

# INCIDENT REPORT

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF CA0330060

DATE PREPARED: 05/15/18

INITIAL  SUPPLEMENTAL

1. FILE NUMBER IV180670133	2. DATE/TIME REPORTED	3. DATE/TIME ASSIGNED	4. DATE/TIME INV. START	5. DATE/TIME INV. TERM	6. ADULT ARR 00	7. JUV ARR 00
8. OFFENSES - CODE SECTION A.S.	CRIME Officer Involved Shooting - Fatal			COUNTS 01	9. EDP CODE 13C7-N	
10. OFFENSES - CODE SECTION (Add or Change to) A.O.D.	CRIME Assisting Other Department - Riverside Police Dept.			COUNTS 01	11. EDP CODE 25A2-N	
12. OFFENSES - CODE SECTION (Add or Change to)	CRIME			COUNTS	13. EDP CODE	
14. LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE 9931 Willowbrook St., Jurupa Valley, CA			15. REP. DIST.	16. OCCURRED ON- DATE/TIME 03/08/18-1631	17. OR BETWEEN DATE/TIME	
18. BUSINESS NAME N/A			19. BUSINESS PHONE N/A		20. CASE STATUS/CLEARANCE EXC	
21. WAS THIS INCIDENT RELATED TO MARIJUANA? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (If yes, briefly include in narrative or additional details how it was related)						

### VICTIM - REPORTING PARTY - WITNESS - OTHERS:

SEE ADDITIONAL PERSONS REPORT

22. INVL WIT-1	23. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	24. SEX	25. RACE	26. DOB	27. AGE	28. HT	29. WT	30. HAIR	31. EYES	32. SKIN
33. RESIDENCE ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP	34. EMAIL ADDRESS		35. RES. PHONE				
36. BUSINESS ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP	37. EMAIL ADDRESS		38. BUS. PHONE				
N/A						N/A				
39. INVL	40. NAME (Last, First, Middle)	41. SEX	42. RACE	43. DOB	44. AGE	45. HT	46. WT	47. HAIR	48. EYES	49. SKIN
50. RESIDENCE ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP	51. EMAIL ADDRESS		52. RES. PHONE				
53. BUSINESS ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP	54. EMAIL ADDRESS		55. BUS. PHONE				

SUBJECT:  ADULT  JUVENILE  PAROLE  PROBATION  SEE ADDITIONAL PERSONS REPORT  ARRESTED

56. INVL S-1	57. NAME (Last, First, Middle) Saldivar, Ernie David (P.B.)	58. SEX M	59. RACE H	60. DOB 08/06/86	61. AGE	62. HT 510	63. WT 189	64. HAIR BLK	65. EYES BRO	66. SKIN LGT
67. DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER / ID NUMBER		IN POSSESSION	68. STATE	69. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		70. MNI NUMBER		71. CII NUMBER		
72. RESIDENCE ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP	73. EMAIL ADDRESS		74. RES. PHONE				
75. BUSINESS ADDRESS		CITY	ZIP	76. EMAIL ADDRESS		77. BUS. PHONE				
N/A						N/A				

78. JUVENILE DISPOSITION  OTHER JURIS.  JUV. CRT. PROB.  WITHIN DEPT.  DETAINED  NOT DETAINED

79. GANG DATA GANG NAME(S): <input type="checkbox"/> Member <input type="checkbox"/> Associate <input type="checkbox"/> Self Admit <input type="checkbox"/> Prior Knowledge TATTOOS / SCARS / MARKS <input type="checkbox"/> Face <input type="checkbox"/> Neck <input type="checkbox"/> R. Arm <input type="checkbox"/> L. Arm <input type="checkbox"/> Hands <input type="checkbox"/> Torso <input type="checkbox"/> Back <input type="checkbox"/> Legs	80. TATTOOS / SCARS / MARKS / CLOTHING DESCRIPTION Summary Interview Report & Incorporation of BOS Interview Transcripts - RPD Officer S. Lopez #1011 #30181335
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VEHICLE:  REFER TO CHP 180 FORM FOR STOLEN, RECOVERED, TOWED OR IMPOUNDED

81. INVL	82. LICENSE	83. STATE	84. YEAR	85. MAKE	86. MODEL	87. BODY STYLE	88. SLR/AO Code: \$	89. COLOR/COLOR		90. VIN #	91. OTHER IDENTIFIERS	92. DISPOSITION OF VEHICLE
93. REGISTERED OWNER			94. ADDRESS			CITY	STATE	ZIP	95. PHONE			

96. DAMAGED PROPERTY VALUE  
\$

PROPERTY REPORT ATTACHED FOR STOLEN, RECOVERED OR DAMAGED PROPERTY

REPORTING OFFICER Master Inv. N. E. Gomez	OFF I.D. #3018	REVIEWED BY / DATE Sgt W Mendez #3448	ENTERED BY / DATE	ENTERED BY / DATE	
COPIES TO: CHU-E (Inv. Johnson #3542) x3		APR SENT:	APR CANCELLED:	DOJ-NCIC ENTERED:	DOJ-NCIC CANCELED:

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
CENTRAL HOMICIDE UNIT  
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT - CONTINUATION SHEET**

Master Inv. Nelson Gomez #3018

Case #JV180670133

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**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - CENTRAL HOMICIDE UNIT PERSONNEL:**

Investigator A. Johnson #3542	RSO/CHU-E	(760)393-3500
Investigator C. Barajas #2379	RSO/CHU-E	(760)393-3500

**RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT (METRO) PERSONNEL:**

Officer E. Wright #1453	RPD/Metro	(951)782-5531
Officer A. Soria #1567	RPD/Metro	(951)782-5531
Officer J. Pap #1668	RPD/Metro	(951)782-5531
Officer R. Monreal #1616	RPD/Metro	(951)782-5531
Officer S. Lopez #1011	RPD/Metro	(951)782-5531
Officer H. Park #1486	RPD/Metro	(951)782-5531

**LAW OFFICE OF SAKU E. ETHIR:**

Attorney Saku Ethir	RPD/RPOA Attorney	(909)260-9220
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**FORENSIC SERVICES BUREAU PERSONNEL:**

Forensic Tech. J. Muschell #N6316	RSO/Forensics-W	(951)210-1200
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**OTHERS/WITNESSES:**

**ASSOCIATED CASE NUMBERS:**

Riverside County Sheriff's Department - Coroner's Bureau Report/Case #2018-03358  
Riverside Police Department - Report/Case #P17-150151

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A: Transcripts of Officer Lopez's interview on 03/09/18, prepared by Bureau of Office Services, Inc.  
B: Sketch of garage area drawn by Officer Lopez on 03/09/18 for reference.

**EVIDENCE:**

Item	Description
G001	Digital Media DVD-R Disc - Disc containing digital photographs and audio recordings Barcode #2050907
G004	Sketch - Sketch of garage area, drawn by Officer Lopez on 03/09/18 Barcode #2060432

The above listed item(s) was booked into evidence at the Jurupa Valley Sheriff's Station.

**DETAILS:**

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
**CENTRAL HOMICIDE UNIT**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT - CONTINUATION SHEET**

Master Inv. Nelson Gomez #3018

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1 The following supplemental report is regarding the "Officer Involved Shooting" investigation at  
2 9931 Willowbrook St., Jurupa Valley, California, on 03/08/18. The suspect in this case was identified as  
3 **Ernie Saldivar**, of Riverside, California.

4  
5 The purpose of this supplemental report is to incorporate a (21) page transcript of **Officer S. Lopez's**  
6 interview on 03/09/18. The interview with Officer Lopez was conducted within the Executive Conference  
7 Room of the Jurupa Valley Sheriff's Station. Present during this interview, was Investigator Johnson and I,  
8 as well as RPOA Attorney Saku Ethir and Officer Lopez. A digital audio recording was made of the interview  
9 and then later downloaded onto the above listed Digital Media Disc (G001), of which was later booked into  
10 evidence at the Jurupa Valley Sheriff's Station.

11  
12 Officer Lopez's interview was subsequently submitted to Bureau of Office Services Inc. for  
13 transcription. The transcripts were then later sent to me electronically, at which time I reviewed and compared  
14 the digital recording to the transcription for inaccuracies, of which I then corrected when necessary. (*Refer to*  
15 *attached transcript for further details*)

16  
17 Prior to being interview, Officer Lopez was digitally photographed and charted by Investigator  
18 Barajas. The charting consisted of the digital photography and documentation of uniforms, equipment and  
19 service weapons, as well as the collection and packaging of any evidence items by Forensic Tech Muschell,  
at the direction and supervision of Investigator Barajas.

21  
22 The charting of Officer Lopez was done for documentation purposes only, as he never discharged  
23 his service weapon during the incident. At the completion of the uniform/weapon chartings, the interviews  
24 with the involved officers were arranged and conducted within the same Executive Conference Room, at the  
25 Jurupa Valley Sheriff's Station. (*Refer to supplemental reports for further details*)

26  
27 (*The following is a summary of Officer Lopez's interview; however, the statements may not be in the order*  
28 *that they were given, as this was done to aid in the clarity of the report. For further details, refer to the*  
29 *attached transcripts and audio recordings for a complete account of the interview*)

30  
31 **SUMMARY OF RPD OFFICER S. LOPEZ'S INTERVIEW ON 03/09/18:**

32 In summary, Officer Lopez agreed to provide me a voluntary statement as to his involvement in the  
33 "Officer Involved Shooting." Officer Lopez stated he had 17 years of law enforcement experience and no  
34 military experience. For the last 8 months, he has been assigned to the Riverside Police Department's "Metro  
35 Team" the full time SWAT Team, but he had only been with them the last 3 days. On the date of this incident,  
36 Officer Lopez stated he was assigned to assist with a surveillance operation on a known and wanted East Side  
37 Riva gang member named **Ernie Saldivar**.

38  
39 Officer Lopez stated he was familiar with Saldivar and how he was wanted for the attempted murder  
40 of his girlfriend and for being a "Parolee at Large" with a warrant from the Department of Corrections. In  
41 addition, Officer Lopez stated he knew the Metro Team had conducted several operations to locate and arrest  
42 Saldivar, who was believed to be armed and dangerous. Prior to assisting with the surveillance operation,  
43 Officer Lopez stated the involved Metro Team members were briefed on the known facts by Officer Wright,  
44 the assigned case agent.

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
**CENTRAL HOMICIDE UNIT**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT - CONTINUATION SHEET**

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1 Officer Lopez confirmed the plan was to conduct a surveillance operation to determine whether  
2 Saldivar was at the residence in question. Once he was, to the plan was to either make contact or wait until  
3 he left the residence and conduct a traffic stop. The only other information Officer Lopez stated he had was  
4 in what Officer Wright provided, in the form of a Google Earth images of the residence, 9931 Willowbrook  
5 St., in Jurupa Valley, along with some digital photos of Saldivar.

6  
7 Once the briefing was completed, Officer Lopez stated he drove out with Officer's Wright and Soria  
8 in an unmarked Dodge Caravan, while Officer's Pap and Park drove a marked black and white RPD patrol  
9 unit and Officer Monreal drove another unmarked Honda Accord. Once near the residence, Officer Lopez  
10 stated Officer Wright took point on the residence from the west, while Officer's Pap and Park were somewhere  
11 nearby and out of sight. As for Officer Monreal, he was east of the residence on Willowbrook St.

12  
13 Once on scene and in position, they quickly got sight of two Hispanic males and a female in the open  
14 garage area of the residence and one of the males looked to be Saldivar. Officer Lopez stated he was unsure  
15 if it was Saldivar, but he didn't have the binoculars that Officer's Wright and Soria were using, and they  
16 seemed confident it was him and he appeared to have matching tattoos around his neck. Officer Lopez added  
17 that Saldivar was wearing a black T-shirt and shorts, while the other male was wearing a grey T-shirt.

18  
19 As soon as Saldivar was confirmed to be in the garage, Officer Lopez stated the information was  
20 broadcasted over RPD's Channel 10, the tactical channel that was being used by the Metro Team during the  
21 surveillance operation. A short time later, Officer Wright directed Officer Monreal to take point and to  
22 relocate to where they were, so they could meet with Officer Pap and Park and come up with a plan to make  
23 contact.

24  
25 Once Monreal was in position, Officer Lopez stated they drove over and met up with Officer's Pap  
26 and Park and the decision was to drive in from the east and make contact. Just before they got to the house,  
27 Officer Lopez's stated he heard Officer Monreal broadcasting he had sight of the Hispanic male in a grey T-  
28 shirt and it looked as if he was going to walk out of the garage.

29  
30 According to Officer Lopez, this broadcast was made just as they pulled up and parked in front of  
31 the house, so they got out as quickly as they could and headed straight for the garage. Officer Lopez estimated  
32 that he was about 10ft behind Officer's Wright and Soria, when they turned and entered the garage and that's  
33 when he remembered hearing the commands, "Get your hands up. Let me see your hands." Once he was in  
34 the garage, Officer Lopez said he saw Saldivar moving from where he was sitting in the southwest corner of  
35 the garage and start running north, toward a door on the opposite side.

36  
37 This is when Officer Lopez stated his attention was drawn toward the Hispanic male in the grey T-  
38 shirt and a Hispanic female, who were standing near the left center of the garage. This male and female were  
39 later identified as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

40  
41 From that point, Officer Lopez stated his focus was to get control of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and to have  
42 them go to the ground, so Officer's Wright and Soria were free to deal with Saldivar. According to Officer  
43 Lopez, this is when he heard what he believed were 4-5 gunshots, along with some commands and then a door  
44 opening and closing. As to the gunshots, all Officer Lopez would say was he had no idea if Saldivar had  
45 started shooting or if it was Officer's Wright and Soria, but he remembered seeing Saldivar running toward

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
**CENTRAL HOMICIDE UNIT**  
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1 the garage entry door, just as the gunshots were heard. Immediately after that, Officer's Wright, Soria and  
2 Park ran in after him and that's when he heard what sounded like another 4-5 gunshots.

3  
4 I asked Officer Lopez if he ever turned around to see what was happening and all he would state was  
5 that his focus was on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and nothing else. I then asked if he remembered hearing anything  
6 before or after the shooting. He recalled that someone was giving commands, but he couldn't remember what  
7 they were and that's because he was in the process of giving his own commands, when the shooting happen.

8  
9 A few minutes, if not seconds after the second group of gunshots, Officer Lopez stated he heard  
10 Officer Park broadcasting "Shots Fired" over the radio and a request for medical aid. In addition, Officer  
11 Lopez stated he directed Officer Monreal to check on Officer's Wright, Soria and Park and that a few minutes  
12 later, Officer Park came out and stood watch as he moved in and handcuffed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

13  
14 Officer Lopez maintained he never saw the shooting and that his primary focus was to deal with the  
15 other two subjects who were in the garage, while Officer's Wright, Soria and Park dealt with Saldivar. Once  
16 backup units from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department arrived, Officer Lopez stated he entered the  
17 laundry room and that's when he got his first look at Saldivar, as he lay face down in the hallway/laundry  
18 room handcuffed. From there, the only other thing Officer Lopez stated he did, was to assist with safety sweep  
19 of the residence and nothing else.

20  
21 Prior to ending the interview, Officer Lopez was asked to provide a sketch of what he remembered  
22 about the garage and its layout. This sketch was used for reference and clarification purposes only and not to  
23 scale or used in any other interviews. A copy of Officer Lopez's sketch (G004) is attached to this report,  
24 while the original was later booked into evidence at the Jurupa Valley Sheriff's Station. No other comments  
25 or statements were taken, and the interview was ended. (Refer to attached copies and transcripts for further  
26 details)

27  
28 A copy of this report will be forwarded to Investigator Johnson of the Central Homicide Unit.

29  
30 **STATUS: EXCEPTIONAL**

**ATTACHMENT - A**

**TRANSCRIPTS OF OFFICER LOPEZ'S  
INTERVIEW ON 03/09/18, PREPARED BY  
BUREAU OF OFFICE SERVICES, INC.**

RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPT. Restricted Information  
Public Records Act Request  
JPEDROZA 12/16/2019 10:57 AM Unauthorized Release PROHIBITED

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**EVIDENCE RECORDING**

JV180670133 AOD-OIS

Transcript of Interview with RPD OFFICER SANCHO LOPEZ

03/09/2018

Participants Key: LOPEZ: RPD OFFICER SANCHO LOPEZ

GOMEZ: INVESTIGATOR GOMEZ

JOHNSON: INVESTIGATOR JOHNSON

ETHIR: SAKU ETHIR, ATTORNEY

[BEGINNING; RECORDING IDENTIFIED AS: **RPD OFFICER SANCHO LOPEZ**, DURATION: 30:15]

*RPD Officer Sancho Lopez 2018.03.09\_02.52\_01*

GOMEZ: March 9, 2018 at 2:55 a.m. This will be in reference to JV180670133, officer involved shooting at 9931 Willow Brook in Jurupa Valley. Investigator Gomez with the Central Homicide Unit. Directly to my right is?

JOHNSON: Investigator Anthony Johnson.

ETHIR: Saku Ethir, Attorney representing Sancho Lopez.

LOPEZ: Sancho Lopez.

GOMEZ: And your ID?

LOPEZ: My ID is 1011.

GOMEZ: 1011?

LOPEZ: Correct.

GOMEZ: Sir, the purpose of this is to get a voluntary statement from you as to the events of this evening. You are not the focus of this investigation. We are investigators with the Central Homicide Unit of the Riverside County Sheriff's. Whenever an officer involved shooting occurs, obviously it's criminally investigated. At this point in time obviously you've had time to

1 talk to your attorney, your representative. Are you willing to provide us a  
2 voluntary statement as to what you witnessed this evening?

3  
4 LOPEZ: Yes.

5  
6 GOMEZ: Let's start with this. How long have you been a law enforcement officer?

7  
8 LOPEZ: Ah, 17 years now.

9  
10 GOMEZ: Any other prior experience other than RPD?

11  
12 LOPEZ: No.

13  
14 GOMEZ: Any military experience?

15  
16 LOPEZ: No.

17  
18 GOMEZ: Your current assignment is with who?

19  
20 LOPEZ: With the---I'm with the full time SWAT team for the Riverside Police  
21 Department.

22  
23 GOMEZ: Metro team?

24  
25 LOPEZ: Yes.

26  
27 GOMEZ: How long have you been on Metro?

28  
29 LOPEZ: Well, I got assigned about eight months ago, but I've actually only been with  
30 the team---This is my third day.

31  
32 GOMEZ: Prior to this, what other assignments have you held with RPD?

33  
34 LOPEZ: For the past five years I've been on the collateral team. I've been a field  
35 training officer for about 13 years. I've also been---I was a POP officer or  
36 I'm sure you guys have the same thing, like a community-oriented police  
37 officer. I did that assignment for three years.

38  
39 GOMEZ: What day of the week is this for you?

40  
41 LOPEZ: For me, this will be my---It's the middle of my week. We have---We work  
42 four days.

43  
44 GOMEZ: Okay. So roughly your Wednesday?

45



1 LOPEZ: Tuesday, I guess.  
2  
3 GOMEZ: Your Tuesday?  
4  
5 LOPEZ: Yeah.  
6  
7 GOMEZ: Okay. What time did your shift start yesterday? Obviously, this occurred  
8 yesterday evening, down to the morning hours on---  
9  
10 LOPEZ: I came in actually at 9:00 to assist with the training class that was going on in  
11 the morning.  
12  
13 GOMEZ: Is that the---what is it, critical---  
14  
15 LOPEZ: Yes.  
16  
17 GOMEZ: CIT?  
18  
19 LOPEZ: Yes.  
20  
21 GOMEZ: And that went to what time?  
22  
23 LOPEZ: Um, about noon or just---No, actually I take that back, I'm sorry. I'd say  
24 about 3:30, almost 4:00 maybe.  
25  
26 GOMEZ: After that were you assigned anything else?  
27  
28 LOPEZ: I went back to our---I'm still on regular hours. I went back to the hangar, to  
29 figure out what the rest of the team was going to do. I was in normal clothes  
30 for the class. I changed into this, and then I was told that we were going to  
31 go out to Jurupa Valley.  
32  
33 GOMEZ: Okay. What information were you briefed on in reference to coming out to  
34 Jurupa Valley?  
35  
36 LOPEZ: I was told that they believed they had info for Ernie, a subject we attempted  
37 to locate previously, and that I guess it was an informant that had told one of  
38 our detectives that he was at this house in Jurupa.  
39  
40 GOMEZ: Do you know who the detective was with that information?  
41  
42 LOPEZ: Couldn't be certain.  
43  
44 GOMEZ: Do you know what specific information was provided? Just---I mean was it  
45 just that possible location for him?

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LOPEZ: Yes, correct.

GOMEZ: Was anything else briefed about that? I mean whether he knew that he was wanted, whether he was armed?

LOPEZ: I already knew that information. We---Again we had looked for him previously, so I kind of knew who he was. I've also worked the east side for probably half my time there with the department. I'm familiar with a lot of the gang members there.

GOMEZ: Okay. Was there any current information about him being armed or anything?

LOPEZ: Just based off of his prior criminal activity, you know, that he's possibly armed.

GOMEZ: Okay. Have you had any past experience or contacts with this individual, Ernie?

LOPEZ: I don't recall any personal, no.

GOMEZ: No, but you were---I mean were you provided a picture of him, you knew exactly---

LOPEZ: Yes.

GOMEZ: Tattoos, those type of items?

LOPEZ: Yes. Yes.

GOMEZ: Okay, and you said this isn't the first operation you've done in looking for him?

LOPEZ: Correct.

GOMEZ: How many other operations had you done?

LOPEZ: The one I distinctly remember was---I can't remember where the information came from, but we ended up serving a warrant on a house on the east side looking for him, and I remember it because it was the day of the Mayweather/McGregor fight, and it was a full SWAT call out, and I was at home having a party at my house. I told my family members bye, I got to go. So, I had to leave my house to go find this guy at this particular house, but of course, he wasn't there.

1 GOMEZ: Okay, and the fact that the full-blown Metro team went out on this, I mean  
2 what was---Do you remember what the circumstances were behind it that the  
3 Metro team needed to go out on this?  
4  
5 LOPEZ: Um, I can't remember if he had. No, that warrant had to have been in the  
6 system already, so he had a felony warrant for---or his parole was violated for  
7 the attempt murder on his girlfriend.  
8  
9 GOMEZ: And the information you guys had tonight, it wasn't to the level that a full  
10 team was needed, I mean or is this just a certain---  
11  
12 LOPEZ: We---No. We didn't even know that---Again, it was just he might potentially  
13 be here.  
14  
15 GOMEZ: Okay. So, the plan was what, just surveillance?  
16  
17 LOPEZ: We were going to---Yeah, go attempt to surveil him, see if we would see him,  
18 see if we could pick him up if he got in a vehicle and took off or away from  
19 --or if he came out away from the house, we could pick him up.  
20  
21 GOMEZ: And you guys were in how many vehicles at the time?  
22  
23 LOPEZ: Ah, three vehicles.  
24  
25 GOMEZ: What vehicle were you in?  
26  
27 LOPEZ: There was a gray van, gray minivan we were in. Officer Monreal was in a  
28 silver Honda Accord, I believe it is, and Officer Pap and Officer Park were in  
29 a marked unit.  
30  
31 GOMEZ: The marked unit was for the possibility of him---  
32  
33 LOPEZ: If he left we---  
34  
35 GOMEZ: Traffic stop?  
36  
37 LOPEZ: Correct.  
38  
39 GOMEZ: And you---Basically all of you were dressed in the same manner, right?  
40  
41 LOPEZ: Correct.  
42  
43 GOMEZ: BDU---Are they green or---  
44  
45 LOPEZ: Yeah, they're green.

1 GOMEZ: Green BDU's, black t-shirts, LBV's, the load bearing vest.  
2  
3 LOPEZ: Yes.  
4  
5 GOMEZ: With your insignias, your Metro insignia. Does yours on the back say police  
6 on it?  
7  
8 LOPEZ: Yeah, it says police in yellow.  
9  
10 GOMEZ: Okay. Okay, and this is something typically that you guys wear when you're  
11 out doing your additional patrol duties or what not?  
12  
13 LOPEZ: Correct.  
14  
15 GOMEZ: So---And being that Ernie is a known ESR gang member, he would be  
16 familiar with you guys' uniforms?  
17  
18 LOPEZ: Correct.  
19  
20 GOMEZ: Okay, and this isn't the first-time you guys have gone looking for him. So,  
21 you guys set up on this house. Do you know the location where you guys set  
22 up to do surveillance on him, like how far away from the house were you?  
23  
24 LOPEZ: We were, I want to say approximately maybe 150, 200 yards maybe.  
25  
26 GOMEZ: Okay. East or west of the location?  
27  
28 LOPEZ: It would be west of the location.  
29  
30 GOMEZ: Okay. Who's driving the car at the time?  
31  
32 LOPEZ: Officer Wright was driving.  
33  
34 GOMEZ: Who was the front passenger?  
35  
36 LOPEZ: Officer Soria was the front passenger.  
37  
38 GOMEZ: Okay. So, you got back seat?  
39  
40 LOPEZ: Correct.  
41  
42 GOMEZ: So, point basically Wright and Soria?  
43  
44 LOPEZ: Correct.  
45

1 GOMEZ: Did you observe anything from your position?  
2  
3 LOPEZ: I could see, when we drove past the house, I could see the garage door was  
4 open. We circled back around and we parked on the---it would be the south  
5 side of the street. We could see bodies walking around inside the garage.  
6  
7 GOMEZ: Anyone you could visually be able to identify from your location, without  
8 looking through bino's or anything?  
9  
10 LOPEZ: From that distance I could identify a female, two males, all Hispanic. The  
11 male that we were looking for, Ernie, it appeared that it was that subject, but  
12 again I couldn't tell you for certain, I was too far away.  
13  
14 GOMEZ: Okay. Do you know what he was wearing?  
15  
16 LOPEZ: He had a black t-shirt.  
17  
18 GOMEZ: This other male that was in the--Hispanic as well you said?  
19  
20 LOPEZ: Yes.  
21  
22 GOMEZ: Do you remember what he was wearing?  
23  
24 LOPEZ: A gray t-shirt.  
25  
26 GOMEZ: Was Officer Wright or Soria putting anything out as to what they were  
27 observing and what they believed?  
28  
29 LOPEZ: Yes. Yes. They had binoculars, they could see that he had tattoos on his  
30 neck, all---that all matched the tattoos that Ernie has, and they broadcasted  
31 that information to the other officers that were---  
32  
33 GOMEZ: And that's to Pap?  
34  
35 LOPEZ: Correct. Pap, Park, and Monreal.  
36  
37 GOMEZ: Monreal, okay. So, what happened? What decisions are made once you guys  
38 believe you possibly have sight of him?  
39  
40 LOPEZ: They were confident---fairly confident that it was him. We had Officer  
41 Monreal drive around, come behind us, so he could pick a point on the garage,  
42 maintain observation of the people in the garage, and we were going to drive  
43 around, pick up the marked unit, have the marked unit follow us in, and then  
44 we were going to go up to the garage from the east side of---approaching from

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the east side, around so they wouldn't see us, so we'd wrap around the garage and surprise them.

GOMEZ: So, what happens once you guys come back in and start making your approach? Is any radio traffic being broadcasted by anyone, Monreal since he's point now?

LOPEZ: We told him---Before we left we told him hey, this is where they're at. We knew that Ernie was sitting in the deep, it would be the southeast corner of the garage. We told him hey, this is where he's at, he hasn't moved yet. We pulled up. I think it was as we were getting out---As we were getting up to the garage, I think it was Officer Monreal put out that they were coming out of the garage.

GOMEZ: Did he say specifically who?

LOPEZ: No.

GOMEZ: Did he describe anyone?

LOPEZ: No.

GOMEZ: Just that people---someone was---there was movement and someone was coming out?

LOPEZ: Yes.

GOMEZ: What was your position, and what was your guys' approach? Was it in a stack formation, line formation?

LOPEZ: Officer Wright and Soria were almost shoulder to shoulder ahead of me, probably about ten feet ahead of me. Officer Park was off to my---just off to my right. I don't remember where Officer Pap was. Monreal was still in the car across the street watching the garage.

GOMEZ: Okay. What happens as you guys approach the garage?

LOPEZ: I saw---I watched Officer Wright and Soria round the corner. As they rounded the corner they started yelling commands. As I came around the corner behind them, I could see Ernie get up from where ever he was sitting in that corner, and start running towards the interior door that led into the house, which would be on the north side of the garage.

GOMEZ: Now you said towards the corner. So, when you go into the garage, which way does it flow?

1 LOPEZ: The garage door faces west, and it opens up east, you drive in the garage.  
2  
3 GOMEZ: Okay, and you said that you saw him, he's positioned in the corner?  
4  
5 LOPEZ: Correct. He was getting up from the corner.  
6  
7 GOMEZ: Did you physically see him getting up like off of a chair or---  
8  
9 LOPEZ: By the time I got there that's what it looked like to me. It looked like he had  
10 gotten up from where ever he was in that corner  
11  
12 GOMEZ: What were the commands that you heard Wright and Soria throw out?  
13  
14 LOPEZ: Um, you know, get your hands up, let me see your hands.  
15  
16 GOMEZ: Did you see anyone else in that garage?  
17  
18 LOPEZ: Yes, the other Hispanic male and another Hispanic female.  
19  
20 GOMEZ: Do you know where they were at?  
21  
22 LOPEZ: They were closer to the door, almost in the middle of the garage, so when I  
23 made the corner, they were focused on Ernie. I directed my attention towards  
24 them to maintain them.  
25  
26 GOMEZ: Okay. So, when you go in where are Wright and where is Soria at?  
27  
28 LOPEZ: They're off to my right.  
29  
30 GOMEZ: To your right?  
31  
32 LOPEZ: Correct.  
33  
34 GOMEZ: And these other two individuals, the Hispanic male and the female are to your  
35 left?  
36  
37 LOPEZ: They're directly in front of me, yeah.  
38  
39 GOMEZ: In front of you?  
40  
41 LOPEZ: Yeah.  
42  
43 GOMEZ: Okay, and how far away is that door from where Ernie is at?  
44  
45 LOPEZ: Which door? The garage door to the house?

1 GOMEZ: An estimated---The entry garage door, yeah.  
2  
3 LOPEZ: When I initially saw him, he was almost all the way on the other side of the  
4 garage, so I don't know how---what a standard garage would be, 20---  
5  
6 GOMEZ: Two car garage, right?  
7  
8 LOPEZ: Yeah, two car garage.  
9  
10 GOMEZ: And you're saying he's completely on the opposite end when you see him,  
11 and now he's---and you said---  
12  
13 LOPEZ: He was making for that door.  
14  
15 GOMEZ: And you're---Is he literally running?  
16  
17 LOPEZ: It appeared to me---Again, I just caught him out of the corner of my eye, it  
18 appeared to me that he was running for that door.  
19  
20 GOMEZ: Okay. Could you see where his hands were at, at the time?  
21  
22 LOPEZ: No.  
23  
24 GOMEZ: No. Are you hearing any other commands coming from Wright or Soria?  
25  
26 LOPEZ: Yes.  
27  
28 GOMEZ: What additional--  
29  
30 LOPEZ: I couldn't tell you. I was now engaged with the other two people in the  
31 garage.  
32  
33 GOMEZ: Okay. So now your focus is immediately on these two individuals?  
34  
35 LOPEZ: Yes.  
36  
37 GOMEZ: And obviously these are your partners, so let them deal with this---the primary  
38 focus of why you're there?  
39  
40 LOPEZ: Correct.  
41  
42 GOMEZ: You don't know where Pap's at, at that point?  
43  
44 LOPEZ: I don't---No, I don't remember at that point.  
45



1 GOMEZ: How about Park?  
2  
3 LOPEZ: I don't remember where he was at either.  
4  
5 GOMEZ: Okay, and where Wright and Soria are, how far into the garage are they at that  
6 point?  
7  
8 LOPEZ: Maybe almost halfway.  
9  
10 GOMEZ: Okay. Like almost in the middle of the garage?  
11  
12 LOPEZ: Not quite the middle, but a few feet in the garage.  
13  
14 GOMEZ: So, are they---I mean was there immediate focus towards like you said,  
15 towards where Ernie was sitting on that far corner of the garage?  
16  
17 LOPEZ: Correct.  
18  
19 GOMEZ: And now they're having to refocus on the fact that now he's running in the  
20 opposite direction?  
21  
22 LOPEZ: I wouldn't know that. I couldn't answer that question.  
23  
24 GOMEZ: Well, if he's moving towards the garage door, they would have been  
25 following up on him, right?  
26  
27 LOPEZ: Yes, that would make sense.  
28  
29 GOMEZ: Okay. Could you tell how far away they were from him?  
30  
31 LOPEZ: No, I couldn't.  
32  
33 GOMEZ: What happens at that point?  
34  
35 LOPEZ: I started yelling commands at the other two to get down. They comply. They  
36 laid down, proned out. As I'm giving them commands, I hear a first volley  
37 of rounds fired.  
38  
39 GOMEZ: And where are the shots coming from?  
40  
41 LOPEZ: I, I couldn't tell you. I know it's in the garage. I don't know if it was Able  
42 and---sorry, Officer Soria and Officer Wright firing at Ernie, or if he was  
43 firing back at them, I---Again, I just heard rounds fired.  
44

1 GOMEZ: Okay. So, at that point basically you're dealing with these two, they're going  
2 down on the ground. Is your firearm out?  
3  
4 LOPEZ: Yes.  
5  
6 GOMEZ: Okay. Did you turn to see where the shots are coming from or turn to see  
7 where Ernie's at to make sure that he's not armed at that point in time?  
8  
9 LOPEZ: Again, I could just see him out of the corner of my eye as they continued to  
10 move towards that door.  
11  
12 GOMEZ: So, you never turned around and refocused in on him, you've---you're  
13 confident on your partners dealing with the situation if he is firing?  
14  
15 LOPEZ: Correct.  
16  
17 GOMEZ: Can you still see him out of your peripheral?  
18  
19 LOPEZ: Yes.  
20  
21 GOMEZ: What are you seeing?  
22  
23 LOPEZ: That he continued making---or running for the door.  
24  
25 GOMEZ: Does he make it into the door?  
26  
27 LOPEZ: Yes, he made entry into the door. They followed him into the door. There  
28 was a second volley of rounds fired. I could still hear them making  
29 commands, so I know that they're all right, because I can hear them making  
30 commands still.  
31  
32 GOMEZ: That first volley, do you remember how many shots you heard?  
33  
34 LOPEZ: Four or five rounds, maybe.  
35  
36 JOHNSON: That first volley, did it sound like it was just coming from one weapon, or did  
37 it sound like it was a couple of different?  
38  
39 LOPEZ: I couldn't tell you.  
40  
41 JOHNSON: Okay.  
42  
43 GOMEZ: Second volley, how many rounds do you think?  
44  
45 LOPEZ: Same, about four or five maybe.

1 GOMEZ: Now when you said he made it to this garage door, do you remember if the  
2 garage door was open or closed?  
3  
4 LOPEZ: I don't remember.  
5  
6 GOMEZ: Okay. Do you ever lose sight of Eddie?  
7  
8 LOPEZ: Yes, once he gets inside the house.  
9  
10 GOMEZ: Okay. How about of Wright and Soria, do you ever lose---  
11  
12 LOPEZ: Also, once they get inside the house.  
13  
14 GOMEZ: So, they're completely out of sight. You don't know what's going on with  
15 them, where they're heading down towards?  
16  
17 LOPEZ: Correct.  
18  
19 GOMEZ: How about Park?  
20  
21 LOPEZ: I do pick him up. He follows them into that---what ends up being a laundry  
22 room.  
23  
24 GOMEZ: Okay, and you're hearing commands still?  
25  
26 LOPEZ: Yes.  
27  
28 GOMEZ: Anything that you can discern?  
29  
30 LOPEZ: I couldn't. I don't remember it.  
31  
32 GOMEZ: Your focus is on these two?  
33  
34 LOPEZ: Correct.  
35  
36 GOMEZ: What are you doing with those two at that point?  
37  
38 LOPEZ: I'm holding cover down on them, I'm telling them to stay on the ground.  
39 They start telling me that hey, there's---I think he said my wife and kids are  
40 in the house. I clarify with him how many other people are in the house. He  
41 tells me just my wife and six kids. I relay---I scream the info back to them  
42 who are in the house now, tell them hey, there's supposed to be an adult  
43 female and six kids in the house. I can't remember who it was, but somebody--  
44 --I believe it was Park that came back on and told me that---or some---  
45 Somebody told me that they're going back out the front door. Park came back

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out at some point. I told him hey, hold cover on them so I can put them in handcuffs. He held cover. I put them in handcuffs, and then I backed up a little bit so I could see the female that had come out the front door with the kids, and the two that I---were still on the garage floor.

GOMEZ: Did you ever see Monreal come in?

LOPEZ: Oh yes. After they had gone in, after Park had gone in as well, Monreal came running in the garage, and I directed him, I told him hey, he's---they're in that---they ran into the house, and he went in after them.

GOMEZ: Did you hear anything else after that---at that point?

LOPEZ: I don't recall.

GOMEZ: Okay. Any other commands being yelled out?

LOPEZ: I don't remember.

GOMEZ: Any other radio traffic being broadcasted?

LOPEZ: Um, Park came out. He broadcasted there were shots fired. It was on our channel. They asked for---if we wanted RSO units. He said yes. They asked for medical aid. Ah, I don't remember much, if there was other traffic.

GOMEZ: Okay. In reference to the garage, do you think that you got enough view of it that you could draw it out, like the layout?

LOPEZ: I could draw you where the doors and stuff were at. I don't remember---I remember there was---there were two chairs in that corner of the garage, but I mean I couldn't tell you what else was in there. There weren't any cars or anything else in there.

GOMEZ: Would you mind if we did that?

ETHIR: No. I mean obviously it's not going to be to scale. I mean it's---

GOMEZ: No, no.

ETHIR: His best recollection.

GOMEZ: Yes, his best recollection. Because he's actually provided more details as to the garage than---

1 LOPEZ: North, this would be the garage, the main garage door. This is the entry door  
2 into the house. The garage---there was two chairs right here. There was no  
3 cars in the garage. I don't recall anything. I didn't---  
4  
5 GOMEZ: And that's---In that corner is where you initially, out of the corner of your  
6 eyes where you spot Eddie?  
7  
8 LOPEZ: Correct. As we round this corner here, he's about right here when I see him.  
9  
10 GOMEZ: Okay, and his immediate response is to head towards that door?  
11  
12 LOPEZ: Yes, this door.  
13  
14 GOMEZ: From what you could tell, and where are the two that you're dealing with?  
15 You can use circles for them.  
16  
17 LOPEZ: Here and here.  
18  
19 GOMEZ: So, they're closer to the garage door.  
20  
21 LOPEZ: Correct.  
22  
23 GOMEZ: The actual roll up door.  
24  
25 LOPEZ: Correct.  
26  
27 GOMEZ: And where's Wright and---  
28  
29 LOPEZ: About here is Wright and Soria.  
30  
31 GOMEZ: And where are you?  
32  
33 LOPEZ: About right here.  
34  
35 ETHIR: Obviously all approximations?  
36  
37 GOMEZ: Yeah, it's all approximation, it's not the scale. It's just for reference purposes  
38 for---on our end. Anything else you want on that?  
39  
40 JOHNSON: So, the two people you were dealing with, so they were fairly cooperative?  
41  
42 LOPEZ: Yes, they cooperated right away.  
43  
44 JOHNSON: Okay, and that's the male and the female?  
45

1 LOPEZ: Yes.  
2  
3 JOHNSON: Okay, and you don't know where---You're not sure where Park and Pap have  
4 flowed into the garage?  
5  
6 LOPEZ: I know---Initially I know Park was off to my right as we were approaching up  
7 here, so I'm assuming he---I didn't see him, so I'm assuming he came in  
8 behind me, and then followed them two in afterward.  
9  
10 JOHNSON: Okay.  
11  
12 LOPEZ: Pap, I saw Pap hit the fence over here. There was a fence in the back yard.  
13  
14 JOHNSON: Okay.  
15  
16 LOPEZ: He jumped the fence here when the shots started going off over here.  
17  
18 JOHNSON: Okay.  
19  
20 LOPEZ: I know like I told you before Monreal showed up afterward.  
21  
22 JOHNSON: Right.  
23  
24 LOPEZ: And I directed him inside the house.  
25  
26 GOMEZ: Was there anything that obstructed your view in that garage? Anything that  
27 would have blocked you from---  
28  
29 LOPEZ: Seeing what happened over here?  
30  
31 GOMEZ: Yeah.  
32  
33 LOPEZ: No.  
34  
35 GOMEZ: No?  
36  
37 LOPEZ: No.  
38  
39 GOMEZ: It's just your focus at the time was the two other individuals that you're having  
40 to deal with?  
41  
42 LOPEZ: Correct.  
43  
44 GOMEZ: You're letting your partners deal with whatever.  
45

1 LOPEZ: Correct.  
2  
3 GOMEZ: Did you ever hear him yell anything, say anything?  
4  
5 LOPEZ: I don't recall him saying anything.  
6  
7 GOMEZ: Okay. How about the two individuals that you were dealing with, they said  
8 anything?  
9  
10 LOPEZ: She was hysteric---She was just screaming. He was yelling about his wife  
11 and kids in the house.  
12  
13 GOMEZ: Okay, but nothing else, nothing in reference to the individual that ran into the  
14 house?  
15  
16 LOPEZ: No, I don't remember him saying anything about him.  
17  
18 GOMEZ: When you saw him, I mean what was your impression, that that was the  
19 individual you were looking for, or was it that Wright and Soria already had  
20 identified him?  
21  
22 LOPEZ: Ernie?  
23  
24 GOMEZ: Yeah.  
25  
26 LOPEZ: Yeah, I didn't even---As soon as they---we turned the corner, and as soon as  
27 they saw them, my focus was primarily on them.  
28  
29 GOMEZ: Okay, and you didn't recognize---Well, the male wasn't Ernie, right?  
30  
31 LOPEZ: Correct.  
32  
33 GOMEZ: The guy you were looking for. Did you ever make entry into the house at all  
34 at any point in time?  
35  
36 LOPEZ: Yes.  
37  
38 GOMEZ: When was that?  
39  
40 LOPEZ: Once your deputies started showing up, I started directing traffic, because I  
41 was still outside. I had the first one take the female who was out front, out  
42 front of the house. I said hey, grab her and the kids and get them out of here,  
43 push them down the street. He was assisted by another deputy, and then two  
44 more deputies showed up and I had them grab these two individuals and get  
45 them out of there as well, saying take them with the kids and the wife, I'm

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assuming. As more deputies arrived, I said hey, we have an officer in the back, go relieve him, cover the back, have them come back up here. At that point I pushed into the house. I held---There was a laundry room and then it opens up into a hallway, which opens up to the rest of the house. So, I held on one of the doorways that held up into the rest of the house until we had one of our canines, and let's see, it was myself, Pap, Park, and your canine, and we cleared the rest of the house.

GOMEZ: Okay.

LOPEZ: Once the house was cleared, we---Medical aid had already been requested, but we told them to roll in.

GOMEZ: Did you see where Ernie was at?

LOPEZ: He was---I had stepped over him on my way in. He was laying down not in the laundry room, but the very next room where the little hallway is.

GOMEZ: At that point was he already handcuffed if you can recall?

LOPEZ: Yes, he was handcuffed already.

GOMEZ: Okay. Did anyone mention anything else, what they had found on him?

LOPEZ: There was a gun that was laying right next to him on the---there was a pile of clothes right there. It was on top of the pile of clothes.

GOMEZ: Okay. Did you happen to touch that gun at any point in time?

LOPEZ: I didn't touch the gun.

GOMEZ: No. Okay. So, once you enter, you bypass him. Do you ever come back that way or do you use another exit?

LOPEZ: Yes, I exited that way as well.

GOMEZ: Okay.

JOHNSON: From the time the assisting deputies arrived, about how much time would you say elapsed?

LOPEZ: From the time of the shots were fired until the time the deputies arrived?

JOHNSON: Yeah.



1 LOPEZ: Two, maybe three minutes maybe, I don't know.  
2  
3 JOHNSON: Oh wow.  
4  
5 LOPEZ: It was pretty fast.  
6  
7 JOHNSON: Okay.  
8  
9 LOPEZ: It seemed like it went really fast.  
10  
11 JOHNSON: Now---And then when you guys got into the garage, also about how long was  
12 it before like the first shots were fired?  
13  
14 LOPEZ: From the time we rounded the corner here?  
15  
16 JOHNSON: Yeah. You rounded the corner, the commands were given---  
17  
18 LOPEZ: Within a few seconds.  
19  
20 JOHNSON: Okay, and you immediately--- You made a beeline for those two, giving them  
21 commands, got them down, and then that's when Wright and Soria went after  
22 Ernie as he was--- Now you said he was running towards the---  
23  
24 LOPEZ: It appeared to me, yes.  
25  
26 JOHNSON: It appeared to you that he was running. Okay. Was he looking back?  
27  
28 LOPEZ: I couldn't tell you for certain.  
29  
30 JOHNSON: Okay, but you know he was making a beeline though, trying to get into that  
31 door?  
32  
33 LOPEZ: Correct.  
34  
35 JOHNSON: Okay. It was within a few seconds of that first volley of shots went down  
36 after you guys made it into the garage.  
37  
38 LOPEZ: I'm sorry, I don't understand your question.  
39  
40 JOHNSON: Well, once you guys got into the garage and were giving commands, and then  
41 it was like within a few seconds?  
42  
43 LOPEZ: Correct, within a few seconds.  
44  
45 JOHNSON: Okay. Okay.

1 GOMEZ: Basically, rapidly escalating situation from the time you guys breached that  
2 garage. There's no lull in the time, right?  
3  
4 LOPEZ: No.  
5  
6 GOMEZ: It's just boom, boom, boom, boom?  
7  
8 LOPEZ: Correct.  
9  
10 GOMEZ: And obviously the two that you dealt with immediately recognized who you  
11 were, followed your commands without any issues?  
12  
13 LOPEZ: Correct.  
14  
15 GOMEZ: Didn't---No uncooperative measures on their part in following exactly what  
16 you said?  
17  
18 LOPEZ: Yes.  
19  
20 GOMEZ: The only one that didn't seem to be following the directions was Ernie, who  
21 you guys believed were---or he was known to be a wanted felon?  
22  
23 LOPEZ: Correct.  
24  
25 GOMEZ: Okay. I don't have anything else.  
26  
27 JOHNSON: Yeah, I don't have anything.  
28  
29 GOMEZ: 3:25. Actually before I---I'm sorry, I forgot to ask. Can he initial that for  
30 me please?  
31  
32 ETHIR: Yes.  
33  
34 LOPEZ: Yeah.  
35  
36 GOMEZ: And date it---  
37  
38 LOPEZ: 03/09?  
39  
40 GOMEZ: 03/09, please.  
41  
42 LOPEZ: And it's '18.  
43  
44 GOMEZ: Yep. Thank you. 3:25.  
45

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[END; RECORDING IDENTIFIED AS: RPD OFFICER SANCHO LOPEZ, DURATION: 30:15]

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**ATTACHMENT - B**

**SCANNED COPY OF SKETCH DRAWN BY  
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