



# MEMORANDUM

SACRAMENTO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

ANNE MARIE SCHUBERT  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**DATE:** January 20, 2021

**TO:** Deputy District Attorney Charles Gonzalez

**FROM:** Criminal Investigators Laura Chase #21 and Dan Schiele #29

**SUBJECT:** Officer involved shooting (SSD 21-15251)  
Detective James Crouson #585 (GNG25)  
Detective Sgt. Lizardo Guzman #28  
Kershawn Geiger, DOB: 07-02-95 (Xref: 4488925) Deceased  
Passenger [REDACTED]

**Criminal Investigator: L. Chase**

## NOTIFICATION

On 01-15-21 (Friday), at approx. 2110 Hrs, I, DA Investigator Chase #21 and Schiele #29 were advised there was an officer involved shooting with the Sacramento Sheriff's Department. We were advised that one deputy had been shot in the stomach and was currently in surgery. We were told that it was still an active scene and there may be two subjects barricaded inside an apartment. We were requested to respond to the command post located behind the strip mall at Manzanita Ave and Winding Way in Carmichael. We arrived at approximately 2235 Hrs.

## BRIEFING

At 2255 Hrs, a briefing was conducted by Sacramento Sheriff's department detectives and deputies. Det. Frizzie (GNG29) advised that at 1824 Hrs, he and other Gang detectives responded to a Shotspotter activation at an apartment complex located at [REDACTED] 50<sup>th</sup> Ave in Sacramento. Shotspotter had alerted to 5 gunshots and then 18 more gunshots fired. Detectives arrived and there were no subjects on scene. They found a large amount of expended shell casings in the parking lot. Detectives reviewed video surveillance and saw a large brawl with 15-20 subjects and 9 different subjects firing guns. Detectives located a Kia Soul vehicle on the surveillance and saw three armed subjects and one non-armed subject get into the vehicle. They obtained a license plate off of the surveillance [REDACTED] for the Kia which returned as a rental vehicle. They conducted follow-up with the rental company and with the LEARN database. The renter was [REDACTED] and she was associated with a subject Kershawn Geiger, X-4488925 who was on PRCS. Geiger had a listed address of [REDACTED] Mary Lynn Lane [REDACTED] Carmichael. The LEARN check for the Kia returned a stationary scan on 01/14/21 at [REDACTED] Mary Lynn Lane. Sgt. Guzman and Det. Crouson located the vehicle and set up on surveillance. Other Gang Units started to their location to assist. Frizzie advised that Crouson and Guzman advised on the radio

that there were two subjects who put a bag into the Kia and then got into a Camaro [REDACTED]. He said they voiced that they were going to detain them and then voiced that there were shots fired. Frizzie advised that the deceased subject was Kershawn Geiger, 7/2/95, X-4488925. He advised that the passenger in his vehicle was his brother and was detained. [REDACTED]. At the time of briefing, [REDACTED] was uncooperative and declined to give a statement except to say there was a female and a child in the apartment.

Deputy Oliver advised he and Lloyd were first on scene at 2022 Hrs. He advised they handcuffed the driver and assisted Crouson who had been shot. They transported Crouson to Mercy San Juan Hospital.

Deputies Russell and Lara arrived on scene. They observed Sgt. Guzman with a subject who he had at gunpoint. The subject was a black male adult wearing a red sweatshirt.

Deputy Romero arrived on scene. She took 3 photos of the handcuffed subject (deceased) and the proximity of the gun next to him on the ground.

Deputy Penwell #1093 (49C1) conducted a canvass and spoke with [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Rampart Way. [REDACTED] advised that she heard 10-13 gunshots and looked out her back patio. She saw a suspect lying on the ground. [REDACTED] then started to video record. Penwell advised that there were two videos on her phone. One was about 1 min and the other was two minutes. Deputies took [REDACTED] phone to obtain the evidence.

#### DETECTIVE CROUSON INJURIES

Detective Crouson was transported to Mercy San Juan Hospital by officers. He had a gunshot wound to his abdomen hitting his intestines. Crouson had surgery to repair his intestines. The bullet was lodged close to his spine and has not been removed. As of the 01-17-21 Crouson would stay in Mercy San Juan for approx. 1-2 weeks.

#### ROUND COUNT

Homicide Detective Rob Peters told me that Sergeant Guzman's handgun had 1 in the chamber and 12 in the magazine for a total of 13 rounds. He said that the magazine holds 17 at capacity and 1 in the chamber. He told me that Sergeant Guzman would have fired 5 rounds if fully loaded. Detective Peters said that both extra magazines were loaded with 17 in the magazines.

Detective Peters told me that Detective Crouson had a Glock 17, Gen 4, 9 mm handgun with a Taclight. He told me that Detective Crouson had 1 round in the chamber and 1 round in the magazine for 2 rounds. He said that Detective Crouson would have fired 16 rounds if fully loaded. Detective Peters told me that they had not yet obtained Detective Crouson's extra magazines.

#### WALKTHROUGH

We were not able to conduct a walk-through of the scene during the call out. The scene was still active with possible armed subjects inside the suspect's apartment. Detectives were writing a search warrant and then they were going to utilize SWAT to clear the apartment.

On 01/17/21, Detective Peters showed me some pictures of the scene and I spoke with another detective about the vehicle placements.

Rampart Drive runs south from Winding Way and then makes a sharp curve and continues in an easterly direction. Mary Lynn Lane runs south from Rampart Drive and is the address for the Crestview North Apartments. The complex borders Rampart Dr and Mary Lynn Lane. Along Rampart Drive there were patios and balconies for apartments that were on both side of the street. That apartment complex was the suspect's listed address.

The original suspect vehicle (Kia Soul) was parked on Rampart Drive in front of the Crestview North Complex. It was facing eastbound. The suspect vehicle (Blue Camaro) was parked a couple car lengths from the Kia also facing in an eastbound direction.

In the pictures, Detective Sergeant Guzman's vehicle (Ford F150 truck) was parked in front of the Camaro facing in a south westerly direction. Detective Crouson's Toyota Sienna mini van was parked to the rear of the Camaro facing in a south westerly direction.

I observed the Camaro with the driver's side door open and a subject lying on his back on the pavement. His head was facing to the west with his legs to the east. There was a handgun next to him. I was told that the handgun was a Taurus 40 pro with a 10-round magazine. I was told that there was an empty cartridge in the chamber that was a misfeed and did not eject properly. I was also told that there were approx. 3 additional rounds in the magazine, but unknown for sure since it had not been processed for DNA and prints.

#### INTERVIEW(S)

On 01/17/21, at 1000 Hrs., I, DA Investigator Chase responded to the Sacramento Sheriff's Central Investigation Division at 4400 Auburn Blvd, to monitor the interview with Detective Sergeant Guzman. Homicide Detectives Neil Clanton #61 and Lauren Milton #140 conducted the interview. There were two attorneys from Mastagni's office present.

#### SERGEANT L. GUZMAN #28 (Gang Suppression Unit Sergeant - 18 years SSD)

At 10:51 AM, I monitored Det. Sgt. GUZMAN'S interview and he stated the following in summary:

Sergeant Guzman was hired by SSD in December of 2002. He had worked as a Deputy in patrol, the branch jail, and then investigations where he worked as a Gang Detective for 5 years. Sergeant Guzman worked as a Sergeant in the jail, communications center and as the academy director for 2 1/5 years. In September of 2020, Sergeant Guzman became the South Gang Suppression Sergeant.

Sergeant Guzman's shift varies depending on the need of the department and the community. He is currently working 1100 Hrs. – 2100 Hrs.

Sergeant Guzman had just qualified at the range the day of the incident on 01/15/21.

Sergeant Guzman was wearing a black sweatshirt. Over the sweatshirt he had on a county issued tactical raid vest. He said that there was a badge on the right side and a patch to the left that said Sheriff. He said that there was a large patch on the back of the vest that said Sheriff, Gang Suppression Unit. He was wearing green 5-11 tac pants and black Oakley boots. CSI took photos of his uniform.

Sergeant Guzman was carrying a Gen 5 Glock 17 – 9mm handgun. It was department issued with no modifications. He said that he had a 17-round magazine with 1 round in the chamber.

Sergeant Guzman was driving a county unmarked Ford F150 truck, gray in color. The truck had a fixed solid red light and flashing blue lights in the grill. There were flashing strobe lights in the headlights. The truck was equipped with a mounted radio. There was not an In-Car Camera in the truck.

Sergeant Guzman said that his detective team was at the range and was just leaving when they heard a call for service. The call was a Shot Spotter activation at the Sun Valley Apartments on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 47<sup>th</sup> Street. He said that the call stated there was a white vehicle leaving at a high rate of speed and there were 2 vehicles chasing it. He said that the call stated there were about 40 gunshots heard and people running. Sergeant Guzman said that the Sun Valley Apartments were known to them to be plagued with gang activity. He said that it was known to have GMobb gang members as well as 29<sup>th</sup> Street Crip gang members at the apartment complex.

Detectives responded to the Sun Valley apartments and began investigating and viewing video surveillance. They advised that there were at least 45 expended casings at the scene with several vehicles hit by bullets. Detectives said that there were 9 separate shooters observed in video surveillance. The shooting stemmed from a fight and the loser in the fight was seen leaving the area in a vehicle and firing shots. Several others were shooting back at that vehicle.

Detectives identified a Kia Soul as being involved. They observed 3 armed subjects and one non-armed subjects get into the vehicle. The subjects were identified as black males in their 20's to early 30's. The detectives obtained a license plate to the Kia and conducted follow up. It returned to a Hertz rental vehicle, so they contacted the rental agency. Sgt. Guzman said that the renter was a female and they obtained a male associate of the renter.

Sgt. Guzman advised that the associate who was identified was a validated gang member who was on active PRCS and had a gun history. He had a current address off of Mary Lynn Lane. Detectives ran LPR (LEARN) on the vehicle and found a fixed scan on the vehicle off of Mary Lynn Lane.

Sgt Guzman advised that he would go to the location and conduct surveillance. Detective Crouson said that he would assist Sergeant Guzman. Guzman advised that he located the Kia on the south side of Rampart east of Mary Lynn Lane. He said that he was communicating with other detectives on the Narc 2 SSD Channel.

Detectives Stafford and Fitch advised they would start to the location to assist. Sergeant Guzman asked Fitch to create a new CAD call with the new location information and to add him and Crouson to the call.

Sergeant Guzman said that he directed Crouson to a closer location on the north side of Rampart just east of the Kia Soul. He had just issued Crouson night vision equipment and asked him to get into the back of his van and see if he could locate the suspect apartment or see anyone.

Shortly after setting up, Crouson advised that he saw 2 black males exiting the corridor of the apartment. He said that one male had a bag and the Kia was being unlocked. Guzman said that he saw the lights flash from the Kia as if it was being unlocked. He said that he saw silhouettes of two males. He was relying on Crouson for details since he was further away. Sgt. Guzman said that he heard Crouson say that they put a bag into the Kia and secured the vehicle. Guzman said he saw the lights flash on the Kia as it was being locked. He said that Crouson advised that the males were walking to a Camaro that was parked on Rampart. Sgt. Guzman said that he thought the subjects had just placed evidence inside of the Kia, so they could not be connected to the evidence. He told Crouson that they needed to detain the two subjects for the shooting investigation and did not want the Camaro to go into a pursuit to endanger the community or for the subjects to get away. Guzman said that he directed Crouson they would make contact with the subjects once they were seated in the vehicle. Sgt. Guzman said that he would contact the passenger and Crouson would contact the driver.

Crouson told Guzman when to go to the vehicle. Sgt. Guzman said that he had his fog lights and high beams on when he approached in his vehicle. He also had his flashing lights on the truck. He approached driving west bound and parked in front of the of the Camaro. Sgt. Guzman said that he then turned off his lights, so he was able to see and not be blinded. Crouson pulled to the rear of the Camaro. Sgt. Guzman said that he got out of his vehicle and yelled "Sheriff's Department, show me your hands. Sheriff's Department, show me your hands." He said that both the driver and passenger had their hands in the air. Sgt. Guzman said that he went to the rear of the Camaro at the back panel.

Sgt. Guzman said that he then heard Crouson yelling, "gun, gun, gun. Put the gun down." And he heard gunshots. Guzman looked through the pass window and saw the body of the driver out of the car. He said that he saw him facing toward the back of the car with both arms extended like in a shooting position. Sgt. Guzman said that he shot through the pass side window. He said that he shot 4 – 5 rounds toward the driver. Sgt. Guzman said he saw the driver then fall out of the car and onto his back. He saw the gun fall to the ground. Sgt. Guzman said that he thought the driver was going to kill Crouson so he fired.

Sgt. Guzman said the passenger window was shattered. He said he opened the passenger door to check to see if the passenger was okay since he didn't want to hit him. The passenger was telling him "don't shoot, don't shoot. I have a gun." He asked where the gun was, and the passenger said that it was in his waist band. He told him not to fucking move.

Sgt. Guzman said he heard 3 more shots from the rear of the car. He heard Crouson say that he had been shot so he went to Crouson. Guzman said that Crouson was on his back with his gun still pointed down range. He saw the suspect on the ground with a handgun about 6" from his hand. Sgt. Guzman said he was still trying to also watch the passenger with the gun in his waistband. Crouson told Guzman he was shot in his chest and his legs. Sgt. Guzman asked for the fire department and advised that Crouson had been shot. He was feeling around Crouson's legs and did not feel any wetness. Crouson said that his chest hurt. Sgt. Guzman said that he felt wetness on Crouson's abdomen so he put pressure on it. Sgt. Guzman said that he could see the suspect still looking at the gun.

Sgt. Guzman said that he took Crouson's gun and holstered it in Guzman's holster. Sgt. Jibelli arrived and dragged Crouson out to the car. Sgt. Guzman said that he then went to the passenger and took the gun out of the passenger's waistband and dropped it on the floor board of the car. He then removed the passenger from the car and proned him out on the grass. He waited for units to arrive and cuff the passenger. He could see that the driver had stopped breathing. The next unit cuffed the driver and then the next unit handcuffed the passenger.

Sgt. Guzman said that detectives were on the Narc 2 channel inside of their vehicle, but that he had transferred to the main Channel 2 on his portable radio. When he approached the vehicle, he could see that the subjects were black males, medium to small build.

He said that he and Crouson were in the area only about 5 minutes before the subjects got into the vehicle. Sgt. Guzman said that the Camaro was parked closer to Mary Lynn and that the Kia was parked east of the Camaro. They were both parked on the south side of the street facing east bound. He said that when they approached the Camaro both subject had their hands in the air and were initially compliant.

Sergeant Guzman said that after the scene was safe he took Crouson's gun and put it on the front seat of his truck to secure it and had his own gun in his holster.

DETECTIVE J. CROUSON #

Detective Crouson has not yet been interviewed due to his injuries. SSD Homicide will advise when the interview will take place.