

Briefing:

At approximately 2341 hours, we attended a briefing held by Lt. Zack Bales #4009 at the William J. Kinney Police Facility. Present at the briefing were multiple SPD Detectives as well as members of their Management Team and Internal Affairs Division. The shooting officer was identified as Matt Nichols #636, a 17-year veteran of the police department. The witnessing officers consisted of Officers Guraydin #948, Dyson #694, Dequattro #957, Casteneda #743, Hernandez #875, Phelan #927, and K-9 Officer Yasonia #577. All witnessing officers have been on the department between one and nine years.

Synopsis of Incident:

At approximately 2129 hours, K-9 Officer Yasonia was working "backfill" as a patrol unit, in his standard K-9 BDU Uniform, driving a marked black and white K-9 police vehicle. Officer Yasonia voiced over the radio that "someone was trying to ram the back gate at Kinney." The vehicle was described as a 1988 Chevy Stake Truck. It drove through the closed iron gate on the north side and rammed a marked police vehicle parked along the curb and continued through the parking lot. Multiple officers gave chase on foot after the suspect vehicle as Officer Yasonia drove behind him southbound through the parking lot. The vehicle rammed the south gate of the police facility, exiting the police property and into the wrought iron gate at [REDACTED] Rosalind St. The suspect (solo occupant) exited the vehicle and Officer Yasonia sent his K-9 Reno to apprehend him. The suspect was able to fight the dog off a couple times. Officer Matt Nichols fired four shots at the suspect. The suspect fled over a fence. Officer Yasonia noticed his dog was bleeding and immediately transported him to an emergency vet clinic in Rancho Cordova.

After fleeing, the suspect banged on the door to the residence of [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Sheldon. [REDACTED] opened the door to find a sweaty and bloody suspect holding a pipe demanding help. [REDACTED] got in a fight with the suspect who hit Federwitz with the pipe. The suspect locked [REDACTED] out of his house, was able to get the keys to his vehicle in the driveway, and exited holding the pipe and a cooking pan. He attempted to leave in the victim's vehicle when Officers Jensen and McDonald arrived. The suspect was holding the pipe in his hand and didn't comply with their verbal commands. The officers tackled him and "drive stunned" him as he reached under his body. The suspect was taken into custody.

SUSPECT:

Fernando Sanchez 2/19/75, XREF: 1861596. Driving 1988 Chevy PU CA lic# 17309D2, registered to him at 2800 Perktel St in Sacramento.

Transferred to UCDMC by Medic 20 with apparent gunshot wounds to the right thigh. List in critical condition and expected to survive.

Canvass:

A neighborhood canvass was conducted of the area. No video surveillance or witnesses to the incident were located outside of the law enforcement personnel.

Statements:

All witnessing officers were interviewed by Sacramento Police Detectives. We were provided one television to monitor the interviews so not every interview of the witnessing officers was monitored. Most witnesses heard the shots but did not see who was shooting at the time or what was being shot at.

Witness Officer Zack Yasonia #577 – Sworn Officer for 9 years. Prior Field Training Officer, currently assigned to K-9 unit. Certified Range Master and Defensive Tactics/Use of Force Instructor.

I was in full SPD K-9 Officer Uniform which consists of a 5.11 uniform, SPD Patches, fabric badge, as well as my last name and “K-9” on it. I was driving a fully marked SPD canine unit. I was working “backfill” as a patrol unit, but still had my K-9 partner with me as is customary whenever I work a backfill shift.

I was northbound Marysville Blvd at Los Robles stopped at a red light in the number one lane. I observed the suspect vehicle stopped in front of me. It was stopped over the line into the number 2 lane. We continued northbound and it veered into the number two lane almost hitting the vehicle next to him. He began driving erratically, speeding up and swerving. He made a sharp right hand turn onto South Ave. His tires screeched and his back right tire smoked. He drove into the oncoming lane of traffic. I activated my overhead lights and thought I was going to get into a pursuit. The vehicle sped up and turned into the Kinney driveway. The gate was closed and he accelerated and smashed through the gate at about 40 mph.

There was a squad car parked along the north curbline and he intentionally swerved to the right and hit the car. I advised dispatch that someone was here to harm us. He continued southbound and I could see officers running towards us. I didn't know if he was trying to run us over or was going to jump out and shoot. I could see a police car (he believed Officers Castaneda and Hernandez were in it) driving eastbound through the parking lot ahead of us. The guy sped up to try and hit the police car. I was thinking this guy is here to kill cops. The vehicle sped up and drove through the back gate at about 30-40 mph then through the gate of the house across the street. I stopped behind the truck. The driver exited and walked toward the back of the truck. His right hand was up in the area and his left hand was lower with an unknown object in it. He was a Male Hispanic and seemed to have an angry and frustrated look on his face.

I don't remember him saying anything. He started going back to the front of the truck. I knew he hadn't been searched yet so I deployed my canine partner Reno. I went to my back door and the suspect came toward the back of the truck. I opened the door and Reno went toward the suspect. The suspect went to the front of the truck out of view and Reno chased him. I could hear someone yell “stop fighting the dog” then I heard 4-7 “pop” sounds. Someone put out “shots fired” on the radio.

I called my dog back and told people not to shoot. After several commands Reno came running back to me. I could see he was injured and bleeding profusely from the side. I put him in my car and drove off to take him to the vet. I realized I couldn't provide him care while I was driving so I drove back to the scene to have someone help me. I got my trauma kit out to provide care to Reno and had Officer

Hernandez drive me to the VCA on Bradshaw. The vet said he had two large lacerations on the right side.

I did not see the officer that fired their weapon and I didn't know if the suspect got hit. My handgun was out but I did not fire any rounds.

Shooting Officer Matt Nichols #636 - Sworn officer for 17 years. Currently assigned to Patrol. Prior assignments included POP, Detectives, and Crime Suppression Unit.

Weapon – Sig Sauer P226, 40 caliber. 4 rounds fired

Round count – one in chamber plus 8 rounds in magazine in gun. Spare magazines both had 12 rounds.

I was in full police uniform with my duty belt that carries my gun, ammunition, radio, taser, O.C., and handcuffs. I was also wearing a body worn camera.

Roll call was over and I was standing on the east side of the building with my fiancée. I could hear a car screeching onto South Ave from Marysville Blvd and could see police lights. I saw a full size white Chevy truck with rails on the bed drive eastbound South Ave and crash through the gates. It scared me and I was in shock. The truck accelerated and hit a police car and pushed it about 50 feet. The suspect vehicle slowed down and I ran towards it. I paralleled it on foot as a police car was driving behind it. I didn't notice any other officers around at this time. The suspect kept going and I couldn't catch up to it.

There was a police car driving perpendicular to the suspect and I heard someone say "Get out of the way!" The suspect vehicle veered toward the police car at about 30 mph but the officers were able to avoid him. The suspect drove through another wrought iron gate across the street into a house gate that rolls. I activated my body worn camera and turned my radio on. The vehicle stopped and I ran up and saw Officer Yasonia exit his vehicle. He deployed his K-9 partner and the dog ran towards the suspect. I went to the west side by the fence and heard someone yell, "He's getting bit." I could see the dog latched on to the suspect's left arm. I don't recall him making any comments or sounds when the dog was biting him. I thought he was on drugs because his pain tolerance was incredible. I told him to get his hands up. The suspect looked right at me and I told him to get on the ground. He reached behind him with his right arm and came towards me with a metal object in his hand. I could see it protruding from his hand. The suspect saw I had my gun out. The way he brought his arm out so fast, I thought he had a gun in his hand. I feared for myself and my partner and I immediately fired four times at him. I was thinking there was no way he was going to pull a knife out at me from ten yards away if I had a gun on him.

I could see the guy. He was a M/H with dark hair, gray plaid shirt, tan shorts, about 5-8, 150 pounds. He ran southbound through the gate. I stayed by the fence for a perimeter position. I saw Reno run back to Zack and he said the dog had been hit. I was upset I thought I shot one of our dogs. I helped him with the wounds and then he transported his dog. Someone put out they were wrestling with the suspect at █████ Sheldon. I ran over there and saw Officer Jensen wrestling with him. Officer McDonald had his taser out and I could hear it activating. It didn't appear to be having an effect on the guy. I grabbed the

suspect's wrist. Officer Jensen got his other wrist and we were able to take him into custody. I asked for Code 3 fire as they provided medical care.