WALNUT CREEK PD GENERAL OFFENSE HARDCOPY

GO 2008-6605 (PENDING TO I)

01 - 000 PC 187 HOMICIDE

The house was well furnished with a lot of personal property scattered throughout. Refer to scene photos for details.

The laundryroom entry door swings inward and toward the north wall. Along the northwest wall is a washer and dryer below overhead cabinets. A closet is in the southeast corner of the laundryroom. Its door swings north and towards the entry door (east). A counter atop cabinets is west of the closet. There is a cut out with a dog cage inserted in the southwest corner. Mounted cabinets are above the counter. There is a window in the center of the west wall.

See digital photos for details of the property in the laundryroom.

Related text page(s)

Document: INVESTIGATION

Author: P377 - HOPKINS, BETH Related date/time: Mar-21-2008

On 3/20/08 just after 1032 hours, I responded to 1110 Boulevard Wy to assist in this investigation. My initial role was holding a perimeter point on the northwest corner of the property. Once the scene was secured, I worked as a member of the Crime Scene Investigation team.

The CSI team included Sergeant J. Hill, Ofc K. Gerstner, Ofc D. Rangel, and Property Clerk K. Current. The team began by walking the exterior of the residence as Ofc Gerstner took digital photos. Upon his later arrival, I learned from Sergeant Tetzloff, a participant in the SWAT entry, that the master bedroom sliding door and plantation shutters had been found open. The SWAT team had moved them to the closed position we were now observing in the process of securing the residence. Sgt Tetzloff also advised that several photos had fallen off the hallway wall as SWAT moved through and the robot caused damage to the hallway bathroom door.

We noted a metal cover had been removed from an exterior electrical box on the east wall of the garage near the north corner. Ofc Rangel later dusted the area for fingerprints. See his report for further. I collected a mostly empty Aquafina 1 liter water bottle (Item #29777-4) from the hood of a white GMC pickup (CA/7R09487) in the driveway.

Using a line search technique, we searched the back yard for evidence. An expended bullet (Item #29777-1) was located on the cement patio in the area off the livingroom and bedroom sliding door decks. An empty casing (Item #29777-2) was located on the deck leading to the livingroom sliding door. An intact round of ammunition (Item #29777-3) was found on the lawn next to the cement walkway just north of the cottage. Refer to the crime scene sketch.

Also noted in the rear yard was what appeared to be fresh damage to the wood railing of the deck leading in and out of the livingroom sliding door. In line with this damage was what appeared to be fresh damage to the brick chimney perpendicular to the railing. I believed this damage to be fresh because there were wood slivers precariously perched on the railing and red brick chips on the desk below the damage. I also notice red dust consistent with the other brick chips on the screen door. This mark was similar to a scuff type mark. All of this was in close proximity to the expended bullet found on the cement patio. I believed, from my training and experience,

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that a bullet had caused the damage to the railing and chimney. Using a trajectory rod, I noted the item that caused the damage came up at an angle from a southeast direction. See Ofc Gerstner's photos for further detail.

I measured the exterior of the crime scene with PA Current's assistance. I later created several crime scene sketches. All measurements were approximates.

Sergeant Tetzloff, Detectives McColgin and Jower arrived and briefed the CSI team. We entered the house together to view the interior crime scene. Refer to crime scene description. We determined the following rooms were directly involved in the crime scene; the front entry, the hallway, the laundryroom, and the master bedroom. I measured these areas for a sketch. The rest of the interior is a rough sketch.

The detectives mentioned a witness believed the suspect had dark sunglasses. I collected a pair of black sunglasses with a cross logo on the side pieces from on top of the dining table just inside the sliding door (Item #29777-5).

Ofc Rangel processed several areas for fingerprints. See his report for further. Ofc Gerstner took digital photos and collected swabs. See her report for further.

I found two empty casings (Items #29777-6 and #29777-7) on the floor in the hallway near the laundryroom. Ofc Gerstner photographed the items before I collected them.

Due to the position of the victim's body, I was not able to gain access to the laundryroom. The entry door was split in half horizontally just below the door knob. The lower half was bowed towards the hallway with the victim on his right side. His head and back were parallel and against the door with his legs essentially perpendicular to the entry door. The victim was in a large pool of blood that was coagulating and seeping under the entry door into the hallway. The upper half of the entry door was open and against the north wall. I could see three holes in the entry door and one hole in the closet door that were consistent with bullet holes. I noted two scuff type marks dug into the hardwood floor in the center of the room and near the west wall as well as a damage to the sheetrock just below the window. Based on my training and experience, I believed all of the marks to be a result of gunfire.

The coroner arrived to remove the victim. We extracted the entry door by removing the hinge pins. Once the lower half of the door was removed, I could see an expended bullet (Item #29777-8) on the floor near the victim's right arm. I also saw an empty casing (Item #29777-9) near the victim's abdomen and right thigh. These two items were in the large pool of blood. I collected both of these items after the coroner removed the victim. I collected an empty casing (Item #29777-10) on the floor of the laundryroom next to the dog cage.

I searched the laundryroom closet and discovered damage to the shelving consistent with the bullet hole in the closet door. I located an expended bullet (Item #29777-11) on the third shelf. It appeared to have traveled through two washcloths and a bag of dog food before coming to rest on the shelf.

I assisted in removing the two pieces of the entry door and the closet