

Rapid City Police Department Shooting Summary Detailing Events That Took Place on December 20, 2014

On 12-20-2014, the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) was called by the Rapid City Police Department to conduct an investigation into an officer involved shooting that occurred at 541 Pahasapa Rd, Rapid City, SD. The shooting resulted in the suspect, Allen Locke, being shot 5 times and as a result, died of his injuries. The Rapid City Police Officer involved in the shooting was Officer Anthony Meirose. The following information is a synopsis of the events that occurred on 12-20-2014, and the investigation that was conducted by the South Dakota DCI.

Synopsis

On 12-20-2014, at approximately 6:10 pm, Officer Anthony Meirose was dispatched to 541 Pahasapa Rd. for an unwanted subject. A reporting person from inside the residence called law enforcement dispatch requesting that an intoxicated male subject be removed from that residence.

At approximately 6:18 pm, Officer Meirose arrived at the address of 541 Pahasapa Rd. Officer Meirose parked his patrol vehicle across the street from the residence. Officer Meirose approached the residence and knocked on the door. After knocking, Officer Meirose was invited into the residence and stood just inside the front door.

Officer Meirose made contact with a female inside the residence, who pointed out a male subject sitting on the kitchen floor. The male subject was identified as Allen Locke. The female told Officer Meirose that Locke was intoxicated, and she did not want Locke at the residence any longer.

Officer Meirose observed Locke stand up. Officer Meirose could see that Locke was holding something in his hand that he recognized as a kitchen steak knife. As Locke stood up, Locke stated, "It's a good day to die."

Locke began advancing toward Officer Meirose. Officer Meirose drew his duty handgun and ordered Locke to drop the knife several times. Locke ignored Officer Meirose's commands and positioned himself in a fighting stance and threatening manner. Locke continued to advance at Officer Meirose with the knife raised. Officer Meirose fired his handgun 5 times, striking Locke.

A short time later, several other officers arrived on scene and began first aid on Locke until EMS arrived. Locke was later pronounced dead at the Rapid City Regional Hospital. Officer Meirose was not injured during this altercation.

Officer Anthony Meirose was contacted by DCI Agents at the scene. The DCI Agent documented that Officer Meirose was wearing his issued Rapid City Police uniform. His duty weapon and magazines were secured, documented, and inventoried. The inventory showed the following:

- Officer Meirose's handgun contained 10 rounds in the magazine and one round in the chamber.
- Officer Meirose's two spare magazines contained 15 rounds in each magazine.

Shooting Scene Investigation and Interviews

The shooting scene investigation conducted by DCI produced items of evidence that confirmed statements given by Officer Meirose and witnesses present at the time of the shooting. Specifically, there were 5 spent .40 caliber shell casings found on scene. The location and caliber of the shell casings were consistent with the shooting scene investigation.

A kitchen steak knife was located on the living room floor next to where Locke was lying. The black handled knife was approximately 8 inches in length.

On 12-22-14, Officer Meirose was interviewed by DCI Agents. During this interview, Officer Meirose said that upon entering the residence, he was confronted by Locke. Officer Meirose said that Locke had a knife in his hand. Locke stated, "It's a good day to die."

After repeated commands to Locke to drop the knife, Locke refused. Officer Meirose said that Locke began moving toward him in a fighting stance with knife in hand. Locke was approximately 3-4 feet from Officer Meirose. Officer Meirose believed that his life and the lives of others in the house were in danger. Officer Meirose said that because of that threat of danger to himself and others, he fired his handgun. The information obtained from Officer Meirose was consistent with the witness statements and the shooting scene investigation.

Two adult females were interviewed and identified as being present during the shooting. One female stated that she requested law enforcement's presence to have Allen Locke removed from the residence. She stated that Locke was intoxicated. Prior to law enforcement arriving, Locke had said to her, "It's a good day to die."

After law enforcement arrived, she saw Locke stand up and begin moving toward the officer. She heard the officer state, "Put it down."

As Locke got closer to the officer, she noticed a knife in Locke's hand. She described Locke as getting into a fighting stance. The officer backed up to the door while telling Locke to, "Put it down." The officer then shot Locke.

The second female identified Locke as having a knife in his right hand and raised by his head. Locke stepped toward the officer. The officer then drew his weapon and told Locke to put the knife down. As Locke continued toward the officer with the knife, the officer shot Locke.

There were children located in a back area of the residence at the time of the incident.

A drug screen and blood alcohol test was conducted on Officer Meirose with negative results.

During the autopsy of Allen Locke, DCI Agents documented that Locke had been shot five times. All five rounds were recovered from Locke's body. Toxicology results showed that Allen Locke had THC, amphetamines and methamphetamines in his system. State Health lab results show Locke's blood alcohol content (BAC) was .208.

The South Dakota Forensic Lab conducted testing on the Officer Meirose's firearm. They concluded that all 5 of the shell casings found on scene matched Meirose's handgun. Bullets from the autopsy were examined and found to be consistent with the caliber and characteristics of the officer's handgun.

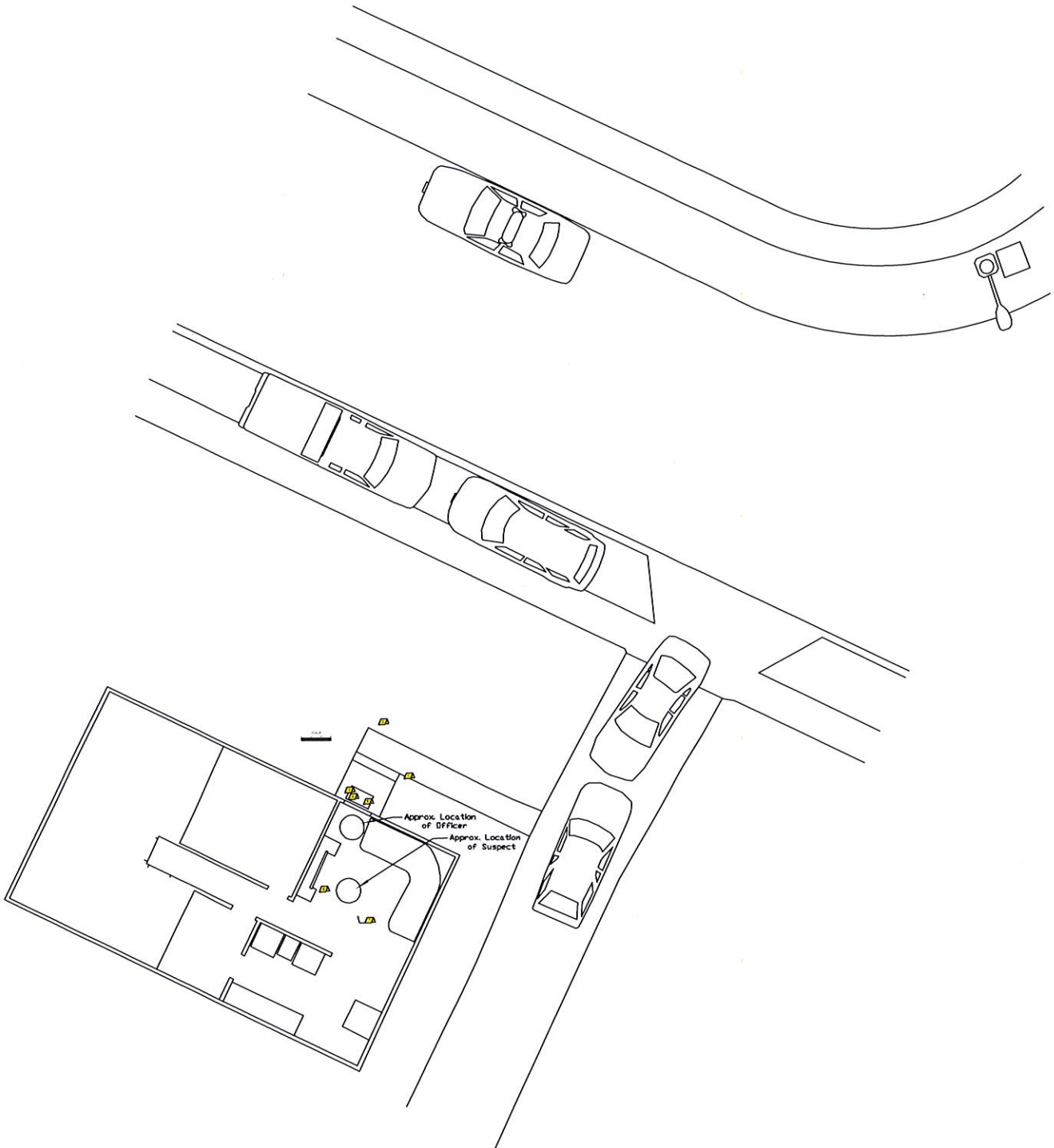
DNA testing was conducted at the SD Forensic lab on the knife that was recovered. A DNA profile that matched a known sample of Allen Locke was found on the blade. DNA from the knife handle indicated a mixture from two individuals that was not suitable for comparison.

DCI conducted a criminal history check on Allen Locke. The criminal history revealed convictions for DUI, Possession of Marijuana, Simple Assault, and Interference with Emergency Communications.

Investigation Results

It is the conclusion of this report and the Attorney General that RCPD Officer Anthony Meirose was justified in firing his weapon and using lethal force.

The crime scene investigation conducted by the Division of Criminal Investigation is consistent with statements received from Officer Meirose and witness interviews.

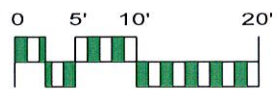


RCPD SHOOTING -- LAKOTA HOMES

DATE & TIME: 12/20/2014 at approx. 1820 hours
 LOCATION: 541 Paha Sapa Rd, Rapid City, SD
 [Pennington County]
 OFFICER: Officer Anthony Melrose, RCPD
 SUSPECT: Allen Locke
 Measured By: Sergeant Kevin R. Kinney, SDHP
 Trooper Robert Rybak, SDHP
 Measured On: 12/20/2014

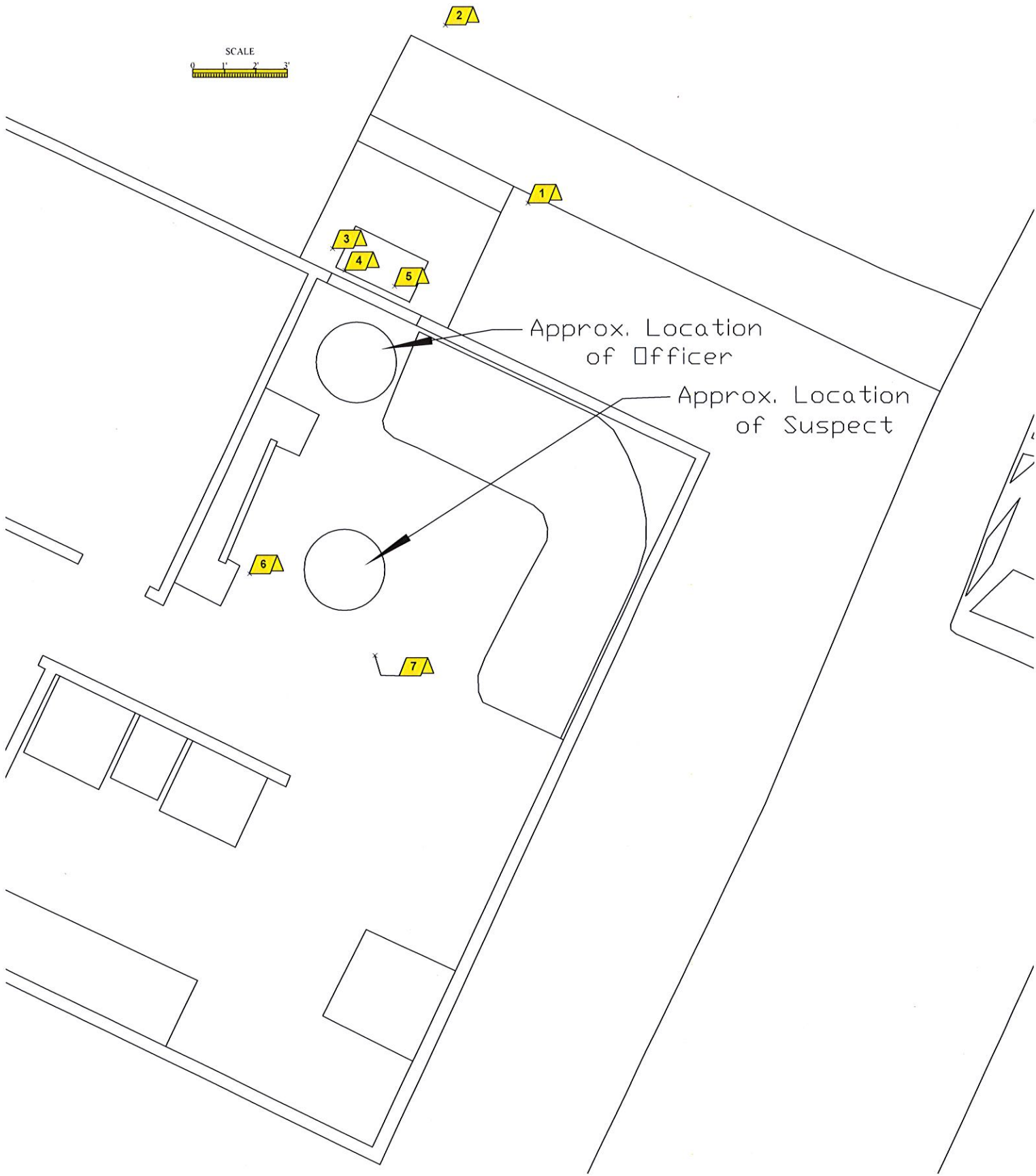
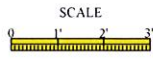


SCALE



EVIDENCE MARKER LISTING

- 1-5 Shell Casing
- 6 Blood
- 7 Knife with Black Handle



Approx. Location of Officer

Approx. Location of Suspect