

Investigative Synopsis of the Officer Involved Death (OID) of Nengmy Vang

On Wednesday, March 22, 2017, the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) received a request from the Marathon Co. Sheriff's Office, the Rothschild Police Department and the Everest Metro Police Department to respond to the scene of an officer involved death/shooting at 4911 Aspen St in the Village of Weston, WI. In addition, DCI was requested to investigate the related shootings/homicides located at the Marathon Savings Bank, in the Village of Rothschild WI, and the law firm of Tlusty, Kennedy and Dirks located in the City of Schofield WI.

At approximately 12:58 p.m., the Rothschild Police Department was dispatched to the Marathon Savings Bank located at 1133 E. Grand Ave in the Village of Rothschild for a report of an active shooter who shot two bank employees.

Upon arrival, officers received additional information from a third bank employee who had escaped from the bank who identified the shooter as Nengmy Vang and that he operated a black Honda Civic or Accord and was believed to be armed with a handgun.

At approximately 1:06 p.m. a second 911 call reported a shooting of an attorney at the law offices of Tlusty, Kennedy and Dirks located at 1155 Grand Ave. in Schofield, WI. Law enforcement was advised the suspect was operating a black Honda Civic with license plate 317SEA and the suspect was an older Hmong male and had left the law firm.

Shortly after 1:00 p.m. Detective Sgt. Daniel Goff of the Everest Metro Police Department observed the suspect in a black Honda Civic traveling east on Ross Ave. at Alderson St in the Village of Weston. Detective Sgt. Goff began to follow the suspect with lights and siren. The suspect accelerated to approximately 70 m.p.h. in a 35 m.p.h. zone. The suspect was followed to the parking lot of 4911 Aspen St. Detective Sgt. Goff lost visual contact with the suspect/vehicle due to numerous other vehicles and obstructions. Detective Sgt. Goff set up cover with his unmarked patrol vehicle to the northwest of 4911 Aspen St.

As law enforcement officers responded to the Aspen St. address and began setting up a perimeter, Detective Sgt. Goff observed the barrel of a rifle cross the threshold of a lower window sill from the building at 4911 Aspen St. The rifle was aimed to the southwest towards other officers who were deploying, setting up the perimeter. Detective Sgt. Goff heard a gunshot. Detective Sgt. Goff returned fire, shooting two times towards the suspect with his patrol rifle.

Detective Jason Weiland was shot by the suspect and sustained a fatal wound to the head. Additional SWAT team members with various agencies responded to the scene while negotiations took place with the suspect via a 911 phone call being received by the Marathon County Sheriff's Dispatch. SWAT team members utilized an armored vehicle to rescue Detective Weiland.

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The decision was made to utilize two armored vehicles to open up the west wall of the apartment unit the suspect was located in. That decision was made to prevent further injury/death of law enforcement personnel. As the armored vehicles began to pull the west exterior wall down, the suspect fired towards the west at a sniper team. Deputy Matthew Bell of the Marathon Co. Sheriff's Office was positioned in the turret of one of the armored vehicles. Deputy Bell returned fire at the suspect with Bell's AR-15 rifle. Deputy Bell stated he emptied his magazine for his rifle.

After no more movement was observed, the SWAT team eventually located the suspect on the ground and made entry into the apartment, taking the suspect into custody. The suspect was provided emergency medical attention and transported to an area hospital.

The suspect was later identified as Nangmy Vang. Vang died several days later at a hospital as a result of his injuries.

Numerous DCI agents responded to the scene. Special Agents (SA): Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Michael Sasse supervised the OID investigation. Special Agent Adam Frederick was the lead investigator. S/A Raymond Gibbs was the second investigator. The Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory (WSCL) collected evidence from the scenes and the Wisconsin State Patrol Traffic Reconstruction Unit (WSP TRU) assisted with the investigation/created a scene diagram. The Office of Crime Victim Services assisted in the investigation.

Family members of Nengmy Vang were identified and a death notification was made by DCI. Wisconsin Crime Victim Services forms were also provided to the family.

DCI agents Adam Frederick and S/A Raymond Gibbs interviewed involved Detective Sgt. Daniel Goff and Deputy Matthew Bell on 03/25/2017.

A neighborhood canvass, conducted by DCI, provided additional information for the investigation.

An autopsy of Nengmy Vang was conducted at the Milwaukee Medical Examiner's Office on April 3, 2017 by Forensic Pathologist Dr. Brian Linert and was attended by DCI agent(s) Jones and Tijerino. The autopsy revealed:

- Vang had 11 gunshot wounds throughout his body
- Vang died as a result of injuries sustained from the shooting

On 07/17/2017, Special Agent (S/A) Mike Reimer received the final autopsy results for Nengmy Vang from Jessica Blahnik, the Marathon Co. Medical Examiner.

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The report indicated Vang was pronounced dead at 1:28 p.m. on 04/01/2017 by Dr. Kristopher Lahren of Aspirus Hospital in Wausau, WI. The autopsy was conducted on 04/03/2017 at 10:30 a.m. by Dr. Brian Linert at the Milwaukee Co. Medical Examiner's Office.

The report indicated the cause of death as complications of multiple gunshot wounds.

A completed investigative file will be turned over to Assistant Attorney General Roy Korte of the Wisconsin Department of Justice for review.