

MEMORANDUM

Riverside Police Department

Central Investigations

DATE: December 13, 2012

TO: Sergeant Dave Amador
Supervisor Robbery / Homicide

FROM: Detective Rick Cobb
Robbery / Homicide

SUBJECT: CASE SUMMARY - OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING P12-149530

DATE OF INCIDENT: October 14, 2012

TIME OF INCIDENT: 2246 hours

LOCATION OF INCIDENT: 3750 Myers St. Apartment 55
Riverside, CA 92505

INVOLVED OFFICERS: Officer Mike Gomez #1666
Unit Designator C326
Field Operations

Officer David Lim #1605
Unit Designator C312
Field Operations

Officer Chamroeun Ouk #1615
Unit Designator C334
Field Operations

Officer Rogelio Serrato #1569
Unit Designator C334
Field Operations

CIVILIAN WITNESSES: Cesar Macias
3750 Myers St. #30

Teresa Macias
3750 Myers St. #30

OFFICER WITNESSES:

Officer Bettsey Velasquez #1699
Unit Designator C322

Sergeant Keenan Lambert #627
Unit Designator S65

Sergeant Russell Stump #133
Unit Designator S68

Sergeant Matthew Cash #1200
Unit Designator S70

OFFICER INJURIES:

Officer Velazquez sustained a small scrape to her left elbow during the shooting incident.

Sergeant Stump sustained a scrape to his left elbow during the incident.

Officer Gomez sustained scrapes to his knuckles during the incident.

Note: All witnesses are not listed. Only those known to have witnessed all or part of the incident are listed.

CIVILIAN INJURIES:

None

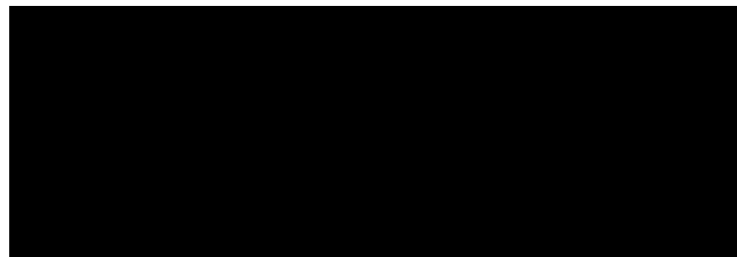
SUSPECT:

Sherron, Chaz Isaiah
B/M 5'7" / 237 lbs Brown / Brown
DOB 2/26/89
3750 Myers St. Apartment 55
Riverside, CA 92505

SUSPECT'S INJURIES:

The suspect sustained three gunshot wounds. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. The autopsy was conducted on 10/16/12 at 0900 hours by Dr. Park at the Riverside County Coroner's Office in Perris. The suspect had three gunshot wounds to the upper torso.

CRIMINAL HISTORY:





Summary

On 10/14/12, at 2246 hours, RPD officers were dispatched to 3750 Myers Street Apartment 55 in Riverside regarding a suicidal subject who had a gun. Chaz Sherron called 911 and said he had a gun and wanted to kill himself. The dispatcher stayed on the line with him for approximately 20 minutes until officers arrived at his apartment. Sherron continued to tell the dispatcher that he was going to kill himself.

Officer's Gomez, Serrato, Lim, Ouk and Velasquez arrived and took up a position at Sherron's front door. Sergeant's Lambert, Cash and Stump arrived to supervise the incident.

Officer Gomez was on the right side of the door with Sergeant's Stump and Lambert behind him. Officer Lim was on the left side of the door and Officer Serrato was behind him. Officer Velasquez was behind Officer Serrato and Officer Ouk was last in line behind her.

Officer Gomez pushed the front door open about half way. Officer Lim could see into the entryway of the apartment but could not see the suspect. Officers Gomez and Lim gave commands for Sherron to come out without the gun.

Officer Lim then saw Sherron walk into the entryway from the living room with a black semi-automatic handgun in his hand. Sherron was walking right towards Officer Lim while pointing the handgun at him. Officer Lim believed Sherron was going to shoot him, so he fired at Sherron.

Officer Gomez saw Sherron walk out the front door with a black semi-automatic handgun in his hand, pointed at Officer Lim. Officer Gomez believed Sherron was going to shoot Officer Lim, so he fired at Sherron.

Officer Serrato saw Sherron walk out the front door with his hand fully extended and pointing at him and Officer Lim. Officer Serrato did not see a gun, but said Sherron was extending his hand as if he had a gun in his hand. Officer Serrato heard gunshots and thought Sherron was shooting at him so he fired at Sherron.

Officer Ouk heard gunshots and then saw Sherron come around the corner towards Officer's Lim, Serrato and Velasquez who had fallen backwards. He saw Sherron with a large knife in his hand and he feared Sherron was going to stab the officers in front of him so he fired at Sherron.

INVESTIGATION:

Detectives and Sergeants from the Robbery / Homicide Unit arrived to conduct the investigation.

Detective Cobb was assigned as the case agent and Detective Wheeler as co-case agent. Detective Medici and Supervisor Forensic Technician Fuller were assigned to investigate the crime scene. Detective's Smith and Simons conducted witness interviews. Senior Evidence Technician McKay-Davis photographed the involved officers and charted their weapons. Deputy District Attorney Michelle Paradise represented the District Attorney's Office.

Officers Gomez, Serrato, Lim and Ouk were involved in the shooting. Officer Velasquez, and Sergeants Lambert, Cash and Stump were witness officers. The involved officers along with witness officers were transported separately to the Magnolia Station for interviews. All involved officers were assigned Peer Support Officers. The four involved officers consented to an interview with detectives and were represented by attorney Mike McCoy of Lackie, Dammeier and McGill.

The shooting occurred outside the front door of 3750 Myers Street Apartment 55. The apartment is on the second floor with a narrow hall outside the apartment. During the shooting, three bullets struck Chaz Sherron who fell to the ground in front of his door in the hallway. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Sherron had a large knife clenched in his left hand when he was shot. The knife fell to the ground and was moved down the hall, away from the area where Sherron was lying. Sherron was handcuffed.

A black Air Soft handgun was found on the grass directly below where Sherron was lying. The gun is an exact replica of a Sig-Sauer handgun. There were no orange or red safety markers on the gun.

Audio/Coban Recordings:

There were no Coban recordings. There were also no audio recordings from involved or witness officers. All other audio recordings were

downloaded under file number P12-149530. These recordings were placed into a locked file.

Duty Weapons:

Officer Gomez had his assigned Glock .40 caliber duty weapon charted. The pistol had one (1) live round chambered and the magazine held eleven (11) live rounds. He had an additional two (2) magazines, both of which were loaded at full capacity with fifteen (15) live rounds. The charting indicates that four (4) rounds were missing.

Officer Lim had his assigned Glock .40 caliber duty weapon charted. The pistol had one (1) live round chambered and the magazine held nine (9) live rounds. He had an additional two (2) magazines, both of which were loaded at full capacity with fifteen (15) live rounds each. The charting indicates that six (6) rounds were missing.

Officer Serrato had his assigned Glock .40 caliber duty weapon charted. The pistol had one (1) live round chambered and the magazine held thirteen (13) live rounds. He had an additional two (2) magazines, both of which were loaded with fifteen (15) live rounds each. The charting indicates that two (2) rounds were missing.

Officer Ouk had his assigned Glock .40 caliber duty weapon charted. The pistol's chamber was empty and the magazine held fifteen (15) live rounds. He had one (1) additional magazine, which was loaded at full capacity with fifteen (15) live rounds. The charting indicates that one (1) round was missing. Officer Ouk was also missing one magazine.

Back-up Weapons:

Officer Gomez carried a back-up weapon. He carried a S&W Airweight .38 caliber 5 shot revolver. It was loaded with five (5) live rounds.

Officer Lim carried a back-up weapon. He carried a S&W Airweight .38 caliber 5 shot revolver. It was loaded with five (5) live rounds.

INTERVIEWS:

Civilian Interviews

The interviews of civilians were conducted at their place of residence.

Cesar & Teresa Macias (3750 Myers St. #30)

Cesar said he was alone, sleeping inside their south-west bedroom. His wife, Teresa, came into the room and told him that the police were outside the door of apartment #55. Cesar said he was aware of the recent

problems with a Black male resident inside apartment #55. Cesar heard officer's calling the occupant of the apartment by his name and asking him to step outside. Cesar could not remember the name the officer was calling. Cesar and his wife looked out their bedroom window which faces the front door to apartment #55. He said they were looking through the moving fan blades of the box fan that was propped to the front of the open window. Their view was slightly obstructed from the moving fan blades.

Cesar said he saw about seven uniformed officers on the landing to the front of apartment #55. Several officers were standing to the left of the front door. Several officers were standing to the right of the front door. Cesar also noticed a few officers down stairs near the grass courtyard. The front door to apartment #55 was partially open. Cesar said all of a sudden he saw the Black male suspect come rushing out of the door at the officers. Cesar heard about five to six gunshots and saw the officers running away from the front door. Cesar did not know who fired the shots. Cesar was not able to see if the suspect had anything in his hands because he came running outside so quickly. Cesar assumed the shots were fired by police officers because he saw the suspect fall to the ground and stop moving.

Cesar said the same Black male suspect attacked his (the suspects) mother a few weeks prior. Cesar said the police were called during this incident. Cesar said their daughters [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were in the kitchen when the shooting occurred. They heard the gunshots but did not see anything pertaining to the incident.

Teresa said she was in the living room watching television. She saw the officer's flashlights through her balcony sliding glass door. She looked outside and saw three uniformed Riverside Police Officers walking through the pool area. Teresa suspected the police were going to apartment #55 due to recent problems associated with that apartment.

Teresa said she went into her south-west bedroom and woke up her husband, Cesar. She told Cesar that the police were outside apartment #55. Teresa and Cesar looked through the box fan which was propped in their window. Teresa noticed four officers standing to the right and three officers standing to the left of the front door to apartment #55. Teresa also noticed several police officers standing below near the courtyard. Teresa noticed the door to apartment #55 was partially open. Teresa heard officers yelling, "Riverside Police, come out with your hands up. If you have weapons, throw them down."

Teresa said, all of a sudden, she saw the suspect come running out of the front door towards the officers. She saw the suspect holding something in his hand, but she could not tell what it was. She saw muzzle flashes and

heard about five or six gunshots. She saw the suspect fall to the ground but could not tell who fired the gunshots.

Teresa said this is the third time in the last three weeks that the police have been called to this person's apartment. She said a Black male subject lives at the apartment and about two weeks ago the same subject physically hit and kicked his mother outside the front door of his apartment. The police responded to this incident; however no one answered the door for police. Teresa believes the suspect may have a mental problem.

Witness Officer Interviews

All witness officer interviews were conducted at the Magnolia Station.

Officer Velasquez

Officer Velazquez was dispatched to the call of a 5150 suicidal person at 3750 Myers. The subject was in an apartment and had a gun. When she arrived she parked out on Myers and walked to the complex. Officer Lim and Gomez were already there and they all walked together into the apartment complex and located apartment 55.

Officer Velasquez was positioned on the right side of the doorway. She could see that the apartment door was slightly ajar, but not open. She and Officer Gomez had their weapons out while Officer Gomez pushed the door open most of the way.

Sergeant Cash then arrived on scene and started to organize the officers present into a take-down team. He positioned Officer Velasquez on the left side of the door and asked if any of them had a Taser. Officer Velazquez did, so she was assigned as the less lethal officer and placed third in a "stack" on the left side of the suspect's doorway. Officer Velazquez said she then holstered her pistol and took out her Taser.

Officer Velazquez said she had a pretty good view inside the apartment from where she now was and she could see "deep" inside the living room. All of the sudden she saw the suspect appear from somewhere to the right inside the apartment and he was approaching the open doorway with his right arm straight out in front of him. Officer Velazquez said she immediately heard numerous gunshots and believed the suspect was firing a weapon at them. She didn't see a gun or any muzzle flashes but due to the circumstances she believed he was firing a weapon at them.

Officer Velazquez said at this point the stack of officers she was in began to retreat backwards and she fell down. Officer Serrato then fell on top of her. Officer Velazquez said she got up quickly, dropped her Taser and

took out her pistol. She could see the suspect down on his back on the landing outside of the door. His left hand was up in front of his chest and Officer Velazquez could see a large knife clutched in it. The suspect was not moving.

Officer Velazquez sustained a small scrape to her left elbow during the shooting incident, probably from the stucco wall she was standing next too.

Sergeant Stump

Sergeant Stump said he was on duty and in the Central NPC area because of a foot pursuit that had just occurred. He monitored the 5150 call go out on Myers and pulled up the call on his computer. He noted several units were en route to a suicidal subject with a gun. He recalled the earlier 5150 call on Janis that Officer Velazquez had gone to because he had been assigned to back her up since no one else was available. He was canceled prior to getting there because the subject was gone. He said he realized that the calls may be related so he put himself en route. While he was on his way dispatch updated them that the subject put the gun on a table and was sitting on the couch inside the apartment.

Sergeant Stump said that he arrived on Myers at about the same time as Sergeant Cash. The officers were still looking for the apartment and finally found it on the second floor. Sergeant Cash went upstairs onto the landing with Officers Lim, Serrato, Ouk and Velasquez, and they were positioned on the left side of the apartment door. Sergeant Cash began assembling the officers with him into a contact team.

Sergeant Lambert arrived and Sergeant Stump and Lambert went up to the second floor from a different entryway and ended up on the right side of the apartment door. Officer Gomez was already stationed there near a window on the right side of the door and he was trying to peek into the apartment through the window. Sergeant Stump told me that they were still a little confused about whether there was another person inside the apartment with the subject so Sergeant Lambert was on his phone with dispatch trying to clear that up. They told Officer Gomez to get back away from the window and they asked him if anyone had tried to communicate with the person inside the apartment. Officer Gomez told him that they had, but there was no response. Sergeant Stump said he told Officer Gomez to keep trying.

Officer Gomez then began calling out to the occupants to come out and they would try to help them. Within a few seconds Sergeant Stump saw what he thought was an arm or hand from someone coming out of the apartment and he immediately heard gunshots. His first thought was that

they were in a "huge crossfire", so he immediately began moving backwards to a little alcove behind them. Sergeant Lambert and Officer Gomez moved with him. When the shooting was over Sergeant Stump said he saw the suspect down on the landing in front of the apartment. He never noticed if anything was in the subject's hands as he was coming out of the doorway because it all happened so fast.

Sergeant Stump said he never fired his gun and he never saw who did fire. He heard some type of intense voice or commands a split second before and during the shooting, but he didn't know who it was or what was being said.

They approached the downed subject and an officer handcuffed him. Sergeant Stump was part of a group of officers that entered the apartment to make sure no one else was inside. The apartment was cleared and they began to take control of the area. They had not found a gun so Sergeant Stump began to look around with his flashlight. He noticed a large knife lying on the landing not too far from the suspect. From the upstairs landing he looked down into the grass area under the suspect's apartment and saw what looked like a black semi-auto handgun laying there. He immediately went downstairs and stood by the gun until he was relieved.

Sergeant Stump sustained a scrape to his left elbow during the incident.

Sergeant Lambert

Sergeant Lambert arrived at 3750 Myers Street about the same time as Officer Reid and Sergeant D. Foy. He did not know if any other officers were already on scene but as he walked into the complex he could hear someone giving commands. Dispatch confirmed the involved apartment to be number 55, which they found to be upstairs and in the west end of the complex. He went to the apartment while Sergeant Foy and Officer Reid went to the back side of the building. When he got to the door he saw Officer Gomez and an unknown second officer standing on the north side of the door and another group officers standing on the south side of the door. He joined up with Officer Gomez and Sergeant Stump on the north side of the door. The door was open and Officer Gomez was trying to look through a window.

Sergeant Lambert felt the circumstances regarding the call and the way things were playing out at the scene was suspicious. The radio traffic he monitored regarding the call made him feel there was someone with the subject with the gun who was reporting the suspect's actions. The fact that nobody was responding to the commands or exiting the apartment did not seem right to him. He thought the suspect was trying to bait them into the apartment. He asked dispatch if the reporting party was the suspect with the gun and they confirmed he was. He then told the officers to stop

making commands into the apartment and he told Officer Gomez to move away from the window. Sergeant Lambert never heard any response from within the apartment. He saw Sergeant Cash directing officers on the other side of the door.

As he was setting up a perimeter around the apartment he saw the suspect come to the threshold of the doorway, with a gun in his right hand, and continue to walk out of the apartment. He described the weapon as being a black semi-auto handgun and said the suspect had it pointed at about a 45 degree angle from the ground. Sergeant Lambert removed his handgun from the holster but realized he was unable to shoot because there were officers in between him and suspect. He then saw Officer Gomez fire at the suspect from approximately 10 to 15 feet away and the rounds appeared to hit the suspect. The suspect did not stop and continued outside where he would have come into view of the officers on the opposite side of the door. He then heard more gunshots and heard someone yelling to watch the crossfire. He, Sergeant Stump and Officer Gomez backed away from the area and took cover in the recessed area near the front door of the neighboring apartment.

Once the suspect went down and the shooting stopped Sergeant Cash dealt with taking the suspect into custody and conducting a safety check of the suspect's apartment.

Sergeant Lambert then had his duty weapon charted by Senior Evidence Technician S. McKay-Davis. The weapon was fully loaded, indicating it had not been fired.

Sergeant Cash

Sergeant Cash said he responded to the suicidal subject call on Myers Street and arrived about the same time as Sergeant Stump but said additional officers had arrived at the scene before him. Sergeant Cash said based on the radio traffic it was difficult to determine if the reporting party was the same person as the subject with the gun or if he/she was with the subject with the gun. Sergeant Lambert told him apartment 55 was upstairs so he, along with Sergeant Stump, went to the apartment. When they arrived there were already four or five police officers at the apartment and positioned on each side of the front door, which was about three quarters of the way open. Somewhere during this time dispatch advised the caller had hung up the phone. Sergeant Cash then started assigning officers roles and responsibilities, while Sergeant Lambert was trying to figure out with dispatch what was going on.

Sergeant Cash positioned himself to the left of the front door along with Officer Serrato, Officer Ouk, Officer Velasquez and Officer Lim. Officer

Gomez, Sergeant Stump and Sergeant Lambert were positioned on the right side of the door. Sergeant Cash asked if anyone had a Taser and Officer Velasquez said she did. He assigned her as less-lethal and Officer Lim and Officer Ouk were assigned to be the contact team if anyone came out of the apartment.

Sergeant Cash looked away from the door briefly to find a better position for the officers and as he was turning back towards the door he heard a gunshot, followed by people yelling. He saw the suspect coming out the front door and the officers began backing up. He heard more shots (7-10) and saw the suspect fall to the ground outside the apartment. Sergeant Cash did not see the suspect with a gun at the time, however; he did see the suspect holding a large kitchen (butcher) knife in his left hand. He described the knife as having a seven to twelve inch blade and said the suspect was holding the knife by the handle and the blade was extended out from the bottom of his hand. The suspect was still moving but was not talking or following commands. Sergeant Cash stepped over the suspect and put his foot on his left arm to prevent him from moving the knife. Officer Lim grabbed the knife from the suspect's hand. The suspect was rolled onto his stomach and then handcuffed by Officer Ouk.

Sergeant Cash said Sergeant Stump were telling officers on scene to look for the gun and it was ultimately located in the first floor courtyard below the suspect's apartment. Sergeant Cash saw the weapon from the second floor landing and could only describe it as a black semi-automatic handgun. Sergeant Stump assigned officers to stand by with the gun.

Sergeant Cash did not fire a weapon during this incident, nor did he have any recordings.

Sergeant Cash had his weapon charted by Senior Evidence Technician S. McKay-Davis. The gun was fully loaded, indicating it had not been discharged.

Involved Officer Interviews

All involved officer interviews were conducted in the conference room of the Magnolia Station by Detectives Rick Cobb and Rick Wheeler. Present during the interviews were Attorney Mike McCoy and Deputy District Attorney Michelle Paradise. The attorneys were there to solely monitor the interview.

The following summaries were taken from the officers statements:

Officer Gomez

Officer Gomez said he was at the Magnolia Station with Officer Velasquez when he heard a call come over the radio regarding a suicidal subject with a gun on Myers Street. He said he responded to the apartment complex on Myers Street and began to look for apartment 55 where the suicidal subject was. He said he was with Officer Velasquez and Officer Lim who just arrived. He said Officer's Ouk and Serrato also arrived.

Officer Gomez said he received an update from Dispatch stating that the subject had put the gun on the table. He said they were at the apartment when they heard the update.

Officer Gomez said he originally positioned himself on the left side of the door (looking at the front door from the outside) which was already open about an inch. He pushed the door and it opened about half way. He did not see the subject inside. He said he announced to the subject inside that he was with Riverside Police and he was there to help. He did not hear any response.

Officer Gomez said that Officer Velasquez went to the right side of the door. Sergeant's Lambert, Cash and Stump arrived. Officer Gomez said he then went to the right side of the door. He said he looked into the kitchen window which was on the right side of the door and could not see the subject. He said Officer Velasquez then moved to the left side of the door, he remained positioned at the left side of the door.

Officer Gomez said he announced more commands to the subject, stating he was Riverside Police and to come out of the apartment. He said he got the subjects first name and tried to call him out by name. He said he had his gun out and at the "low ready" position with his tactical light on.

Officer Gomez said that a short time after he gave his commands, he saw a hand holding a black semi-automatic handgun at the door. The subject, later identified as S-Sherron, had the gun in his hand and was pointing it straight ahead at Officer Lim and the officers behind Officer Lim who were on the left side of the door. S-Sherron was walking out of the apartment with the gun in his hand and pointing straight at the officers. Officer Gomez said he thought S-Sherron was going to shoot the officers so he fired three shots in quick succession at S-Sherron's torso. He said S-Sherron went to the ground immediately. He did not reload his weapon.

Officer Gomez said he did not know if he fired first at S-Sherron. He also said he did not know if S-Sherron had fired his gun.

Officer Gomez said that after he shot at S-Sherron, he started retreating backwards. When he was retreating backwards for cover, he scraped his

knuckles on the stucco wall. He said that he and the officers behind him found cover in the next door apartments alcove.

Officer Gomez said he did not see any other weapons in S-Sherron's hands other than the gun.

Officer Lim

Officer Lim said he was on routine patrol when he heard a call regarding a suicidal subject with a handgun. He responded to 3750 Myers Street and met up with Officers Gomez, Velasquez, Serrato and Ouk. He said they had to look for apartment 55 for a short time before they found it.

Officer Lim said that when they arrived at apartment 55, Dispatch advised that the door was unlocked and the subject had put down the gun. Officer Lim said he was on the left side of the door (looking at the front door from the outside). Officer Gomez had opened the door half way, and was on the right side of the door.

Officer Lim said he could see into the entryway of the apartment, but could not see the living room, kitchen, bedroom or the subject. He announced three times that he was Riverside Police and wanted the subject to come out. He said he heard that the subject's name was Chaz so he tried to call him out by name. He did not hear any response from the subject. Sergeant Cash arrived and gave assignments to all officers. He was assigned as the "point" on the left side of the door. He said he had his gun out at the "low ready" position. He said he did not have his tactical light on because there was enough lighting where he was. He said Officer Serrato was behind him, with Officer Velasquez and Officer Ouk behind Officer Serrato.

Officer Lim said he was looking inside the doorway when he saw the subject, later identified as S-Sherron, appear from the right side of the apartment. He said S-Sherron was walking towards him with a black semi-automatic handgun in his right hand and a "thousand yard stare" in his eyes. He said S-Sherron had the gun pointed towards him in a "low ready" position and was coming straight towards him. He said that as S-Sherron was approaching him, he raised the gun up and pointed it right at him. Officer Lim said he was in fear for his life, so he shot at S-Sherron, and continued firing as S-Sherron kept advancing. He said he was scared. He said he believed he fired two to three shots.

Officer Lim said that when he fired his gun, he felt someone pulling him back, he fell backwards as he and the officers behind him were backing up. This caused Officer's Serrato and Velasquez to fall backwards. He

said he did not fire his gun when he was falling to the ground. He said he saw S-Sherron fall to the ground while clenching a long kitchen knife in his hand.

Officer Lim said he believed he fired the first shot, he did not remember hearing any other shots prior to his. He said he did not know if S-Sherron fired his gun.

Officer Lim said he was not injured during the shooting and did not reload his gun during the shooting.

Officer Serrato

Officer Serrato was part of a two officer unit with Officer Ouk. Officer Serrato and Officer Ouk eventually met up with Officer Velasquez, Officer Lim and Officer Gomez near the front of apartment #55. The officers flanked both sides of the apartment door with Officer Serrato directly behind and to the right of Officer Lim on the south side of the door. Sergeant Cash arrived a short time later and began to devise a plan for the officers. He designated Officer Serrato and Officer Ouk as the arrest team for the incident. Officer Serrato had his handgun out and at the low ready as he stood behind Officer Lim.

Officer Lim and Officer Gomez tried to talk with the subject inside the apartment but they got no response. The door to the apartment was partially open but Officer Serrato could not see anyone inside the apartment. Moments later, and out of nowhere, Officer Serrato saw a black male subject exiting the apartment with his right arm extended as if he were holding a handgun. The subject never said a word as he exited the doorway. Officer Serrato did not see a handgun in the subject's hand. As Officer Serrato saw the subject (later identified as S/Sherron), he heard gunshots. The noise caused his ears to ring badly, to the point that he thought he may have been shot in the head. Officer Serrato, fearing he was being shot at by Sherron, began to back up as he fired his gun toward the subject. Officer Serrato backed up and fell to the ground as his gun jammed so that it would no longer fire. Officer Serrato was able to collect himself, clear his weapon and get back to his feet as Sherron fell to the ground. Officer Serrato assisted Officer Ouk with handcuffing Sherron.

Officer Serrato fired his weapon because he felt he was being fired upon by Sherron. Officer Serrato feared during the incident that he or other RPD officers were going to be shot by Sherron.

Officer Ouk

Officer Ouk was part of a two-officer patrol unit with Officer Serrato. Officer Ouk and Officer Serrato made their way to the back portion of the complex where they found Officer Gomez and Officer Velasquez. Officer Ouk saw Officer Lim was also on scene. The group of officers stood on both sides of the apartment door for #55.

Initially, Officer Ouk, Officer Lim and Officer Serrato were on the left (south) side of the door while Officer Gomez and Officer Velasquez were on the right (north) side of the door. Officers tried to establish communication with anyone inside the apartment but were never able to get anyone to answer. A short time later, Sergeant Cash arrived on scene and began to organize the officers. He designated Officer Ouk and Officer Serrato as the arrest team, Officer Velasquez as less than lethal force and Officer Gomez and Officer Lim as lethal force if necessary. Officer Gomez and Officer Lim continued to try and contact people in the apartment as Officer Velasquez made her way to the left side of the door with Officer Ouk.

Moments later, Officer Ouk heard a loud 'pop' sound but was not initially sure if it was gunfire. Then, Officers Lim, Serrato and Velasquez began falling back toward him as if they had been shot. As this happened, Officer Ouk saw a black male adult (later identified as S/Sherron) walk out from near the front door holding a knife in his right hand. Sherron appeared to be turning toward Officer Ouk and the other RPD officers. Fearing Sherron might try to harm the officers, Officer Ouk fired one round toward Sherron before his gun jammed. Officer Ouk cleared his gun as Sherron fell to the ground and stopped moving.

Officer Ouk assisted with putting Sherron into handcuffs and then stood by with him while the other officers cleared the apartment. Officer Ouk never saw Sherron holding a gun during the incident. Officer Ouk felt he was approximately 6-7 feet away from Sherron when he fired his gun.

Autopsy

Dr. Park conducted the autopsy on Chaz Sherron on 10/16/12.

Sherron was shot three times in his upper torso. The bullet traveled left to right through the chest cavity. Bullet fragments were located in the lower abdomen, back and chest area. Vital organs struck were the heart, liver and right lung. Cause of death was listed as multiple gunshot wounds.