Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Officer Involved Shooting

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PSTD Use Only

→ Officer Involved Shooting →RN: 020-10265-2814-057

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FORCE APPLIED (one code per block)

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Par (Code)
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Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN:	020-10265-2814-057

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Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT:	On-Duty Non-Hit Shooting					
IAB FILE NUMBER:	SH 2515427					
URN#:	020-10265-2814-057					
DATE/TIME:	August 19, 2020, 0420 hours					
LOCATION:	Culver Drive, Compton					
SYNOPSIS:						
	Affairs Bureau (IAB) team comprised of Lieutenant arballo, and Luan Dang responded to Compton Station coting.					
IAB Lieutenant Grall confirmed the on-duty watch commander, Lieutenant Patricia Thomas, #, took reasonable steps to ensure involved and witness personnel did not discuss the incident among themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators. In addition, IAB Lieutenant Grall confirmed the involved personnel gathered in the company of a supervisor until they provided a statement to the assigned investigators.						
arrived and assumed control of th	partment Operations Safe Streets (OSS) Bureau, ne criminal investigation. For further information refer to Incident Report and supplemental reports,					
Rodriguez, and Dominique Castil the city of Compton, regarding an involving a person with a gun. The pointed a gun at him. The caller	ately 0420 hours, Unit 284H, Deputies Juan lo were dispatched to a call at Culver Drive, in assault with a deadly weapon that just occurred ne caller "Stated two male Black suspects added, the suspects were in a black Honda Fit vehicle enue, Incident Number CPT20232-0012					

Deputies Rodriguez and Castillo traveled south on Culver Avenue from Rosecrans Avenue and were minutes from the location. While en-route to the call, Deputy Castillo coordinated with assisting units to the location. Because they were in close proximity, Deputies Rodriguez and Castillo were first to arrive at the location.

Deputies Rodriguez and Castillo traveled south on Culver Avenue from Rosecrans Boulevard. Both deputies were familiar with the area and recognized the location as an Airbnb residence due to previous arrests and calls.

IAB Note: Airbnb is an online marketplace which lets people rent out their properties or spare rooms to guests, commonly used for large house parties.

While in search of the victim, Deputies Rodriguez and Castillo continued south on Culver Avenue, passed the Airbnb residence and observed a black Dodge Challenger (suspect vehicle, CA license # backing out of an alley entrance south of the Airbnb residence. The deputies were traveling south on Culver Avenue. Simultaneously, the suspect vehicle traveled in reverse, west, then traveled forward, east, in the alley. Deputy Rodriguez conducted a U-turn and traveled east into the alley believing the victim of the assault may be in the suspect vehicle, which was the only moving vehicle in the area. The suspect vehicle traveled north into an apartment complex parking lot. The deputies followed the suspects in an attempt to locate the victim or informant of the call. At that point, Deputy Rodriguez saw a male Black (Witness) exit the front passenger side of the suspect vehicle and run east, through the apartment complex parking lot. Witness had a black handgun in his right hand. The deputies exited their patrol vehicle and Deputy Rodriguez immediately requested emergency clearance via his handheld radio. At the direction of Deputy Rodriguez, Deputy Castillo moved to a containment position approximately thirty feet east of the

patrol vehicle, and faced north toward an apartment building. Deputy Rodriguez

maintained his position and a visual on the suspect vehicle. The driver of the suspect vehicle completed a U-turn in the apartment complex parking lot and traveled slowly toward Deputy Rodriguez. At the same time, Witness reappeared in the alley approximately ten feet in front of Deputy Castillo. Deputy Castillo immediately detained at gunpoint and ordered him to lay on the ground. Witness

complied. Meanwhile, the suspect vehicle traveled past Deputy Rodriguez toward Deputy Castillo. Deputy Castillo saw the suspect vehicle travel directly at her at a high rate of speed. In fear for her life, Deputy Castillo fired one round from her duty weapon. Deputy Castillo believed the round struck the right front passenger tire of the suspect vehicle, which caused the vehicle to swerve away from her and travel east, then south and out of view. Neither of the deputies, nor Witness , were injured during this incident. Witness was subsequently taken into custody.

Witness

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE AND WORK HISTORY

Castillo, Dominique, Deputy Sheriff, #

Central Patrol Division Compton Station

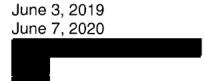
Date of Employment:

Date Assigned to Patrol/Compton Station:

Date Completed Patrol Training:

Prior Shooting incident(s):

Prior Founded Force Incidents:



Equipment Worn On Person

On August 19, 2020, Deputy Castillo wore a Class "A" uniform including a "Sam Browne" duty belt. The equipment on her duty belt included: Two sets of handcuffs, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, Smith and Wesson duty weapon (M&P, 9mm), two fully loaded magazines, handheld radio, keys, back-up firearm (.38 caliber).

SUSPECT INFORMATION

Suspect Unknown

SUSPECT'S INJURIES

Unknown

DEPUTY PERSONNEL INJURIES

None

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

All physical evidence was located and collected by Forensic Identification Specialists Dominique Enriquez, # , and Susannah Baker, # , from the Sheriff's Scientific Services Bureau [Exhibit B].

The suspect vehicle was recovered at the end of the alley, east of the shooting scene. Refer to photographs [Exhibit C].

IAB Note: The suspect vehicle was located at the dead end of the alley.

The driver/suspect was not in the vehicle, and no other

occupants were located at the scene. At the conclusion of this

investigation, the suspect(s) in the vehicle remained

outstanding, and unidentified.

INVESTIGATOR'S OBSERVATIONS

Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants Arballo and Dang responded to the scene, on August 19, 2020, at approximately 0830 hours.

The shooting scene was detailed by OSS Detectives Orellana and in their supplemental reports. Their description of the scene was consistent with the IAB investigator's observations. The scene was photographed and sketched by Forensic Identification Specialist II Yvette S. Gonzalez, # , and Forensic Identification Specialist, David T. Bouffard, # , from the Sheriff's Scientific Services Bureau.

Included in this IAB case file are several photographs of crime the scene [Exhibit C].

WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY CASTILLO

Deputy Castillo fired one round of Department issued 9mm ammunition from her Smith and Wesson (M&P, 9mm, semiautomatic pistol). The firearm was examined by Senior Criminalist Anny Wu, # , of the Scientific Services Bureau Firearms Identification Section and found to be functional [Exhibit B].

Deputy Castillo's firearm was not submitted for latent prints, blood evidence, or DNA testing. One expended 9mm casing was recovered at the shooting scene. Refer to photographs [Exhibit D].

Date last qualified: Date last trained with weapon:

PROPERTY DAMAGE

The suspect vehicle sustained front passenger tire damage caused by a bullet [For further details refer to Exhibit C, vehicle damage]:

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

The incident occurred during the hours of darkness. There was minimal lighting from nearby buildings and from the radio car. The weather was clear and warm.

911 CALL AND RADIO TRANSMISSION

The IAB investigators reviewed the 911 call and radio traffic associated with the incident. Following is a brief synopsis of those transmissions:

Call for Service (CPT20232-0012)

0:18 sec - Compton dispatch, "911 what is your emergency?"

0:20 sec – Informant stated he was assaulted by suspects in a black small two door vehicle at Culver Street, stating, "I just had somebody pull a gun on me." Informant/victim described the suspect's vehicle and told dispatch the suspects were still at the location.

0:41 sec - Informant confirmed suspect vehicle was a "little tiny four door" black Honda Fit.

0:51 sec – Informant stated the suspect vehicle traveled north on Culver Street toward Rosecrans Avenue.

1:18 sec - Informant identified himself as "grown;" no further details given.

1:36 sec – Informant stated the suspect vehicle traveled west on Rosecrans Avenue, and stated the suspects were black.

1:45 sec – Informant stated there was a suspect inside the location at Culver Street.

2:32 sec - Call was dropped

Emergency Traffic (10-33)

0:12 sec – Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC) voiced "245JO, 417, Culver, possible black Honda Fit, vehicle last seen going east on Rosecrans, two male blacks inside vehicle, informant states suspects pointed 417 at him, vehicle last seen two minutes ago, Tag 12" and assigned the handle to 285H, Deputies Rodriguez and Castillo.

0:46 sec – 285E, Deputies Devon Self, # and Erika Razo Rivera, # advised they were "97" (arrived at the location).

1:14 sec – 281E, Deputy Jorge Calderon, # , advised he was 97.

1:52 sec – Deputy Rodriguez requested the patch (radio clearance for emergency traffic, that allows two way communication) "10-33, 285H advised they had a 417 suspect run from them, suspect ran eastbound through a yard on Culver from Rosecrans."

2:18 sec – 281E advised they were seconds away.

2:30 sec – SCC requested a sergeant to respond and advised Aero Bureau was down (Not available to respond).

2:32 sec – 280S, Sergeant Marco Magana Gaytan, # advised he was seconds away from the location.

2:35 sec – SCC requested location and status of 284H and if they were in foot pursuit, dispatch requested a second time.

2:54 sec – Unknown deputy advised he heard "923's" (Shots fired) in the area of Rosecrans Avenue and Culver Street.

3:03 sec – 284H advised they had a "998" (Deputy involved shooting), detaining a suspect, male Black, at gunpoint, described suspect vehicle as a black Charger, traveled southbound through the alley.

3:40 sec - SCC confirmed no deputies injured.

3:59 sec - 280S arrived at the location.

4:18 sec – SCC confirmed "902R" (Rescue) is not needed.

4:35 sec – 284H, Deputy Rodriguez advised the location was "Code 4" (No further assistance needed), detaining one suspect, and coordinated a one block containment for an evidence search.

7:15 sec – Frequency was cleared.

STATEMENTS

The following narratives are intended only as a synopsis of the interviews. Additional information and precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interviews and verbatim transcriptions.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE

DEPUTY DOMINIQUE CASTILLO

On August 8, 2020, Deputy Dominique Castillo was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan, # The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

On the day of the incident, Deputies Castillo and Rodriguez were at the intersection of Alondra Avenue and Atlantic Boulevard when they heard the call (Incident Number CPT20232-0012) voiced by SCC. Deputy Castillo was familiar with the area where the call was located due to prior contacts and arrests. She and Deputy Rodriguez arrived approximately two minutes after they heard the call. Deputy Castillo said upon arrival, they saw a black Dodge Challenger (suspect vehicle), south of the Airbnb house, with its rear lights activated as it moved in reverse. Deputy Castillo believed the victim of the assault was possibly inside the suspect vehicle.

Deputy Castillo did not recall if the Compton Station dispatcher updated the call with further information about the possible victim, but she felt the victim could be in the suspect vehicle. As the deputies traveled east and approached the suspect vehicle, Deputy Castillo said the suspect vehicle traveled east, turned north and entered an apartment complex parking lot and stopped.

IAB Note: During her IAB interview, Deputy Castillo was shown six

pictures of the scene. Deputy Castillo articulated and pinpointed the location where she recalled the suspect vehicle traveled into an apartment complex parking lot, north of the alleyway and east of the original location [Exhibit D].

As soon as the suspect vehicle came to a complete stop, Deputy Castillo saw a male Black adult (Witness) run out from the right front passenger side door. Deputy Castillo did not see Witness holding a handgun in his right hand but Deputy Rodriguez told her Witness had a black handgun.

During her IAB interview, Deputy Castillo told investigators she was familiar with the area and felt Witness would not run east of their location because there was an open parking lot. Deputy Castillo said assisting units responded from the east and believed Witness would avoid the open parking lot to prevent being seen by responding units.

Deputy Castillo said Deputy Rodriguez told her to take a position east of their patrol vehicle as he advised dispatch a person with a gun ran from their location. Deputy Castillo stated, "As I run down on foot down the, eastbound on the alley that's when I see the suspect hop the gate from the northeast corner and then then that's when I detain the suspect at gunpoint which he listens to my commands and lays facedown." As she detained Witness at gunpoint, Deputy Castillo said she heard the revving of an engine and the screech of tires and realized it was the suspect vehicle. Deputy Castillo stated, "In my mind I'm thinking this vehicle made a U-turn into that parking lot. Then as I look over my left shoulder, because I'm detaining the other suspect at gunpoint I see the vehicle come straight towards my direction" [Deputy Castillo's transcript, pages 24 to 31].

IAB Note: Deputy Castillo was not in foot pursuit. She ran to set up a containment position and simultaneously Witness appeared north of the alley.

Deputy Castillo told investigators she attempted to step back, after hearing the suspect vehicle, and bumped into a wooden fence behind her. She felt she had nowhere to go and take cover. At the same time, Deputy Castillo felt the speed of the suspect vehicle was approximately 30 miles per hour and headed directly toward her. Deputy Castillo immediately shifted her sights and pointed her gun at the driver in the suspect vehicle.

Deputy Castillo said her backdrop was a storage or detached garage. Deputy Castillo stated, "I tried to move out of the way. There was no option cause I have a wooden fence that lies within, against me throughout the whole alley. That's when I knew I had an immediate threat because this suspect is attempting to cause grave harm to me. So, that's when I aimed my firearm at the suspect (Driver) and that's when I shot one round..." Deputy Castillo said she shot from approximately ten feet.

IAB investigators asked Deputy Castillo why she fired only one round. She stated, "I shot that one round and it hit the passenger side tire the vehicle or the suspect turned its steering wheel and was not in my direction anymore." Deputy Castillo believed the round hit the front passenger side tire because she heard the sound of a popped tire [Deputy Castillo's transcript, pages 33 to 36].

Deputy Castillo said she remained on target as the suspect vehicle drove past her, eastbound, turned south and out of view. Deputy Castillo then redirected her attention back to Witness who was still on the ground. No other force was used and a sergeant was notified.

WITNESSES

DEPUTY JUAN RODRIGUEZ

On August 8, 2020, Deputy Juan Rodriguez was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of that interview:

Deputy Rodriguez stated on the date of the incident, it was his first time working with Deputy Castillo. He said prior to the start of their shift, they discussed tactics and what to do if they were faced with a fleeing suspect. Deputy Rodriguez said he remembered the assault with a deadly weapon just occurred call on the radio, and said he and Deputy Castillo were approximately two minutes from the location. Deputy Rodriguez requested Aero Bureau to respond, and was advised by SCC they were not available to respond. Deputies Rodriguez and Castillo traveled south on Culver Avenue from Rosecrans Avenue and he recognized the location from prior contacts and arrests. He knew the house (Culver Avenue) was an Airbnb and used for large parties.

Deputy Rodriguez traveled past the Airbnb house and saw a black Dodge Challenger (suspect vehicle) moving in reverse in the alley, with its reverse lights on. Deputy Rodriguez decided to make a three-point turn to contact the driver of the suspect vehicle. Deputy Rodriguez stated, due to the time of day and no other moving vehicles in the area, he felt the victim of the call could have been inside the suspect vehicle and decided to contact the occupants. At that point, the suspect vehicle began to slowly travel east in the alleyway, and turned north into an apartment complex parking lot [Deputy Rodriguez' transcript, pages 17 and 18].

Deputy Rodriguez drove and stopped behind the suspect vehicle. He exited his patrol vehicle and attempted to contact the driver. Deputy Rodriguez heard Deputy Castillo exit the patrol vehicle as well. Simultaneously, the suspect vehicle continued to travel north into the apartment complex parking lot. Suddenly the suspect vehicle stopped, the front passenger side door opened, and Deputy Rodriguez saw a male Black adult (Witness exit the vehicle. He saw Witness run east through the apartment complex, with a black handgun in his right hand. Deputy Rodriguez

immediately requested the emergency duplex patch on his handheld radio and advised assisting units of his observations.

Deputy Rodriguez walked a few steps back to his patrol vehicle and told Deputy Castillo to hold a containment spot east of where the radio car was parked. Deputy Rodriguez told IAB investigators he knew there was no exit on the north end of the parking lot. He saw the suspect vehicle make a U-turn and travel in his direction. Deputy Rodriguez heard the revving of the engine and immediately prepared himself to "dodge" the suspect vehicle. Deputy Rodriguez had his weapon drawn on the suspect vehicle as it traveled at a high rate of speed past him, exited the parking lot into the alley, and headed toward Deputy Castillo. During his interview, Deputy Rodriguez expressed he felt "absolutely helpless" because the suspect vehicle traveled straight toward Deputy Castillo. He saw Deputy Castillo and chose not to aim his weapon at the suspect vehicle to avoid a crossfire [Deputy Rodriguez' transcript, pages 24, 25 and 35].

At that point, Deputy Rodriguez said it appeared the suspect vehicle was going to hit Deputy Castillo as it traveled closer toward her. Deputy Rodriguez heard one shot fired and saw a muzzle flash from Deputy Castillo's firearm. He believed the single round fired by Deputy Castillo was effective because the suspect vehicle swerved away from her after he heard the shot. Deputy Rodriguez said once the suspect vehicle passed Deputy Castillo, it traveled east, then turned south and out of view. Deputy Rodriguez saw Witness on the ground, then handcuffed and searched him for weapons [Deputy Rodriguez' transcript, pages 45 to 48]. No weapons were found on Witness, no other force was used, and a sergeant was notified.

IAB Note: A black semi-automatic handgun and multiple 9mm rounds were recovered near the scene. Refer to supplemental report written by Deputy Nicholas Baray, # [Exhibit A], and photographs [Exhibit D].

On August 19, 2020, Witness was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and Luan Dang, # The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of that interview:

Witness said he was from the city of Palmdale and a girl he met online invited him to a party in Compton. He left the party with two unknown male Black adults. Witness followed them to a black Dodge Charger (suspect vehicle) that was parked in an alley, south of Culver Avenue.

IAB Note: Witness was interviewed by OSS Detectives Orellana and prior to the IAB interview. Witness told OSS detectives he was in the suspect vehicle before the deputies (Deputy Rodriguez and Deputy Castillo) arrived at the location. The driver told Witness to get out of the car

and threw a black handgun at him. Witness told OSS detectives when he exited the car, he ran east through the apartment complex and attempted to escape from the deputies. Refer to supplemental report written by OSS Detective Orellana [Exhibit, A].
Witness said when he reached the alleyway he saw Deputy Castillo and she shouted, "Get down on the ground." Witness said he shouted, "Hey ma'am, I don't know what's going on." He complied and lied face-down on the ground when suddenly he saw vehicle headlights heading in his direction. Witness said Deputy Castillo was approximately ten yards away from him. At the same time, Witness saw Deputy Rodriguez standing next to the patrol vehicle.
Simultaneously, Witness said he thought the suspect vehicle was going to run him over and told Deputy Castillo, "Ma'am, they're gonna run me over." As the suspect vehicle moved closer to Witness and Deputy Castillo, Witness rolled away from Deputy Castillo. Deputy Castillo fired one round at the moving vehicle. Witness said, "I heard her shoot. Boom. That's when I'm thinking she shot me. I'm like oh shit, cause I seen a little ricochet right by me." Witness feared he was shot and thought Deputy Castillo fired her weapon at him. Witness described the suspect vehicle being approximately three yards from Deputy Castillo [Witness stranscript, pages 5 and 6].
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Witness was