assault with a Deadly Weapon on a Police Officer
DR No.	2313-04329
Involved Officers:	Police Officer II Diego Bracamontes, Serial No. 40514 Newton Patrol Division Police Officer II Christopher Guerrero, Serial No. 41997 Newton Patrol Division

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Addendum No. 8	Los Angeles Police Department, Forensic Science Division, Laboratory Report, Firearms - Evidence Collection Report-crime scene, DR No. 2313-04329, finalized April 24, 2023.
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Los Angeles Police Department, Detective's Daily Report,
Detective III George Beshai, Serial No. 36665, dated
January 3, 2023.

Los Angeles Police Department, Detective's Daily Report,
Detective II Jeremy Hershey, Serial No. 39146, dated
January 3, 2023.

[Addendum No. 17](#)

Intradepartmental Correspondence, Newton Patrol Division,
Commanding Officer's Assessment of Supervisor's Response to a
Categorical Use of Force, FID No. F003-23, for Sergeant I Edward
Asawesna, Serial No. 31152, dated January 10, 2023.

**FORCE INVESTIGATION DIVISION
REPORT OF AN OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING
FID No. F003-23**

The following report, in its digital form, contains videos, photographs, and addenda that can be viewed by clicking on the hyperlinks.

TO: MICHEL R. MOORE, CHIEF OF POLICE

Synopsis: On January 3, 2023, at approximately 1645 hours, Newton Patrol Division officers responded to a radio call of a male who threw a knife at a passing vehicle. The officers located a potential suspect; however, he entered an [REDACTED] residence and they did not attempt to detain him after it was determined the potential victim was no longer at scene. Approximately 45 minutes later, in response to a second radio call, officers returned to the area when the same suspect was reportedly throwing metal tools at passing vehicles while armed with a knife. Officers met with a victim who reported the suspect had vandalized his vehicle and threatened him with a knife. The suspect had fled to the same [REDACTED] residence where the officers later located him on a [REDACTED]. The officers repeatedly asked the suspect to come down and meet with them. When the suspect entered the residence, the officers went up to the landing. Seconds after officers opened the exterior door to the residence, the suspect opened an interior door and stepped toward the officers armed with a makeshift stabbing weapon, resulting in two officers firing their duty pistols and one firing a 40mm less-lethal launcher. The suspect was struck by gunfire and transported by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to Los Angeles General Medical Center (LA General) where he was pronounced deceased.¹

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

On Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at approximately 1640 hours, Witness [REDACTED] [REDACTED] observed a male, later identified as Oscar Sanchez, removing wire from a light pole and wrapping it around a large kitchen knife.³ [REDACTED] called 911 and while on hold, observed Sanchez walking on Central Avenue repeatedly throwing objects at passing vehicles. [REDACTED] reported Sanchez' actions and Communications Division broadcast a radio call of an "ADW suspect there now" in the area of 28th Street and Central Avenue.^{4 5}

Note: Security footage from [REDACTED] shows that while [REDACTED] reported seeing Sanchez in the street, he was carrying a metal pole in his left hand and a knife-type object in his right hand.

¹ On May 3, 2023, University of Southern California Medical Center was renamed Los Angeles General Medical Center (LA General).

² [REDACTED] was not a witness to the subsequent officer-involved shooting (OIS) or formally interviewed as part of this investigation.

³ Oscar Leon Sanchez, 5 feet 6 inches tall, 150 pounds, [REDACTED] years old. [REDACTED] described the knife as having a 10 to 12-inch silver blade, with wire wrapped around the handle and a portion of the blade.

⁴ Incident No. 23010300002940.

⁵ Unless otherwise noted, all broadcasts were made on Newton Area Base Frequency.



[Image from security video of Sanchez walking on Central Avenue]

Newton Patrol Division uniformed officers responded to the call, including Police Officers II Christopher Guerrero, Serial No. 41997, and Diego Bracamontes, Serial No. 40514. They located Sanchez as he was entering the [REDACTED] yard of an [REDACTED] residence.⁶ According to Officer Bracamontes, he observed Witness [REDACTED] working in the yard and initially thought that Sanchez may have been part of a construction crew working at the location.⁷ The officers followed Sanchez into the rear yard and called out to him several times. Officer Bracamontes described Sanchez as holding a “metal pipe” in his hand and appearing angry. Sanchez disregarded the officers, continued walking away, and ascended an external staircase on the north side of the structure which led to a [REDACTED] landing. Sanchez remained on the landing while Officer Bracamontes briefly spoke with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told Officer Bracamontes that Sanchez’ first name was Oscar and that he lived with [REDACTED]. Shortly after Officer Bracamontes spoke with [REDACTED] Sanchez entered the residence through a [REDACTED] door.

The officers remained in the backyard as Officer Guerrero requested additional information from Communications Division, who advised the Person Reporting (PR) no longer observed the suspect; however, she described the suspect as last walking east on 28th Street, wearing a dark blue sweater with the words “Electric Crew.” This clothing description matched the sweater Sanchez wore with the words “Electrical Crew” written on the back. Additionally, Communications Division reported that the suspect had thrown a knife at a passing vehicle that was no longer in the area. Officer Guerrero broadcast that there was a Code Four, and that all parties appeared to be “GOA” [gone on arrival]. Both officers indicated that based on Sanchez’

⁶ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
⁷ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

demeanor, they did not attempt to detain him to avoid a potential use of force without first verifying a crime had been committed. According to Officer Guerrero, they cleared from the call because they could not locate a victim or verify if a crime occurred.^{8 9}



[Videolink No. 1 – Guerrero's BWV of first radio call]

Approximately 30 minutes after the first incident, Victim █████ turned north onto Central Avenue from 28th Street. █████ observed Sanchez throw an unknown object at his vehicle and heard the object impact his car. █████ stopped his vehicle and when he exited, Sanchez approached him on the driver's side and, through body language, communicated, "What!" According to █████, Sanchez was holding a 3-foot "metal tube" in his left hand and a knife with a 5-inch shiny blade in his right hand. After █████ told Sanchez, "You hit my car!" Sanchez made downward slashing motions toward █████ with the knife from a distance of approximately six feet. According to █████, he backed up to get away from Sanchez, who continued to advance toward him. █████ pulled out his cell phone to call 911, and Sanchez stopped. Sanchez walked to the rear of █████ vehicle and struck the left rear taillight with an unknown object, causing it to break. Sanchez then walked south on Central Avenue and east on 28th Street. As Sanchez did so, █████ observed him throw an object at another passing vehicle; however, that vehicle did not stop. █████ then called 911 and reported the incident.¹⁰

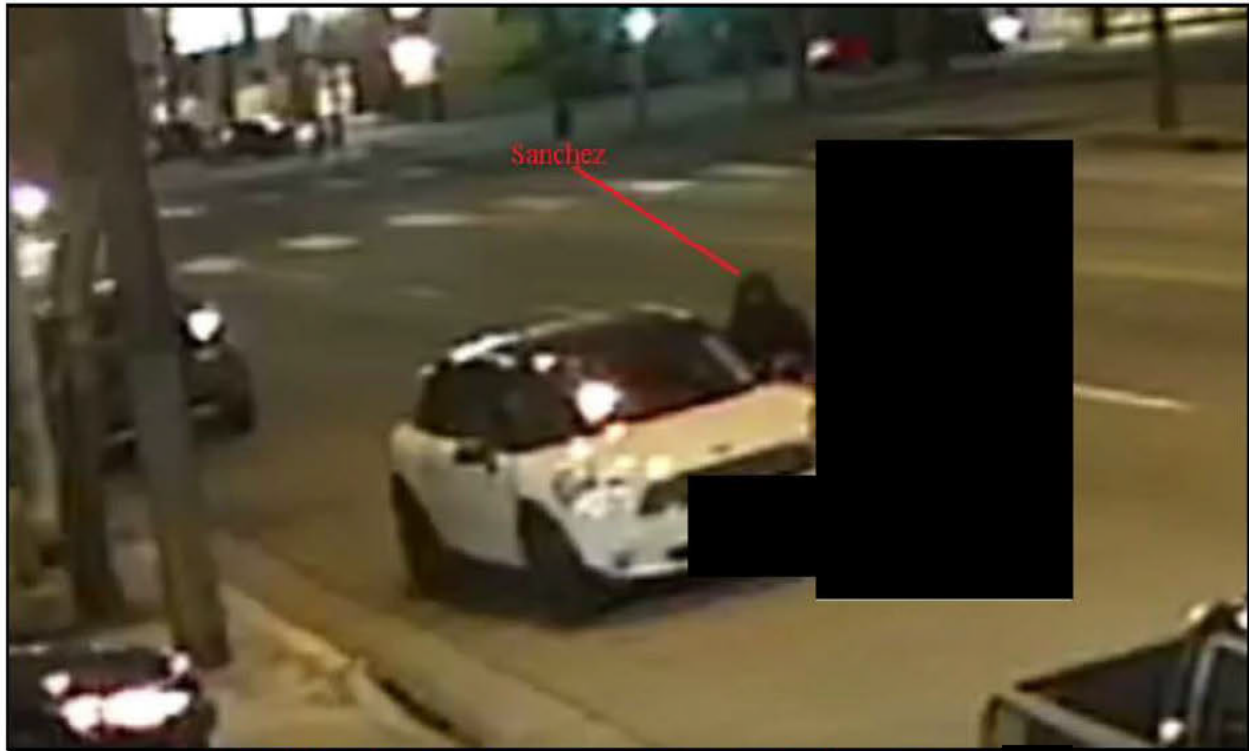
⁸ According to Officer Guerrero, he believed that the PR and the potential victim were the same person contacted by Communications Division during his additional information request. Believing that the PR/potential victim was no longer in the area, they did not attempt to contact █████.

⁹ Sergeant Asawesna was assigned to the call as part of the Department's edged weapon protocol. According to Sergeant Asawesna, while en route, a Code Four was declared and the suspect was reported to be GOA. As such, he discontinued his response and did not have contact with the officers.

¹⁰ According to █████ he spoke to Sanchez in Spanish. █████ could not recall if Sanchez spoke to him in English or Spanish but stated he understood what Sanchez was communicating.

█████ observed Sanchez' aggressive actions toward █████ and called 911 a second time.¹¹

Note: Force Investigation Division interviewed █████ at scene. During the interview, he directed investigators to an object that Sanchez had left near his vehicle. The object was a drill bit with an improvised handle, located near the right rear tire. █████ could not definitively state if that was the item Sanchez held when he made slashing motions toward him.¹²



[Videolink No. 2 – Image from security video when Sanchez confronted █████]

The following LAPD personnel responded to this incident:

Name	Serial No.	Unit No.
Police Officer II Diego Bracamontes	40514	13X45
Police Officer II Christopher Guerrero	41997	13X45
Police Officer II Omar Ortiz	40057	13A41
Police Officer I Carlos Manzo	44890	13A41
Police Officer III Jack Stannard	38538	13A85
Police Officer I Daniel Moreno	45158	13A85
Police Officer III Jose Solorzano	37982	13A43
Police Officer I Diana Cristerna-Gallardo	44706	13A43
Sergeant I Edward Asawesna	31152	13L40

¹¹ █████ 911 calls were combined and broadcast as Incident No. 23010300003108.

¹² This item was collected by Forensic Science Division Firearms Analysis Unit and processed for DNA. Sanchez' DNA was subsequently found on this item.

Note: Unless otherwise specified, the responding personnel were in full police uniform and operating out of marked black and white police vehicles equipped with a Digital In-Car Video System (DICVS). For a detailed list of the officers' equipment please see the attached equipment summary ([Addendum No. 1](#)).

Multiple Newton Patrol units responded to this second radio call, including Officers Guerrero, Bracamontes, Solorzano, Gallardo, and Sergeant Asawesna. Officers Solorzano and Gallardo spoke with [REDACTED] while the other officers responded to the [REDACTED] building that Sanchez had entered during the prior call. Officer Solorzano confirmed a felony crime had been committed and Officer Gallardo obtained a signed crime report from [REDACTED].

From the front of the [REDACTED] residence, officers observed [REDACTED] walking in the rear yard and requested he speak with them on the sidewalk. [REDACTED] told Officer Bracamontes in Spanish that Sanchez had walked up the rear stairs. He told the officers that Sanchez lived there with [REDACTED] and another person, but that only Sanchez and [REDACTED] were currently there.

Note: When later interviewed by FID, [REDACTED] told investigators that when he observed Sanchez go up the stairs, Sanchez was holding an "iron bar", from an [electric] scooter. Additionally, [REDACTED] relayed that Sanchez makes weapons and has wanted to stab him in the past. He characterized Sanchez as mentally ill. A review of BWV determined [REDACTED] did not provide this information to the responding officers.

Sergeant Asawesna spoke with Officer Solorzano, who relayed that Sanchez had thrown an object at [REDACTED] moving vehicle and threatened him with a knife. Sergeant Asawesna later told FID investigators, *"So I confirmed that there was a felony when the suspect threw an object at a moving vehicle. That was a felony itself. And he was armed with a knife and threatened the victim with it, so it made him a dangerous suspect. And he needed to be taken into custody."*¹³

The officers assembled on the sidewalk in front of the [REDACTED] residence and formulated a plan to contact Sanchez in the backyard. Sergeant Asawesna ensured that the roles of contact, designated cover officer (DCO), less lethal, and arrest team were filled before the officers moved to the back of the property. While the officers staged at the front gate to the property, Officer Guerrero unholstered his pistol and directed his attention along the west side of the property in the direction they had last observed Sanchez.¹⁴ Officer Guerrero described the [REDACTED] property as dilapidated and rundown and the exterior as dark and muddy with trash and other miscellaneous items strewn around the yard.

In an attempt to locate Sanchez, the officers moved to the rear of the property via a walkway between [REDACTED] 28th Street and the neighboring residence to the west.¹⁵ As they entered the property, Officer Bracamontes unholstered his pistol.¹⁶ When the officers arrived at the rear yard, they observed Sanchez on the landing at the top of a staircase holding a chain and a metal

¹³ Statement of Sergeant Asawesna, Page 8, Lines 8-13.

¹⁴ According to Officer Guerrero, he unholstered his duty pistol because Sanchez was reportedly armed with a knife and had assaulted someone with it.

¹⁵ The address of the [REDACTED] residence was [REDACTED] 28th Street.

¹⁶ According to Officer Bracamontes, he unholstered his pistol because Sanchez was reportedly an armed ADW suspect who posed a threat to others, and his exact location was unknown.

pipe.¹⁷ Officer Bracamontes instructed Sanchez in Spanish to drop the items and come down to the officers. Officers Bracamontes and Ortiz identified themselves and the other officers as the police in Spanish to Sanchez.

According to Sergeant Asawesna, upon reaching the rear yard, he assessed the situation and determined, "...I wasn't going to send my officers up there to the [REDACTED] because I didn't want my officers to get into a fight and fall off the [REDACTED]. Okay. Um, so -- but I did determine that if the suspect goes inside we were going to go after him to save the people inside."¹⁸

As the officers were attempting to communicate with Sanchez, Sergeant Asawesna directed Officer Solorzano to get a ballistic shield from his vehicle. Additionally, Officer Guerrero broadcast a request for a Rescue Ambulance (RA) to standby. According to Officer Guerrero, "Um, and then I requested an RA to stand by just in case he hurt someone else in the residence because at that point we're thinking his [REDACTED] in there. So we don't know if his [REDACTED] is already hurt. We don't know what's going on, if he's going to hurt him or if he's going to jump off that ledge."¹⁹

In an effort to gain compliance, several officers alternated attempting to communicate with Sanchez in both English and Spanish over a period of approximately four minutes. However, Sanchez refused to comply with the officers' requests to drop the item(s) he was holding and come down the stairs to talk with them. According to Officer Bracamontes, "It was -- I was trying to, in a way, build a rapport. Because he -- it seemed like he had some kind of mental illness or was under the influence of something. So I was just telling him, 'Hey, just -- hey, come on down. I'm not gonna hurt you. Please come down. Oscar, please come down. We're not -- we're -- we just have to talk about what happened out in the street. We just need to talk about this.'"²⁰

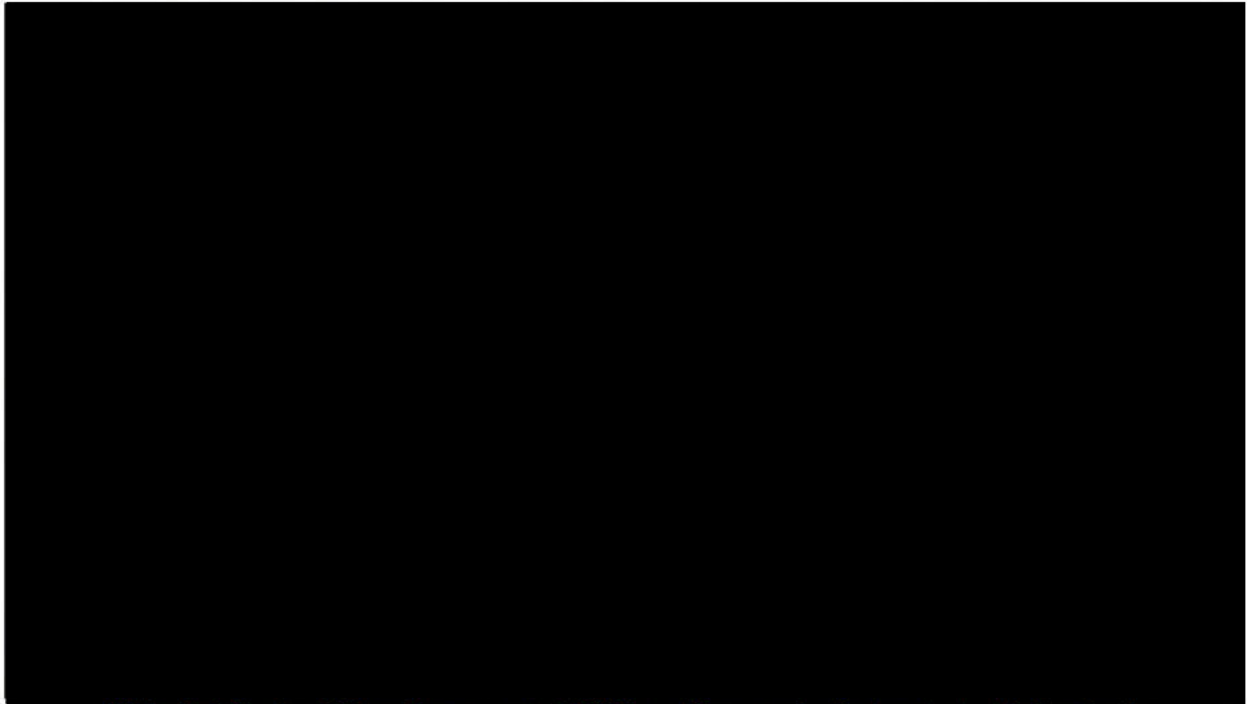
Note: The officers described Sanchez as pacing back and forth on the [REDACTED] and dragging the heavy metal chain. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] s obscured the officers' view of Sanchez when he was not directly in front of the stairs. A review of BWV determined that among Sanchez' replies in Spanish were complaints about the officers shining lights on him. He told the officers to shut up, and yelled, "You're not going to rob me, idiot!"

¹⁷ Although Sanchez is seen holding a metal pole on both BWV and security video from the first incident, the investigation determined it was not the same metal pipe he possessed during this second incident.

¹⁸ Statement of Sergeant Asawesna, Page 35, Lines 11-17.

¹⁹ Statement of Officer Guerrero, Page 14, Lines 13-18.

²⁰ Statement of Officer Bracamontes, Page 74, Lines 17-24.



[Videolink No. 3 – Officer Bracamontes' BWV as officers make first contact with Sanchez]

Sergeant Asawesna told the officers that if Sanchez were to enter the residence, they would go in after him. When interviewed, Sergeant Asawesna said, *"While up there I could see that the suspect was walking around back and forth making loud noises. Um, then I walked around the officers to the rear to get a better view of what was going on. Um, and I knew that this officer -- this suspect was a dangerous suspect possibly armed with a knife even though I didn't see a knife at the time. And I told the officers that if this guy goes inside, we're going to go after him."*²¹ Sergeant Asawesna indicated he believed Sanchez was dangerous because he had received information that Sanchez had already threatened someone with a knife. According to Sergeant Asawesna, although he had not confirmed whether or not the building was occupied, he was concerned Sanchez would start stabbing people inside.

Note: A review of BWV determined that approximately 15 seconds before Sanchez entered the building, Sergeant Asawesna told Officers Bracamontes and Guerrero, *"Okay, if he goes inside there, we're gonna go after him."*

Approximately 4 minutes after officers began communicating with Sanchez, he entered a doorway into the building, and closed the door.

Note: Officers Bracamontes, Manzo, and Ortiz believed that Sanchez dropped the pipe and chain prior to entering the building. Officer Guerrero was unsure if Sanchez dropped the chain on the landing or took it into the building with him.

According to Sergeant Asawesna, he did not see any weapons in Sanchez' hands while he was on the landing. Sergeant Asawesna did not consider Sanchez a barricaded suspect and described him as being uncooperative and either under the influence or mentally ill;

²¹ Statement of Sergeant Asawesna, Page 9, Lines 9-16.

however, he did not believe Sanchez was refusing to submit to arrest. Additionally, when asked if he considered the incident could become a barricade, he stated, *"No...Because I was thinking about the safety of the people inside the house. So we needed to go inside to arrest him and possibly rescue the occupants."*^{22 23}

At the base of the stairs, Officer Guerrero equipped himself with the shield and requested an officer with less lethal to join him and Officer Bracamontes. Sergeant Asawesna directed additional officers to join them as an arrest team and ensured other officers were positioned at the front of the residence.

The team consisted of the following officers:

Name	Role
Officer Guerrero	Shield / DCO
Officer Bracamontes	Contact
Officer Manzo	40mm Less-lethal Launcher
Officer Moreno	Arrest
Officer Stannard	Arrest / Taser
Officer Ortiz	Additional 40mm Less-lethal Launcher
Sergeant Asawesna	Supervisor

The officers ascended the staircase to the [REDACTED] where Sanchez entered the building.²⁴ According to Sergeant Asawesna, he remained at ground level near the staircase because it provided him with the best position for oversight of the team. Sergeant Asawesna told FID investigators, *"Well, the staircase itself was probably three feet wide. Okay. Um, and it just -- I didn't -- I trusted my officers to do their job. They were assigned a task, each of them was assigned a task, and I could oversee them from where I was. So had I gone up, I would have been the last person. So I -- I decided to stay down and just watch them from where I was. I -- I could see them and I could communicate with them."*²⁵

Officer Guerrero reached the landing and approached the doorway where Sanchez had entered the building. The door was partially ajar, and Officer Guerrero advised he was going to open it. As he held the shield with his left arm and his pistol with his right hand, Officer Guerrero reached forward and opened the door with his right index finger. Officer Guerrero told FID, *"Yes. I was holding the shield in my left hand. And since I had the shield and I had the cover, I thought it was only -- it was a messed up situation, so I thought it was only right for me to open it because I had all the cover. I didn't want someone else to open it and get hurt if he was standing there. Um, so I went ahead and made the decision to open it with my right finger."*²⁶

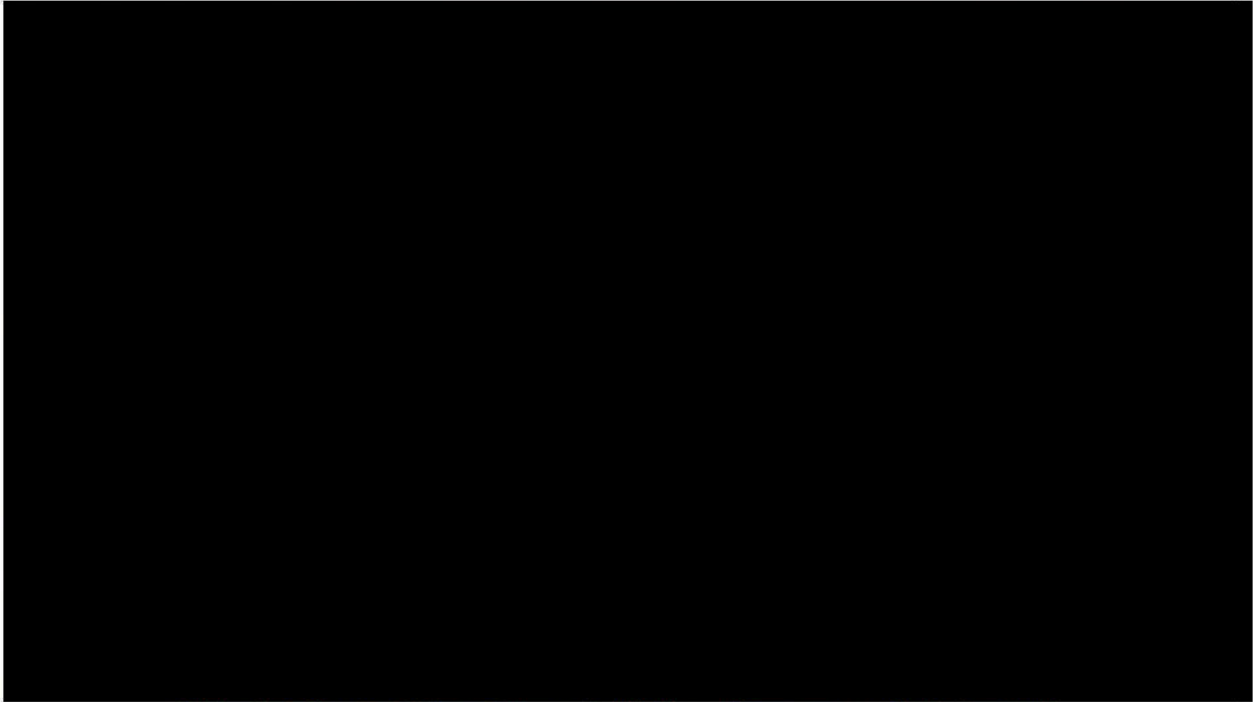
²² Statement of Sergeant Asawesna, Page 25, Lines 9-14.

²³ Though he believed he was acting as the Incident Commander, Sergeant Asawesna did not declare himself as such over Newton Base Frequency.

²⁴ [REDACTED] was missing railings from the bottom to the midpoint, and several steps were unstable.

²⁵ Statement of Sergeant Asawesna, Page 26, Lines 5-13.

²⁶ Statement of Officer Guerrero, Page 79, Lines 9-17.

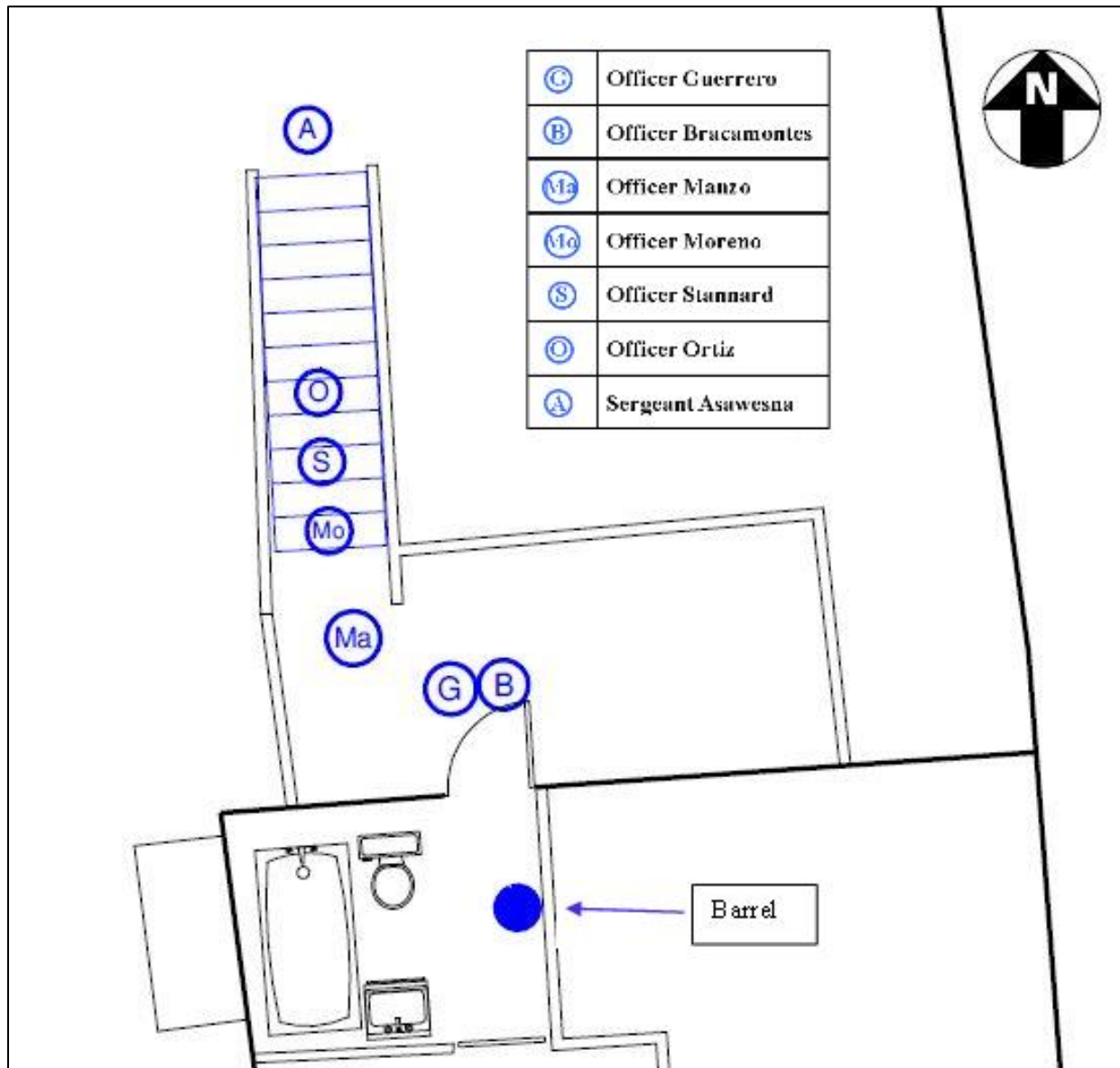


[Videolink No. 4 – Officer Guerrero’s BWV as officers approach the landing]

As Officer Guerrero swung the door open, Officer Bracamontes assumed a position to Officer Guerrero’s left and used his left hand to open the door fully. Officer Manzo stopped on the landing approximately three feet behind and slightly to the right of Officers Bracamontes and Guerrero. Officers Moreno, Stannard, and Ortiz were positioned in single file on the stairway, with Sergeant Asawesna remaining at the base.

The door opened into a bathroom. On the opposite side of the [REDACTED] was a closed interior door on the south wall. A blue plastic 55-gallon barrel was located approximately five feet in front of the officers, along the east wall.

[This space was intentionally left blank]



[Diagram depicting officers' positions prior to the OIS]

While maintaining his position to the left of Officer Guerrero in front of the doorway, Officer Bracamontes called out to Sanchez in Spanish, “*Oscar, come out.*” Approximately six seconds after the officers opened the exterior door, Sanchez forcefully opened the interior door armed with what was later determined to be a sharpened screwdriver mounted in a scooter fork. Officer Bracamontes ordered Sanchez in Spanish, “*Oscar, get down!*” as Officer Guerrero ordered Sanchez in English, “*Put that down! Put that down!*” Simultaneously, Officer Manzo stepped forward offset to Officer Guerrero’s right.

Note: During his FID interview, Officer Bracamontes stated that he used the Spanish terms “*Bajalo*” or “*Sueltelo*” which translate to “drop it.” A review of BWV determined that he said “*Bajate*” which translates to “get down.”

Officer Manzo fired one round from his 40mm less-lethal launcher, and Officers Bracamontes and Guerrero simultaneously fired three rounds each from their pistols. A Sound Graph Analysis determined the 40mm less-lethal round and six pistol rounds were fired in approximately 1.2 seconds. Each officer's account is detailed on the following pages.

Officer Manzo's account:

According to Officer Manzo, Sanchez was armed with a "*sharp spear object*" in his right hand which was pointed toward them at a downward 45-degree angle. He could see the front of the weapon and described it as a seven to ten-inch silver spear with a pointy end capable of causing serious bodily injury or death. Officer Manzo perceived this as an immediate threat and that Sanchez intended to cause harm to him and the other officers. Sanchez began to lunge forward while pointing the object toward the officers at a downward 45-degree angle, indicating to officer Manzo that Sanchez was an immediate threat and intended to cause harm to him and the other officers. Additionally, Officer Manzo described Sanchez' lunge as starting forward with his right leg toward them. In response, Officer Manzo targeted Sanchez' navel area and discharged one 40mm round. According to Officer Manzo, the 40mm round struck Sanchez in the navel area.²⁷

Officer Manzo stated, "*At a certain point the [interior] door opens immediately and we see the suspect. In his right hand he had a sharp object silver in color. Part -- primary gave commands to drop it and at a certain point I see the suspect start to kind of lunge forward being that we were right there very close and in small confinement, I deployed my 40 striking the suspect. Suspect goes down.*"²⁸

When providing further description of this portion of the incident, Officer Manzo stated, "*So as we made it up the stairs, we get to the front of the door and we immediately see the door quickly open, the [REDACTED] door that was closed. And as soon as we see it open, the suspect is appeared behind the door. I see a metal object in his hand, right hand. He kind of pauses. At that time the primary unit gives command to the suspect to drop it, and I see that he starts kind of lunging forward. Being that we were relatively close, I would say five to 10 feet from the suspect and being that we were in a narrow position, I made the decision to shoot the 40 because at the same time we were stuck in a [REDACTED] being that if he would have charged us, we would have been in a very tough position to retrieve any cover. And I felt that at the moment if he would have charged, it was an immediate threat to the safety of my partners and myself as well.*"²⁹

Note: Officer Manzo indicated the interior wall partially obscured his view of Sanchez, and as such, he was unable to see Sanchez' left hand.

²⁷ A review of BWV could not determine if Sanchez was struck by the round. Additionally, it was determined that Officer Manzo did not give a warning prior to discharging the 40mm less-lethal launcher. Officer Manzo discharged the round from an approximate distance of 10 feet and immediately reloaded.

²⁸ Statement of Officer Manzo, Page 10, Lines 9-17.

²⁹ Statement of Officer Manzo, Page 21, Line 22 through Page 22, Line 14.

Officer Bracamontes' account of the OIS:

According to Officer Bracamontes, Sanchez kicked the interior door open and was holding what appeared to be a “*harpoon gun*” or homemade spear with a sharp point in his right hand and another sharp chrome object in his left hand. He described the weapon in Sanchez’ right hand as a 4-foot-long black solid metal pole with a spear or harpoon extending an additional foot from one end. He further described the spear or harpoon portion as chrome in color and the object in Sanchez’ left hand as L-shaped with a six-inch blade.

Officer Bracamontes described Sanchez as taking a fighting stance while holding the weapon at mid-chest level, with his right hand holding the rear portion of the weapon. He described Sanchez’ demeanor as very angry, tense, agitated, and making rapid body movements. Officer Bracamontes told FID investigators, “*...I do remember he just kind of like -- he was very tense, very just ready to -- like, just to stab us with it, just -- so he was, like, in a -- we were like -- he was within -- he -- he was like a split-second or like -- or a second away from lunging at us and stabbing us. Like, we -- we were in imminent danger from him stabbing us.*”³⁰

According to Officer Bracamontes, Sanchez moved forward with his lead foot, decreasing the distance between Sanchez and the officers. When asked how much closer Sanchez came, Officer Bracamontes stated, “*By a foot. Like, it -- yeah. Because it -- it appeared he -- he had cleared the threshold of his -- that door he kicked open. So he got like a foot closer to us, kind of just changing his stance, kind of just -- you know, just getting ready to -- to -- to impale us with this spear or harpoon gun and just kind of getting ready, psyching himself -- It looked like he was, like, gonna psych himself out -- or just getting, like, ready just to charge us and kill us. Or even if he had no weapons, just -- he could just -- he just -- shoved us off the [REDACTED] and killed -- and hurt -- hurt -- like, hurt us -- either one of us.*”³¹

According to Officer Bracamontes, Sanchez was approximately five feet in front of him and he feared that it would only take a “*split-second*” for Sanchez to either shoot the harpoon gun or charge and stab him or his partner with the spear.

In response, Officer Bracamontes fired three rounds from his pistol and he stopped firing when Sanchez dropped his weapons and fell to the ground.

First Round

It appeared to Officer Bracamontes that Sanchez was going to charge and kill them. Officer Bracamontes believed his first round hit Sanchez but had no apparent effect.

Second Round

After firing his first round, Officer Bracamontes observed Sanchez was still holding the weapons in a threatening manner. Officer Bracamontes stated, “*He was still a threat. He could -- he was still trying to kill us. He was -- he -- he -- it didn't -- it didn't change his behavior at all, and it was just -- he still continued to hold the weapons in a threatening manner.*”³² Believing Sanchez was still a threat to their safety, Officer Bracamontes fired a second round.

³⁰ Statement of Officer Bracamontes, Page 69, Lines 11-17.

³¹ Statement of Officer Bracamontes, Page 73, Lines 13-25.

³² Statement of Officer Bracamontes, Page 78, Lines 20-24.

Final Round

After firing the second round, Officer Bracamontes observed Sanchez remained armed at the same “lunging, striking distance.” According to Officer Bracamontes, *“He was still a danger to us. He was still armed. He was still in a tense fighting stance. He was still about to stab us. He was still, like, getting ready to -- to attack us or -- or shoot us with his harpoon gun. And so I had no other choice just to shoot him a third time.”*³³

When asked if he considered redeploying after being confronted by Sanchez, Officer Bracamontes said, *“No. We -- the only cover we had was the shield that Guerrero had. We couldn't really retreat anywhere because -- or go anywhere because it was just that [REDACTED] Sorry. It was just that [REDACTED] We couldn't -- we couldn't fall back. We couldn't run down the stairs. Like, just -- it was just -- like, the -- it just -- the environment didn't allow that. We would have fallen off the stairs. We would have got hurt. We would have -- you know, we had our backs to like a [REDACTED] drop, pretty much. And there was no railing to where we were at, so it was just like -- if we would have just taken a few steps back, we would have -- we would have fallen two stories down. Because it's like -- the [REDACTED] was only about like 4 feet wide from north -- from -- from the north to south.”*³⁴

When addressing the potential protection provided by the shield, Officer Bracamontes stated, *“My partner had the shield, but he didn't have his legs covered. And then I was exposed. So it was just to either shoot or or get stabbed, pretty much. We were in that position, and so we shot to, to protect ourselves.”*³⁵

Note: A review of Body Worn Video determined that approximately four seconds elapsed between Sanchez forcing the door open and the OIS. Additionally, the investigation determined that Officer Bracamontes' rounds were fired from an approximate distance of ten feet.

Officer Guerrero's account of the OIS:

According to Officer Guerrero, while remaining at the threshold of the exterior door, Sanchez violently opened the interior door, “smashing” it against the wall. He observed Sanchez holding what appeared to be a small spear or projectile weapon and described it as stainless steel, approximately one foot long, and sharp. It resembled a projectile weapon or spear that could shoot the sharp object or stab him. Officer Guerrero ordered Sanchez to “Drop it! Drop it!” before Sanchez raised the weapon and leaned forward approximately one foot.

Officer Guerrero stated, *“Um, so at this point I have the shield. I have my gun out. I see he's holding that -- it's a weapon. I don't know. It's -- it looks like a -- like a long ice pick that's manufactured into another tool. I don't know if it was a projectile that could shoot at that point because it was very long. Um, either way, um, he's staring. He's just like staring at us with like completely bug eyed, wide eyed. And he is just like completely focusing -- just focusing. Like, just focusing on me, looking at me. And just -- if I ever -- if I ever thought anyone wanted to kill me, this was -- this was the guy. Like, he was just looking at me like he was going to -- that was it. Like, he had made his decision and he was going to try to kill me.”*

³³ Statement of Officer Bracamontes, Page 81, Line 21 through Page 82, Line 1.

³⁴ Statement of Officer Bracamontes, Page 67, Lines 2-16.

³⁵ Statement of Officer Bracamontes, Page 19, Lines 12-15.

Um, so the weapon that he's holding, it's -- it rises up. It rises up probably above his waist now. He's holding it. Body, um, just suddenly upper torso because that's what I'm focusing on. He's holding it in his upper torso area, just completely leans forward -- body weight forward. So I took that as he's advancing towards me. And, um, at that moment there -- there was nowhere to go. I was -- I really -- I -- I felt trapped. I -- there was nowhere to redeploy to.

Um, if I -- if he came at me and I did nothing, I mean, I -- I would have been killed by the fall off of that -- that landing. Um, and I -- I shot to prevent that. I shot to prevent my own death and my partners who were there. And, um, at that point I shot until he was no longer a threat and when he was -- until he went down to the floor. At that point, when he was no longer a threat and he dropped the weapon and went down on the floor and that's when I stopped shooting.”³⁶

Officer Guerrero fired three rounds from his pistol and stopped firing when Sanchez dropped his weapon and went down to the floor.

First Round

Officer Guerrero stated, *“Like I said, he had -- when that door opened up when he slammed it open, he's holding the weapon. It's raised up. It's canted towards me. He's looking at me. And his body leans forward, so he's closing the distance and there's nowhere to go.”³⁷* Officer Guerrero believed that Sanchez was moving forward to stab him and feared that Sanchez would kill him. According to Officer Guerrero, he did not know if this round impacted Sanchez.

Second Round

After firing his first round, Officer Guerrero observed that Sanchez remained standing with the weapon still pointed at him. When asked why he fired his second round, Officer Guerrero stated, *“The second round he appeared that he was going to continue to move forward again. He's still holding it. He's looking at me, looks even angrier and he has the -- the weapon, what I still don't know what it is, but it's that icepick looking thing, he has that. He's pointing it towards me and it looks like he's going to come forward again. And at that point I was -- I was really stuck. And it would have gone -- I had nowhere to go at all.”³⁸*

Final Round

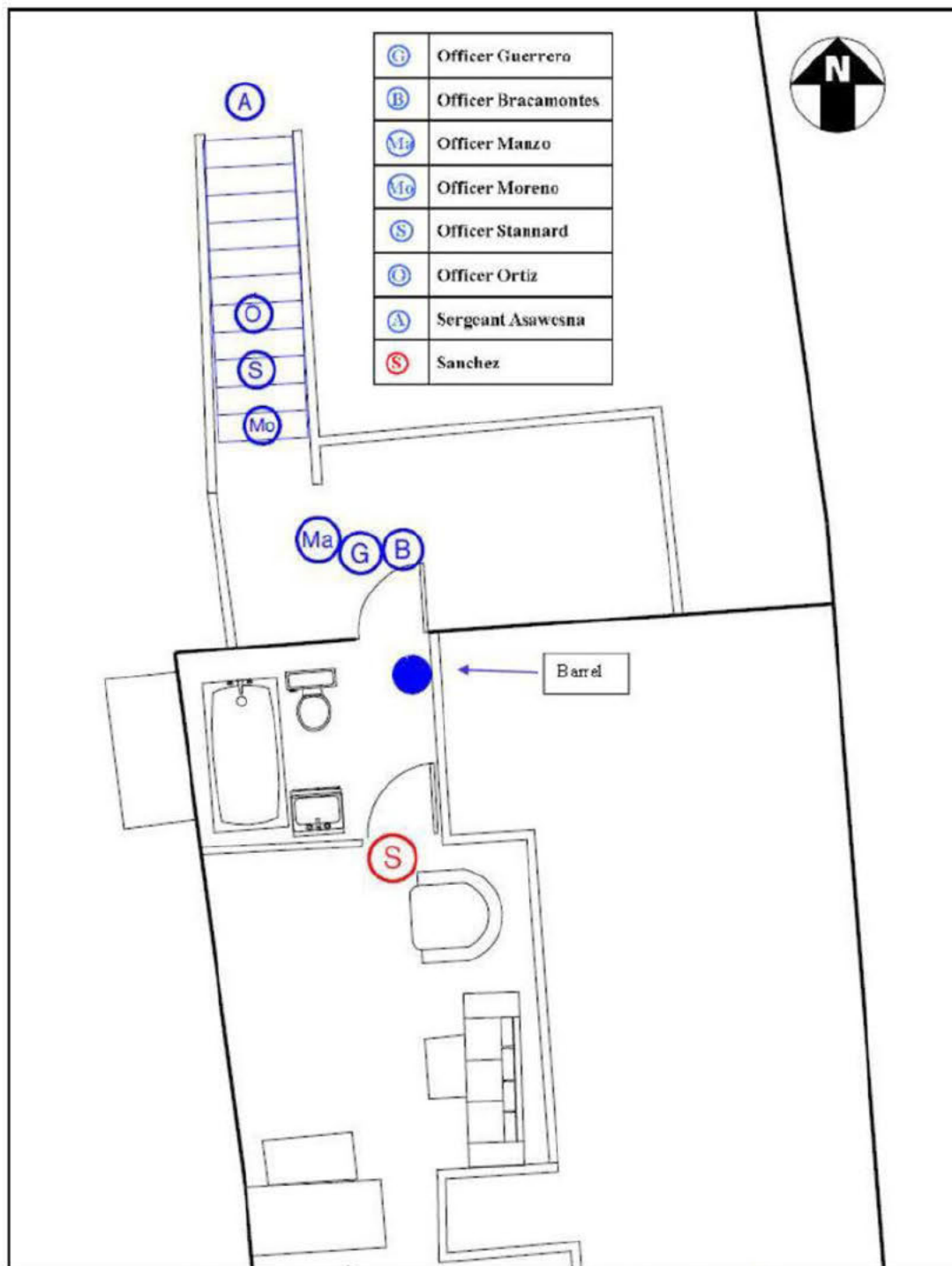
Officer Guerrero believed he fired two or three rounds during the incident. The investigation determined that he fired three rounds from his pistol. When describing Sanchez's actions after his final round, Officer Guerrero stated, *“And, um, at that point I shot until he was no longer a threat and when he was -- until he went down to the floor. At that point when he was no longer a threat and he dropped the weapon and went down on the floor and that's when I stopped shooting.”³⁹* Officer Guerrero fired from an approximate distance of ten feet, utilizing a one-handed grip (right hand) while holding the shield with his left arm.

³⁶ Statement of Officer Guerrero, Page 16, Line 1 through Page 17, Line 10.

³⁷ Statement of Officer Guerrero, Page 91, Lines 18-23.

³⁸ Statement of Officer Guerrero, Page 92, Lines 7-15.

³⁹ Statement of Officer Guerrero, Page 17, Lines 5-10.



[Diagram depicting officers' positions at the time of the OIS]

The following table contains videolinks of the OIS:

Source	Hyperlink
Officer Manzo's BWV	Videolink No. 5
Officer Bracamontes' BWV	Videolink No. 6
Officer Guerrero's BWV	Videolink No. 7

Post-OIS

According to Officer Guerrero, Sanchez fell to the floor inside the [REDACTED] beyond the bathroom. Sanchez fell on his right side with his feet approximately two feet from the interior doorway.

Immediately after the OIS, Officer Guerrero announced, *"Shots fired, put it out."* Followed by, *"Suspect down, no Code Four."* Officer Solorzano notified Communications Division that an OIS had occurred, requested a backup, and an RA. Moments later Sergeant Asawesna broadcast, *"It's Code Four, Code Four, we need two additional units but its Code Four."* Approximately 30 seconds after Communications Division broadcast the help call and location, Sergeant Asawesna again broadcast, *"It is Code Four, everybody, do not overdrive...do not overdrive."*

Note: The investigation determined that when Sergeant Asawesna made the second Code Four broadcast, the officers were in the process of handcuffing Sanchez. When asked if he knew if Sanchez was in custody when he made the broadcast, Sergeant Asawesna stated, *"No. No. I -- I could tell because the officers didn't -- didn't yell out 'officer down' so I knew that the officer shot the suspect. And I was concerned with the responding units getting into an accident so I put out a Code 4 and I told 'em not to over drive."*⁴⁰

Officer Guerrero passed the shield to Officer Moreno, then with the assistance of Officer Bracamontes, removed the blue plastic 55-gallon barrel from the bathroom. Approximately 44 seconds after the OIS, Officer Guerrero ordered Sanchez not to move or touch anything, as he and Officers Bracamontes, Manzo, and Moreno moved through the bathroom into the bedroom.

As the officers entered the [REDACTED], a black and white metal pipe can be seen on the floor near Sanchez' feet on Officer Bracamontes' BWV. Additionally, a makeshift stabbing weapon is seen on the brown chair adjacent to Sanchez. These objects are identified as Items A and B, respectively, in the photograph below.

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⁴⁰ Statement of Sergeant Asawesna, Page 48, Line 23 through Page 49, Line 3.



[Image from Officer Bracamontes' BWV as officers entered the bathroom]

Officer Guerrero holstered his pistol, grabbed Sanchez' left arm, and rolled him onto his stomach. Officer Manzo slung the 40mm and grabbed Sanchez' right arm. Officer Moreno then held Sanchez' left arm as Officer Manzo handcuffed Sanchez' wrists behind his back.

Officers Manzo and Moreno rolled Sanchez onto his right side as they searched him. Officer Manzo removed a utility knife (Item C) from the left front pocket of Sanchez' hooded sweatshirt. He then passed the knife to Officer Moreno, who placed it on the floor next to the brown chair.

Note: A review of BWV determined that Officer Solorzano entered the room after Sanchez was handcuffed. He donned gloves and then moved the makeshift stabbing weapon from the front edge of the brown chair to the rear portion of the seat. Officer Solorzano then picked up the metal pipe and utility knife from the floor and placed them on the brown chair. According to Officer Solorzano, he moved the weapons because he was concerned that due to the tight confines of the room, the items could be lost, damaged, or destroyed, which could result in the evidence not being properly documented.



[Photograph of the three items recovered from the brown chair]

Item A

Based on descriptions provided by Officers Manzo, Guerrero, and Bracamontes, this item appears to be the weapon held in Sanchez' right hand at the time of the OIS.

Item B

This item appears to be the pipe carried by Sanchez during the second radio call. Additionally, Officer Bracamontes described this item as being held (in conjunction with Item A) in Sanchez' right hand at the time of the OIS. Officers Guerrero and Manzo did not describe seeing this item at the time of the OIS. An item similar in size is seen in Sanchez' left hand in a single frame

from Officer Manzo's BWV at the time of the OIS. A review of BWV determined that this was the item on the ground near Sanchez' feet.

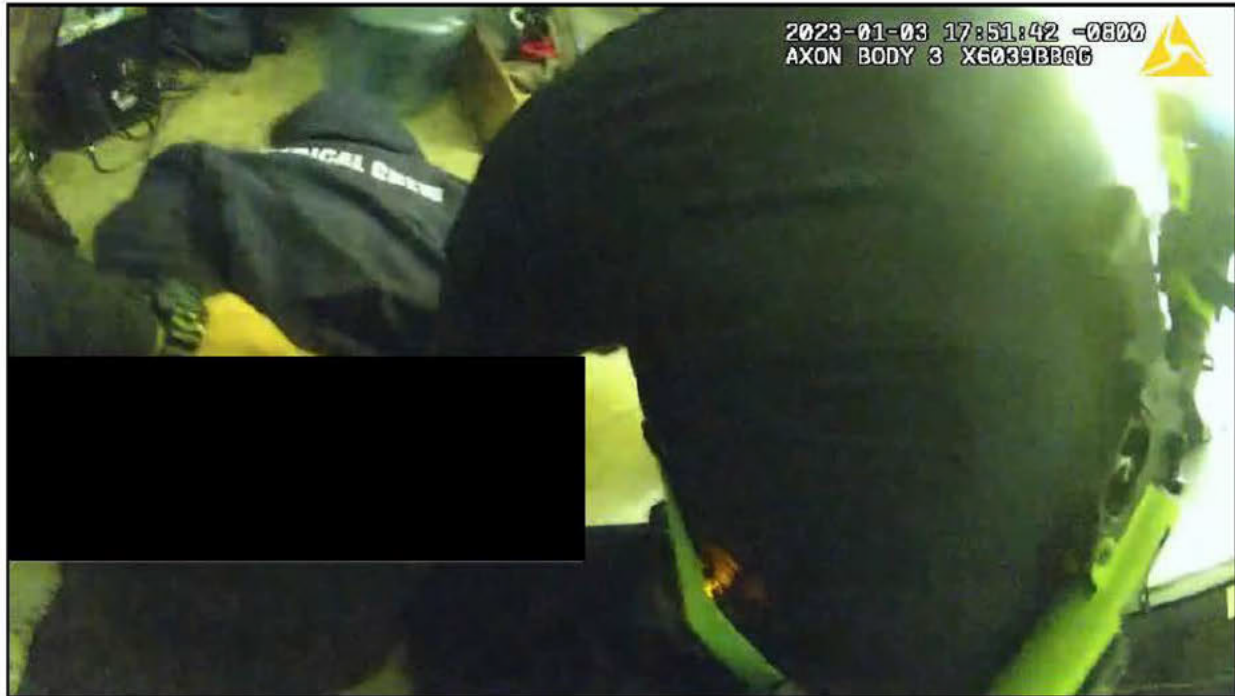


[Image from Officer Manzo's BWV of Sanchez holding the metal pipe during the OIS]

Item C

The L-shaped utility knife was collected from the left front pocket of Sanchez' hooded sweatshirt by Officer Manzo after Sanchez was handcuffed and searched for weapons. This item appears to be consistent with the item described by Officer Bracamontes as being held in Sanchez' left hand during the OIS. Neither Officers Guerrero nor Manzo reported observing Sanchez holding this knife during the incident. FID investigators were not able to determine if Sanchez was holding this item at the time of the OIS.

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[Videolink No. 8 – Officer Moreno’s BWV showing Sanchez being taken into custody]

Officer Guerrero assessed Sanchez’ injuries as Officer Manzo maintained control of Sanchez’ left arm to ensure he remained in a “*recovery position*” on his right side. Officer Guerrero located a towel in the room and used it [REDACTED] Shortly after, Officer Moreno relieved Officer Guerrero and [REDACTED]

While awaiting the arrival of LAFD, the officers evaluated the need for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), and Officer Guerrero assessed and advised that CPR was not necessary because Sanchez had a pulse and was breathing.

Approximately six minutes after the OIS, Officers Guerrero, Manzo, and Moreno lifted Sanchez by his arms and legs and carried him down the stairs where they were met by arriving LAFD personnel. The officers then assisted LAFD with carrying Sanchez to a gurney at the front of the property. When asked why they decided to carry Sanchez down to LAFD personnel, Officer Solorzano stated, “*So we’ve been at that location a couple of times. It’s a [REDACTED] that has a missing handle. I know going up and down those staircases in the past, you could hear the cracking of the [REDACTED]. And we, actually, in the past, had only one officer at a time go up and down the staircase that way it wouldn’t fall apart.*

I figured that if the FD or paramedics showed up with all their gear or try to put a chair up there, it would, it would, definitely would have collapsed. So I made the decision to let the detect the sergeant know that we were gonna move him from the top to the bottom that way the paramedics could get to him quicker.”⁴¹ Officer Solorzano briefed Sergeant Asawesna on the plan and rationale to move Sanchez downstairs, and Sergeant Asawesna agreed.

⁴¹ Statement of Officer Solorzano, Page 34, Lines 10-22.

Sergeant Asawesna additionally directed officers to clear the remainder of the residence to ensure that no one was injured as a result of the OIS. Officers located five people inside the [REDACTED] of the property and verified that none were injured.

At 1757 hours, RA 14, staffed by Firefighter Paramedics (FFPMs) Jason Mass and David Gopar, along with FFPM Ryan Capiro assigned to Engine 14, transported Sanchez to LA General. At 1955 hours, Sanchez was pronounced deceased by Doctor Demetrios Demetriades.

Timeframe Analysis

Force Investigation Division, Video Technology Unit performed a Sound Graph Analysis of the BWV footage to identify when each of the rounds were discharged. The analysis determined that one less lethal and six lethal rounds were fired in 1.236 seconds. However, the analysis could not determine the precise sequence of fire.⁴²

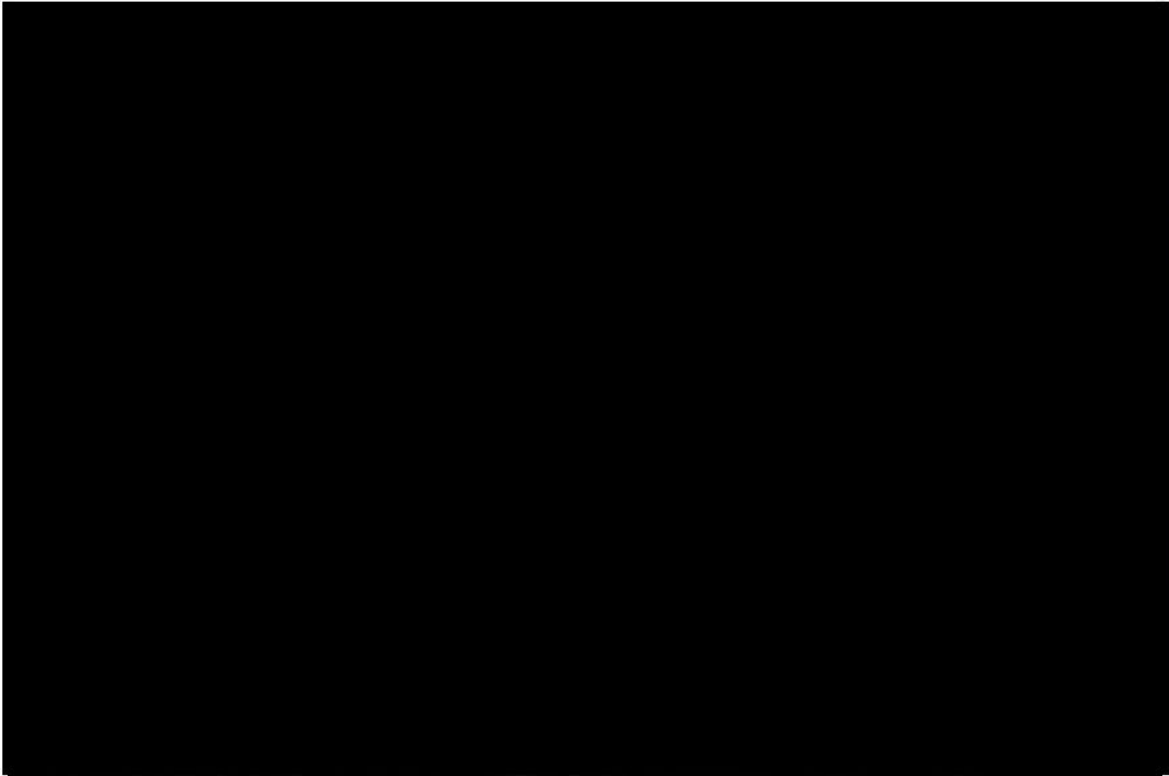
Background Analysis

Upon inspecting the scene and relevant video evidence, FID investigators determined that Officers Bracamontes and Guerrero fired three rounds each from their position at the threshold to the exterior door. The background of all six rounds consisted of a [REDACTED] measuring 12 feet by 10 feet and a south-facing interior wall. A dresser drawer on the floor of the room was the only item identified as being struck by the officers' rounds.

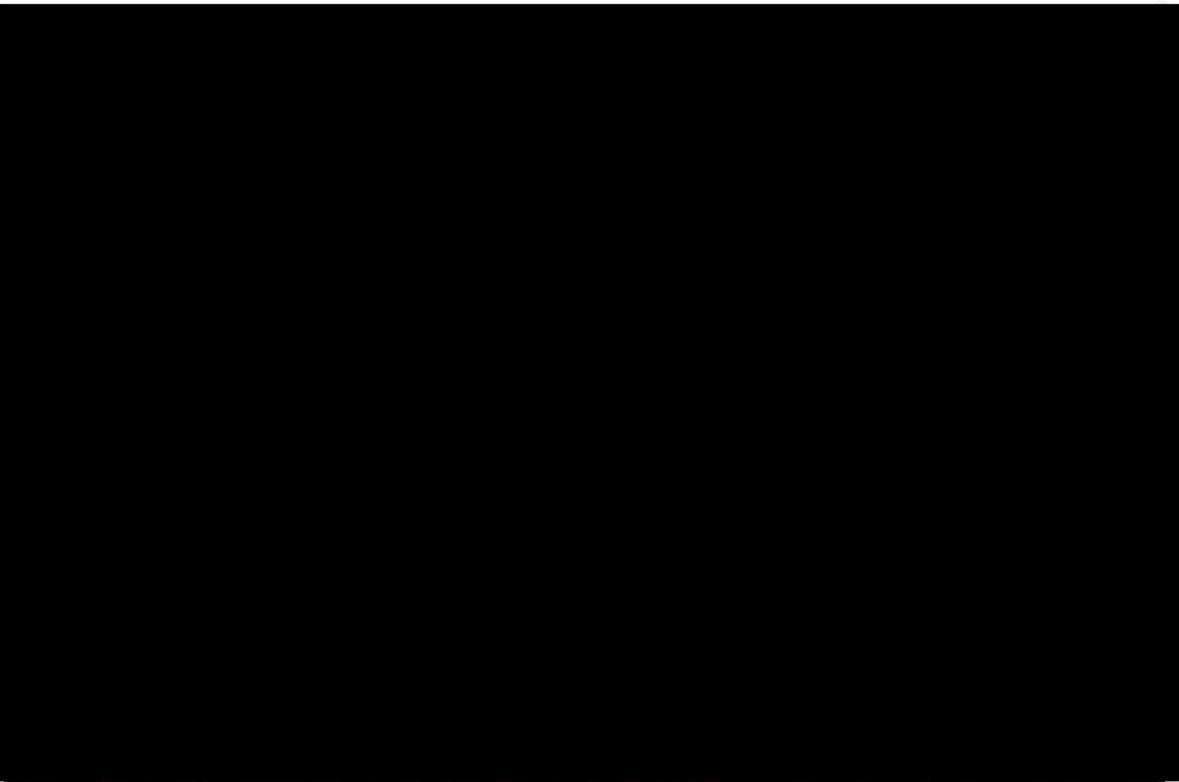
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⁴² This analysis was completed with the assistance of Adobe Premier Pro software.

SCENE DESCRIPTION



[Exterior view from the backyard of [REDACTED] 28th Street]



[A view of the landing from the exterior door]

The incidents leading up to the OIS occurred on Central Avenue north of 28th Street. This portion of Central Avenue is a commercial district with businesses on the east and west sides of the north-south four-lane roadway. Single and multi-family dwellings line the north and south sides of 28th Street, which is an east-west two-lane street separated by a two-way turn lane.

The [REDACTED] residence at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The property was accessed through a [REDACTED] gate in [REDACTED] of the property. The OIS occurred at the unit's [REDACTED] entrance on the north side of the structure, which was accessed from an exterior staircase. The staircase was approximately 12-foot high with three-foot wide steps. The staircase was missing railings from the bottom to the midpoint and several steps were unstable. An exterior landing at the top of the stairs measured approximately 15 feet wide and extended approximately six feet from the rear of the building. A three-foot-high railing with horizontal slats obscured the officers' ground-level view of Sanchez when he was not directly in front of the stairs. The exterior door led south into a six-foot by eight-foot bathroom with an interior door leading into a 12-foot by 10-foot room. Both doorways measured two-feet wide. The OIS occurred during nighttime hours. The weather was cloudy with intermittent precipitation.

CANVASS FOR WITNESSES

On January 3 and January 4, 2023, FID investigators canvassed the area for witnesses to the OIS. The digitally recorded interviews of all sworn personnel and civilian witnesses were recorded, transcribed, and included with this report.

At the time of the OIS, [REDACTED] of the property. The individuals were identified and released from the scene by Newton Patrol Division officers prior to the arrival of FID. Investigators attempted to locate these individuals, all of whom were experiencing [REDACTED] at the time of the incident. As of the submission of this report, they have not been located. Four of the individuals were [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The fifth person was a [REDACTED] identified as [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

SUSPECT INFORMATION



Oscar Leon Sanchez was a male Hispanic, with black hair and brown eyes. At the time of the incident, he was 5 feet 6 inches tall and weighed 150 pounds. His date of birth was August 10, 1987.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

(Addendum No. 2).

Force Investigation Division completed three Investigative Reports naming Sanchez as a suspect in the below listed crimes:

Report Title	Victims	DR Nos.	Hyperlink
ADW on a Police Officer	Officer Guerrero Officer Bracamontes	2313-04329 2313-04330	Addendum No. 3
Assault with a Deadly Weapon			Addendum No. 4

INJURIES

Immediately after Sanchez was taken into custody, Officers Manzo and Moreno rolled Sanchez into a right lateral recumbent position. Officer Guerrero assessed Sanchez' injuries as Officer Manzo maintained Sanchez in the recovery position. Officer Guerrero located a towel in the room and used it to [REDACTED] Shortly after, Officer Moreno relieved Officer Guerrero and [REDACTED] Officer Guerrero noted that Sanchez was breathing and had a pulse.

Approximately six minutes after the OIS, Officers Guerrero, Manzo, and Moreno lifted Sanchez by his arms and legs and carried him down the stairs, where they were met by arriving LAFD personnel. The officers then assisted LAFD with carrying Sanchez to a gurney at the front of the property.

At 1757 hours, RA 14, staffed by FFPMs Mass and Gopar along with FFPM Capiro assigned to Engine 14, transported Sanchez to LA General. At 1955 hours, Sanchez was pronounced deceased by Doctor Demetriades.

CORONER'S INVESTIGATION

Coroner's Response

On January 3, 2023, LA General reported Sanchez' death to the County of Los Angeles Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner. Sanchez' death was subsequently assigned Coroner Case No. 2023-00123 ([Addendum No. 5](#)).

Autopsy

On January 11, 2023, Deputy Medical Examiner, Doctor Lawrence Nguyen, performed a post-mortem examination of Sanchez' remains. Force Investigation Division investigators and Los Angeles County District Attorney investigators were present during the examination. Doctor Nguyen's findings were documented in Autopsy Report No. 2023-00123 ([Addendum No. 6](#)).

Doctor Nguyen classified the manner of death as Homicide and ascribed the cause to multiple gunshot wounds. Doctor Nguyen identified four gunshot wounds and labeled them as indicated below.

Gunshot Wound A entered the left side of Sanchez' upper left arm and exited the inner side of the left forearm. The bullet had a trajectory from left to right and downward. No projectile was recovered at the autopsy. This gunshot was not immediately life threatening.

Gunshot Wound B entered the left side of Sanchez' chest and exited the right upper abdomen. The bullet had a trajectory from left to right and downward. No projectile was recovered at the autopsy. This gunshot wound was immediately life threatening.

Gunshot Wound C entered Sanchez' left abdomen. There was no exit wound associated with this injury. The bullet had a trajectory from left to right and downward. A copper jacketed lead projectile was recovered from the soft tissues of the right hip. This gunshot wound was immediately life threatening.

Gunshot Wound D entered the left side of Sanchez' left thigh and exited the front of the thigh. The bullet had a trajectory from left to right and upward. No projectile was recovered at the autopsy. This gunshot was not immediately life threatening.

Note: No soot or stippling was present on any of the wounds.

During the examination, Doctor Nguyen also documented abrasions on Sanchez' left forearm and right inner thigh. Doctor Nguyen did not render an opinion as to the cause of these abrasions.

Toxicology

On June 29, 2023, a Laboratory Analysis Summary Report was approved by the Los Angeles County Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner, Supervising Criminalist Sarah Buxton de Quintana. The analysis documented that ketamine and methamphetamine were present in Sanchez' blood at the time of his death ([Addendum No. 7](#)).

EVIDENCE

Forensic Science Division (FSD) Firearms Analysis Unit (FAU) responded to this incident and processed the crime scene ([Addendum No. 8](#)).

There were 48 items of evidence collected and booked in conjunction with this investigation, including a makeshift stabbing weapon (Item No. 3), a metal pipe (Item No. 2), a utility knife (Item No. 4), two chains (Item Nos. 6-7), and six discharged cartridge cases (Item Nos. 9-14). Additionally, a drill bit with an improvised handle (Item No. 5) was collected from Central Avenue north of 28th Street ([Addendum No. 9](#)).

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WEAPONS

Sanchez was armed with four improvised weapons at various points during the incident. At the time of the OIS, Sanchez possessed this makeshift stabbing weapon that officers described as a spear or harpoon gun. The weapon was determined to be a sharpened flat head screwdriver attached to the fork portion of an electric scooter. It was collected by FAU from the brown chair inside the bedroom, adjacent to the interior door ([Photolink No. 1](#)).



Outside video from the second incident captured Sanchez holding this metal pipe. On Officer Manzo's BWV, an item consistent in size and shape is seen in Sanchez' left hand at the time of the OIS. This item was captured on BWV at Sanchez' feet immediately after the OIS. The weapon was determined to be a BIRD electric scooter's vertical steering bar (which connects to the handlebars). It was collected by FAU from the brown chair inside the bedroom, adjacent to the interior door, after it had been placed there by Officer Solorzano ([Photolink No. 2](#)).



During the search of Sanchez, officers located this knife in the front left pocket of his hooded sweatshirt. It was determined to be a utility knife with a metal piece of a car door secured by a plastic zip tie over a portion of the blade. It was collected by FAU from the brown chair inside the bedroom, adjacent to the interior door, after it had been placed there by Officer Solorzano ([Photolink No. 3](#)).



This drill bit with an improvised handle secured by black electrical tape and black string was collected from Central Avenue near the right rear tire of [REDACTED] vehicle. The investigation could not determine if this was the weapon Sanchez used when he slashed at [REDACTED] ([Photolink No. 4](#)).

On April 24, 2023, FAU finalized a Laboratory Report documenting the swabbing of the makeshift stabbing weapon, metal bar, utility knife, and drill bit with an improvised handle for the presence of DNA ([Addendum No. 10](#)). On May 18, 2023, FSD finalized a Laboratory Report documenting serology analysis that was performed on those items. According to the report, Sanchez' DNA was found on each item ([Addendum No. 11](#)).

Officer Bracamontes was equipped with a Smith & Wesson, Model 4563 TSW, .45 caliber, pistol.⁴³ According to Officer Bracamontes, at the time of the OIS, his pistol was loaded to capacity with one round in the firing chamber and eight rounds in the magazine. The pistol was carried in a Department-approved holster.

On January 3, 2023, at approximately 2340 hours, FID conducted a post-incident examination of Officer Bracamontes' pistol. The examination determined the pistol was loaded with six rounds of Department-approved, Federal Premium, .45 caliber ammunition. One round was in the firing chamber and five rounds were in the magazine. Officer Bracamontes possessed three additional magazines which were all loaded to capacity with eight rounds of the same ammunition. Three .45 caliber discharged cartridge cases were collected near Officer Bracamontes' firing location. This information was consistent with Officer Bracamontes having fired three rounds during the incident.

Officer Guerrero was equipped with a Smith & Wesson, Model M&P, 9mm, pistol.⁴⁴ According to Officer Guerrero, at the time of the OIS, his pistol was loaded to capacity with one round in the firing chamber and 17 rounds in the magazine. The pistol was carried in a Department-approved holster.

On January 4, 2023, at approximately 0005 hours, FID conducted a post-incident examination of Officer Guerrero's pistol. The examination determined the pistol was loaded with 15 rounds of Department-approved, Speer LE Gold Dot, 9mm ammunition. One round was in the firing chamber and 14 rounds were in the magazine. Officer Guerrero possessed two additional magazines which were both loaded to capacity with 17 rounds of the same ammunition. Three 9mm discharged cartridge cases were collected near Officer Guerrero's firing location. This information was consistent with Officer Guerrero having fired three rounds during the incident.

On February 13, 2023, FAU finalized Laboratory Reports documenting the test firing of Officer Bracamontes' and Guerrero's pistols. Both pistols were found to be functional, and the trigger pull values were within the Department's established range ([Addendum No. 12](#)).

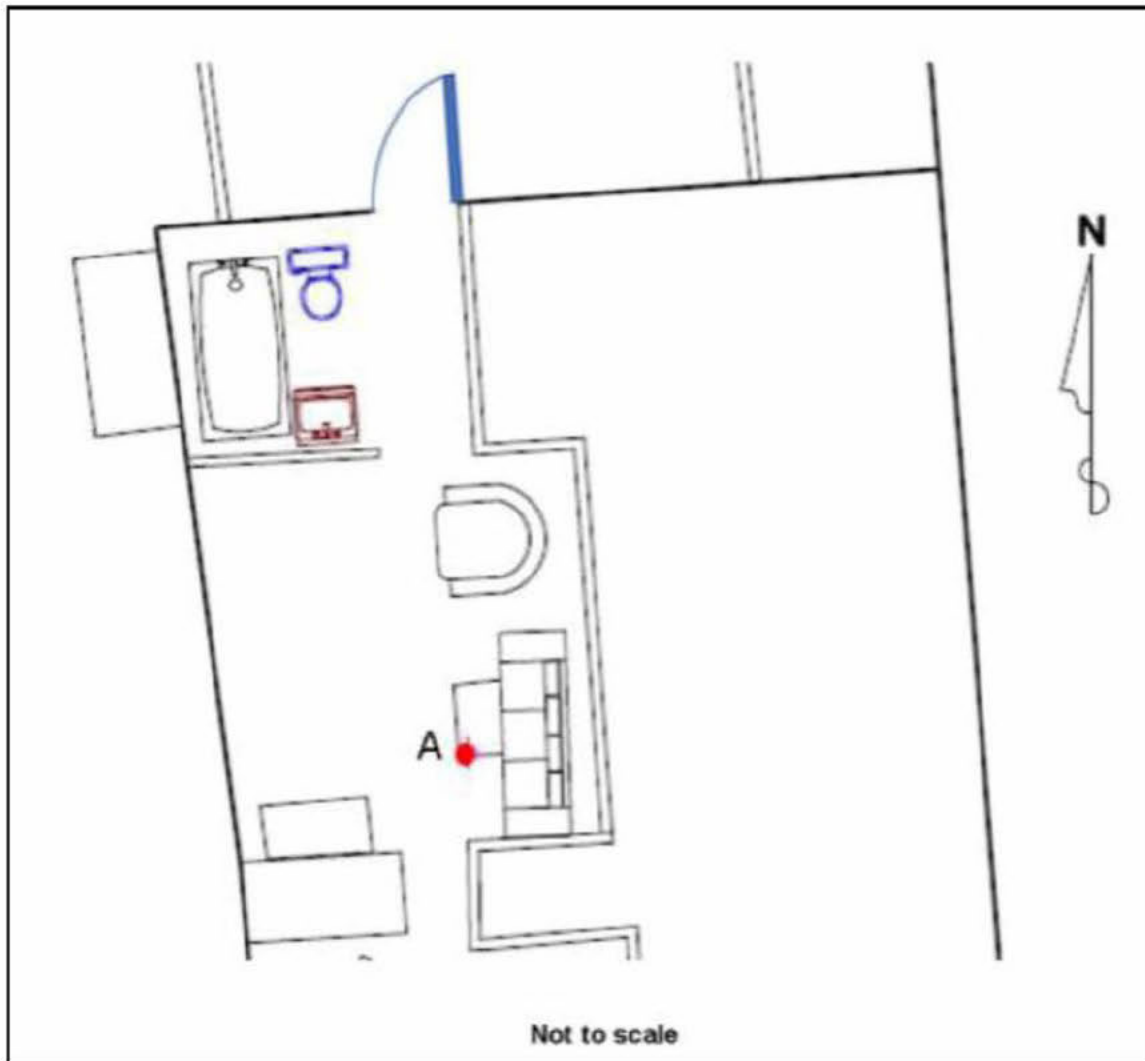
FIREARMS ANALYSIS

On April 24, 2023, FAU finalized a Laboratory Report documenting a Bullet Path Analysis that was conducted in conjunction with this case. The report identified one bullet pathway (Pathway A) at the crime scene with an associated impact (Impact A). On August 9, 2023, FAU finalized an additional Laboratory report which added additional information to the Bullet Path Analysis.

⁴³ According to the Firearm Inventory Tracking System (FITS), this pistol was inspected by the Department Armory and authorized for deployment on November 25, 2019.

⁴⁴ According to FITS, this pistol was inspected by the Department Armory and authorized for deployment on April 21, 2015.

Pathway A was located in a wooden drawer in the bedroom behind Sanchez. Perforating impacts to a backpack and helmet inside the wooden drawer were associated with this pathway. It was determined to have been made by a bullet that was traveling from north to south and west to east in a downward direction. According to the reports, no further directionality could be determined due to the condition of the impact ([Addendum No. 13](#)).



[Bullet path diagram completed by FAU]

On February 7, 2023, FAU finalized a Laboratory Report documenting the comparison of test-fired bullets with bullets and bullet fragments collected from the scene and autopsy.⁴⁵ The report concluded that Item No. 17 was fired from Officer Guerrero's pistol and Item Nos. 22 and 45 were fired from Officer Bracamontes' pistol ([Addendum No. 14](#)).

⁴⁵ Item No. 16 on the combined property report was preliminarily described as a fired bullet of unknown caliber. An analysis by FAU determined that this item was actually an unfired bullet consistent with a .40 S&W or 10mm Auto ammunition and consistent with the appearance of a bullet that had been manually removed from a cartridge case. The investigation determined this item was not involved in the incident based on where it was collected, the fact that it had not been fired, and that the type and caliber did not match those of the involved officers' pistols.

The below items were compared and matched as noted:

Item No.	Involved Officer	Item	Location Recovered
No. 17	Officer Guerrero	Fired Bullet	Floor near Impact A
No. 22	Officer Bracamontes	Bullet Fragment	Inside LAFD RA ⁽⁴⁶⁾
No. 45	Officer Bracamontes	Fired Bullet	Sanchez' remains

VISUAL DOCUMENTATION

Digital In-Car Video System (DICVS)

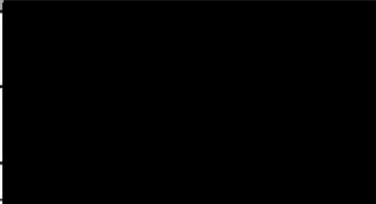


It was determined the OIS was not captured on DICVS. Videos from the DICVS equipped units that responded to this incident have been archived in Coban and remain available for review.

Body Worn Video (BWV)

Force Investigation Division investigators identified 83 BWVs as being related to the OIS. These BWVs were tagged in [Evidence.com](#) under Identification No. 23010300003108 and remain available for review.⁴⁷

Outside Video

During the investigation, security video footage was downloaded from multiple locations near the scene. The footage was reviewed by FID investigators and vaulted at TID Electronics under their respective Media Control Numbers.

Video Source	Media Control No.	Footage
	783968	Sanchez fleeing to  28 th Street. Officers responding ⁽⁴⁸⁾
	783969	Sanchez walking on Central Avenue and altercation with  ⁽⁴⁹⁾
	783970	Sanchez throwing objects on Central Avenue ⁽⁵⁰⁾

Other Department Video

No other Department video was located.

Social Media

Force Investigation Division monitored social media sites, from the date of the incident until the submission of this investigative report. No relevant social media posts were found.

⁴⁶ Firefighter Paramedic Mass discovered Item No. 22 inside the RA while at the hospital and brought it to the officers who were monitoring Sanchez. The officers later provided the item to FID investigators.

⁴⁷ The BWVs of the officers named in this report, were reviewed for compliance with Department Manual Section 3/579.15. The investigation determined Officer Bracamontes activated his BWV approximately two minutes and one second into his Code Three response.

⁴⁸ System time for this location was approximately one hour and five minutes ahead of actual time.

⁴⁹ System time for this location was approximately one hour and fifty-three minutes ahead of actual time.

⁵⁰ System time for this location was approximately thirty-two minutes ahead of actual time.

Photographs

During this investigation, TID photographed the scene, involved officers, and evidence under the below listed control numbers:

Control Nos.	Description
09048314 0906305	Involved Officers / Sanchez
0906304 0906306	Scene
0905448 0905478 0905479	Evidence collected by FSD
23010300003108 (Evidence.com)	██████ Vehicle
313587 ⁽⁵¹⁾	Officer Guerrero
313586 ⁽⁵²⁾	██████ Vehicle

NOTIFICATIONS

On January 3, 2023, at 1813 hours, the Department Operations Center received the initial notification of this incident from Newton Patrol Division Assistant Watch Commander, Sergeant I Cesar Orozco, Serial No. 36548. The details of the subsequent notifications are attached to this report ([Addendum No. 15](#)).

COMMUNICATIONS

Audio recordings of the Newton Area Base Frequency, and digital copies of the computer-generated Incident Recall report associated with Incident Nos. 23010300002940 and 23010300003108, are on file at Communications Division.

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⁵¹ Photographs were taken by an FID investigator with a Department phone.

⁵² Photographs were taken by Witness ██████ with her phone.

JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION

This case will be presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Justice System Integrity Division upon completion of the administrative review of this case.



DAVID SMITH, Lieutenant II
Officer-in-Charge, Administrative Investigation Section A
Force Investigation Division

APPROVED:



RAUL A. JOVEL, Captain
Assistant Commanding Officer
Force Investigation Division

Date: _____