

Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI

Investigative 18-226/39

Report Date: 01/29/2018

Primary Information

Description: **OID Synopsis Report**
Occurrence From: **01/29/2018 00:00**
Occurrence To: **01/29/2018 00:00**
Reporting LEO: **Fernandez, Lourdes (Madison Special Assignments DCI / Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI)**
Approval Status: **Approved**
Approved Date: **01/30/2018**
Approved By: **Engels, James D (DCI Administrative Services / Wisconsin Department of Justice DCI)**

Subjects

| <u>Relationship</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Bio</u> | <u>DOB</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Law Enforcement | Jefferson County Sheriff's Department (Law Enforcement Agency) | | --- |
| Law Enforcement | Drayna, David (Law Enforcement Official) | White, Male | --- |
| Law Enforcement | Farley, Patrick (Law Enforcement Official) | | --- |
| Law Enforcement | Gosh, Michael (Law Enforcement Official) | | --- |
| Law Enforcement | Handrow, Chad (Law Enforcement Official) | | --- |
| Law Enforcement | Schroeder, Steven (Law Enforcement Official) | | --- |
| Deceased | Chaney, Mark A (Person) | 47 yr. old, White, Male | ██████████ |

Narrative begins on the following page.

Investigative Synopsis of the Officer Involved Death (OID) of Mark A. Chaney

On Sunday, January 14, 2018, at approximately 4:20 p.m., the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) received a request from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (JESO) to respond to the scene of an officer-involved death investigation at 130 Main Street, Apt. 2E in Sullivan, Jefferson County, Wisconsin.

On Sunday, January 14, 2018, at approximately 1:59 p.m., the Jefferson County Communications Center received a 911 call from a subject who initially identified himself as "Gary". The caller stated that he had been poisoned and he felt something in his veins. The dispatcher initially sent Jefferson County Deputy Gosh and Deputy Farley to 130 Main Street, Apt. 2E to check the welfare complaint. The male suspect was later identified as Mark A. Chaney.

Jefferson County Deputy Schroeder arrived as backup to 130 Main Street around the same time Deputies Gosh and Farley arrived. As Deputies approached the apartment building, a male subject, later positively identified as Chaney was leaning out of an apartment window and said something similar to, "I will be dead soon anyway" or, "I will die soon anyway."

As Deputies approached the apartment, Chaney unlocked the door and opened it from inside the apartment. Chaney backed away from the door into the living room. Chaney had a knife in his left hand. Deputies instructed Chaney to put the knife down. Deputies told Chaney they were there to help him. Chaney refused to put the knife down and was pacing back and forth in the apartment. Chaney told the deputies that he was on medication and that he had not taken his medication in a long time. Deputies continued to communicate with Chaney, directing him to put the knife down. During the deputies' initial contact with Chaney, all of their duty handguns remained in their holsters as they did not want to escalate the situation and cause Chaney to become more agitated.

Chaney held the knife point to his upper left chest around the area of his heart and stated, "Like this?" Chaney also held the knife in his right hand and did mock slashes to his left wrist and stated again, "Like this?" Chaney also held the knife out from his side on a couple of occasions as if he wanted to or was going to drop the knife.

Jefferson County Deputy Drayna and Sergeant Handrow also arrived at the apartment building as back up. Sergeant Handrow was aware of Chaney's mental illness and in his past interactions with Chaney had been able to establish a good rapport with him. Sergeant Handrow made his way to the threshold of the apartment door, which was open. He saw that Chaney had a knife with a three or four inch blade, which he held in his right hand.

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Sergeant Handrow was approximately fifteen feet away from Chaney. He calmly attempted to talk with Chaney, in an attempt to de-escalate the situation. Chaney got agitated and began talking over Sergeant Handrow.

Chaney continued pacing within the apartment. Chaney walked to a storage area, where he reached in to hide his right hand from view. As Sergeant Handrow asked Chaney to put the knife down, Chaney denied having a knife. Sergeant Handrow continued speaking with Chaney in a calm voice in hopes of not provoking him, but Chaney was disturbed and upset.

Chaney retrieved the knife again and moved it quickly back and forth in front of himself in a slashing motion. Chaney also put the blade of the knife to his left wrist, to his neck and then to the inside thigh portion of his left leg.

An attempt to utilize a taser on Chaney was unsuccessful. Chaney moved into a hallway within the apartment. As Deputies entered the apartment, Chaney ran to a bedroom and closed the door. Deputies attempted to open the bedroom door, but it was obvious that the door had been barricaded.

Deputy Gosh could hear what sounded like a grunt type noise come from within the door. He then heard from inside the bedroom Chaney say something to the effect, "You are too late. I have already stabbed myself three times." As Deputies gained entry into the bedroom they saw Chaney sitting on the floor with his back toward the doorway a couple of feet from the opening of the door. Deputy Drayna deployed his taser at that time. It appeared that the taser struck Chaney in the back. As deputies attempted to place Chaney in handcuff's he was resistive and his right arm was tense.

Chaney was placed in a seated position. Deputies noticed that his t-shirt was soaked, and also observed a piece of skin missing from Chaney's left leg. After deputies identified blood coming from a wound in the chest, Deputy Schroeder ran to his squad to retrieve a medical kit, and deputies initiated first aid for Chaney until EMS (Emergency Medical Services), who were nearby, responded to the location. Based on the extent of the injury, lifesaving efforts were ceased and Chaney was pronounced deceased at the scene.

DCI responded to the scene with nine Special Agents – S/As Fernandez, De La Rosa, Holmes, Mansavage, Lenzner, Hatch, Pertzborn, Parkhurst, Liethen and Special Agent in Charge Crowe. SA Fernandez was assigned as the lead investigator, and SA De La Rosa was assigned as the secondary investigator. The Wisconsin State Patrol Traffic Reconstruction Unit (WSP TRU) assisted with the investigation and created a scene diagram.

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Family members of Mark A. Chaney were identified and a death notification was made by DCI and the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office. Wisconsin Crime Victim Services forms were also provided to the family.

DCI SAs Fernandez and Holmes interviewed involved Sergeant Handrow and Deputy Gosh on January 16, 2018. In addition, SAs DeLaRosa and Pertzborn also interviewed involved deputies Drayna, Farley and Schroeder on the same date.

A neighborhood canvass was conducted by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; a total of approximately five people were interviewed during the neighborhood canvass.

Squad video and audio from a total of four squads was obtained and reviewed by DCI. Body cameras were worn by four of the responding deputies. No security cameras were located in the area.

Evidence from the investigation included one straight blade folding knife and two expended taser cartridges, a laptop, pair of eyeglasses, medical supplies, cell phone and suspected drug paraphernalia; all of the items recovered were placed into evidence.

An autopsy of Mark A. Chaney was conducted at the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office on January 15, 2018 by Milwaukee County Assistant Medical Examiner Brian S. Linert, and was attended by DCI SA Tijerino. As of this date the final autopsy report has not been received by DCI.

On Friday, February 2, 2018, the completed investigative file as of that date was turned over to District Attorney Susan V. Happ from the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office for review.