Rapid City Police Department Officer Involved Shooting Summary Detailing Events That Took Place on October 29, 2026

On October 29, 2026, the Rapid City Police Department (RCPD) requested the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) to investigate an officer involved shooting that occurred at 4000 Clover Street, Rapid City, SD (Pennington County). Five (5) RCPD Officers discharged their duty weapons multiple times during a confrontation with an armed subject identified as Dusk Curington. Curington was pronounced deceased as the result of gunshot wounds. The following is a synopsis of the events that occurred on October 29, 2026, and the subsequent investigation that was conducted by the DCI.

SYNOPSIS

On October 29, 2026, Pennington County Communications received an "open line" 911 call. During this call, the dispatcher was able to hear a male voice screaming at a female and threatening to shoot them and himself, counting down. The female voice was heard pleading with the male to put the gun down and said that their children were present.

Pennington County Communications was able to determine the call originated from 4000 Clover St. Rapid City.

RCPD Officers were dispatched, and responded to 4000 Clover St. While Officers were responding, dispatchers overheard the male state "If one cop comes into the driveway, I will kill them."

Shortly after arriving at the residence, RCPD Officers were able to safely evacuate the female victim and children from the residence. Officers learned the subject to be Dusk Curington.

Due to Curington having suicidal thoughts, RCPD Officers prepared to contact Curington via telephone and remained outside of the residence. During this time, RCPD Officers heard footsteps behind the residence. A RCPD Officer equipped with thermal imaging equipment identified a heat signature on a dark hillside behind the residence. The heat signature was consistent with that of a person laying down and moving, eventually sitting up.

RCPD Officers moved up the hill, guided by the Officer utilizing thermal imaging equipment. RCPD Officers utilized flashlights while moving up the hillside and ultimately observed an individual laying down in the tall grass within a depression near the top of the hillside. RCPD Officers noted the subject was pointing a scoped rifle at them, specifically noting the glint of the rifle's scope. RCPD Officers believed the individual to be Curington.

RCPD Officers began giving verbal commands to Curington to which Curington first complied and set the rifle away from his person. Curington then got on his knees and put his hands up. While verbal commands continued to be given, Curington began yelling and threatened to kill Officers. RCPD Officers attempted to verbally

deescalate the situation with Curington, asking Curington to step away from the gun, and to not reach for the gun.

Curington continued making threats to kill the RCPD Officers and demanded they bring his wife to his location. Curington aggressively retrieved the rifle, placed his hands on the forend and near the rifle's trigger. Curington raised the rifle in a manner consistent with preparing to fire it and pointed it in the direction of the RCPD Officers.

RCPD Officers #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 discharged their duty rifles or duty pistols, striking Curington multiple times.

RCPD Officers then approached Curington and determined Curington to be deceased, which was confirmed by responding medical personnel. Curington sustained multiple gunshot wounds to his person.

As part of the investigation:

- DCI determined the shooting incident was captured by RCPD in-car and body worn cameras (BWC).
- RCPD Officers #1, # 2, #3, #4, and #5 discharged either their duty rifles or duty pistols.
- The rifle Curington possessed during the incident was a loaded 30-06 caliber scoped rifle.
- Pennington County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) secured the scene of the Officer Involved shooting. The scene was processed by DCI.
- Involved Officers maintained possession of their duty rifle and/or pistol until they were collected by DCI. All Officers were in full uniform, and their rifles and/or pistols were inventoried as follows:
    - Officer #1: Sig Sauer M400 5.56x45mm patrol rifle containing sixteen (16) cartridges in the magazine and one (1) cartridge in the chamber, consistent with eight (8) cartridges being fired. Officer #1's duty pistol was inventoried and was determined to have not been fired during this incident.

    - Officer #2: Glock G45 9mm pistol containing ten (10) cartridges in the magazine and one (1) cartridge in the chamber, consistent with seven (7) cartridges being fired. Two (2) additional magazines were filled to full capacity of seventeen (17) cartridges each.

    - Officer #3: Sig Sauer M400 5.56x45mm patrol rifle containing nineteen (19) cartridges in the magazine and one (1) cartridge in the chamber, consistent with five (5) cartridges being fired. Officer #3's duty pistol was inventoried and was determined to have not been fired during this incident.

    - Officer #4: Glock G45 9mm pistol containing fourteen (14) cartridges in the magazine and one (1) cartridge in the chamber, consistent with three (3) cartridges being fired. Two (2) additional magazines were filled to full capacity of seventeen (17) cartridges each.

    - Officer #5: Sig Sauer M400 5.56x 45mm patrol rifle containing eighteen (18) cartridges in the magazine and one (1) cartridge in the chamber, consistent with six (6) cartridges being fired. Officer #5's duty pistol was inventoried and was determined to have not been fired during this incident.

- DCI Agents interviewed all relevant individuals.
- DCI Agents interviewed RCPD Officers #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 on November 3rd and 4th, 2026 respectively.

SCENE INVESTIGATION

The shooting scene investigation was conducted by DCI Agents. The scene was located outside of the residence at 4000 Clover Street, Rapid City, SD (Pennington County). Items of evidence found at the scene corroborated law enforcement and witness statements.

DCI collected items of evidence from the shooting scene to include Curington's 30-06 scoped rifle, which contained one (1) cartridge from the rifle's chamber and three (3) cartridges in the rifle's internal box magazine. DCI Agents also recovered casings discharged from RCPD Officers issued duty weapons. The casings collected were 9mm and 5.56x45mm calibers.

A total of seventeen (17) fired 5.56x45mm casings and ten (10) fired 9mm casings were recovered on the ground in the areas where Officers discharged their service weapons at Curington. The locations where the fired casings were recovered were consistent with involved Officers statements and BWC.

The crime scene was mapped and recorded by DCI Agents.

OFFICER INTERVIEWS

The involved RCPD Officers were interviewed separately by DCI Agents on November 3rd and 4th 2026, respectively. Officers detailed their involvement in the incident and their assessment of the situation to include the Officer involved shooting incident.

All involved RCPD Officers were working their assigned shifts wearing their issued uniforms and utilizing RCPD marked and unmarked patrol vehicles.

While conducting routine patrol, RCPD Officers learned via radio dispatch and/or in car computers of an "open line" 911 call where a male was threatening to shoot a female and himself. Officers learning of the incident responded to 4000 Clover St. Rapid City.

Officers #2, #3, and #5 responded with their patrol vehicle's emergency lights and sirens activated. While enroute, Officers #1, #2, and #3 learned via dispatch that the subject, Curington, threatened if a cop walked up his driveway, he would kill them.

Once on scene, Officer #2 recalled the driveway to the residence being long and posed a danger to law enforcement approaching the residence.

Officers approached the residence and Officer #2 observed hunting equipment through the open garage door. Officer #2 believed the firearm utilized by Curington could be a high-powered rifle due to this and relayed the relevant information to dispatch and fellow Officers. Officer #2 retrieved a ballistic shield and utilized it for the remainder of the incident.

Once the female victim and children were escorted out of the residence by law enforcement, Officers established a perimeter. Officer #2 gave verbal commands to Curington, identifying themselves as the police and attempted to gain compliance through a variety of verbal commands/requests. Curington did not respond.

An uninvolved Officer utilizing thermal imaging equipment identified a heat signature on the hillside behind the residence and communicated their findings to fellow Officers.

Officers began going up the hillside toward the heat signature, being directed by their fellow Officer. Once on the hillside, Officers utilized their flashlights to search the area. Officer #2 and Officer #3 saw a reflection from a rifle scope and determined a rifle was being pointed at them. These Officers saw Curington on the ground laying on his side pointing the rifle in their direction. Officer #2 began issuing verbal commands for Curington to drop the firearm.

Officers recognized Curington held an advantageous position to them, being elevated on the hillside and laid within a depression.

Curington dropped the firearm beside himself. Additional Officers made their way up the hillside and spread out to provide additional cover and lighting on Curington. Officer #2 continued to give verbal commands to Curington. Curington did not comply with Officer #2's commands and threatened to kill the Officers.

Officers #1, #2, and #3 recognized Curington's rifle to be a hunting style rifle and knew their ballistic shield and vests could not stop a bullet fired from it.

Curington then feverously retrieved the rifle, brought it up to his person holding the forend/trigger area, and began pointing it at Officers.

Involved Officers explained they were concerned for their lives and the lives of their fellow Officers as they believed Curington was going to kill one of them based upon the rifle Curington possessed, Curington's behavior, and Curington pointing the rifle at them. Officers fired upon Curington until Curington went to the ground and was determined to no longer be an active threat.

Officers slowly approached Curington, moved Curington's rifle away from his person, and placed Curington in handcuffs.

Officer #4 "cleared" Curington's rifle and while doing so observed the rifle's safety to have been in the fire position. Officer #4 further observed an unfired cartridge in the chamber with additional unfired cartridges in the internal box magazine of the rifle.

VICTIM INTERVIEW

On October 29, 2026, DCI Agents interviewed the female victim. During this interview DCI Agents learned that Curington had earlier been consuming alcoholic beverages to the point of Curington slurring his words. An argument between the female victim and Curington ensued over Curington's alcohol consumption.

Curington then retrieved a loaded pistol, waved it around, and threatened to kill himself. Curington's juvenile children were present in an adjoining room.

Curington threatened to kill the female victim to which the female victim called 911. The female victim was able to get the pistol away from Curington.

Curington later pushed the female victim into a door and threatened to kill himself. The female victim expressed to law enforcement that she was scared.

Curington learned law enforcement had been contacted and subsequently went to an area of the residence where firearms were stored. The female victim was able to safely evacuate the residence at this time.

The female victim explained to DCI Agents that Curington had expressed suicidal thoughts in the past, but Curington never made a plan or followed through with these statements. Curington did suffer from depression. Curington has used alcohol and marijuana products in the past but was considered sober for the past couple of months by the female victim.

VIDEO EVIDENCE

Body-worn camera (BWC) and vehicle-mounted camera footage from twenty-one (21) involved law enforcement Officers was obtained and reviewed by DCI Agents. Involved Officer statements are consistent with captured video.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

A criminal background check of Curington showed a history of criminal offenses to include charges related to marijuana possession, drug paraphernalia possession, alcohol related offenses, and obstruction.

MEDICAL REPORTS

Curington: An autopsy was performed on Curington showing he was struck by multiple projectiles, causing his death. Several projectile fragments were collected, and multiple gunshot wounds were documented. Blood and urine samples were collected from Curington at time of autopsy. Toxicology results showed Curington

had alcohol and marijuana present in his blood and urine. Curington's blood alcohol content (BAC) was 0.178 g/100 ML.

RCPD Officers: Blood and urine samples collected from involved RCPD Officers were submitted to the South Dakota Health Laboratory (SDHL) for toxicology examinations. Toxicology results for involved RCPD Officers were negative for drugs and alcohol.

FORENSIC EXAMINATION

The South Dakota Forensic Laboratory (SDFL) tested the twenty-seven (27) fired casings located on the scene. The SDFL concluded these casings were fired from the RCPD Officer firearms.

The SDFL tested the 30-06 scoped rifle located on scene. The SDFL found this rifle to be functional as intended by the manufacturer.

INVESTIGATION RESULTS

Based upon the totality of the circumstances, RCPD Officers #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 present at the scene utilized lethal force in a situation that was tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving. The involved RCPD Officers were searching for Curington who threatened to kill a female victim and responding officers.

Once located by law enforcement, Curington made additional threats to kill Officers present and pointed a scoped rifle at Officers on scene.

Curington presented a clear and present perceived danger to the RCPD Officers on scene by pointing the firearm at RCPD Officers. Curington demonstrated a propensity for violence through his threats to other victims and Officers present on scene.

It is the conclusion of this report and the South Dakota Attorney General that RCPD Officers #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 were justified in firing their weapons and using lethal force. This information is based on the investigation conducted by the DCI, crime scene processing, law enforcement Officer statements, and laboratory results. All the information is consistent with the described events that occurred on October 29, 2026, in Rapid City, South Dakota.

PHOTOGRAPH OF WEAPON



Photograph of Curington's 30-06 scoped rifle located on scene near the body of Curington.