



# INCIDENT/INVESTIGATION REPORT

Sandy Springs Police Department

Case # 2016-012252

Status Codes 1 = None 2 = Burned 3 = Counterfeit / Forged 4 = Damaged / Vandalized 5 = Recovered 6 = Seized 7 = Stolen 8 = Unknown

	IBR	Status	Quantity	Type Measure	Suspected Type	
D R U G S						

Assisting Officers  
 VIK, N.C. (0104), CRUZ, A. (0139), LAPIDES, D.S. (0051), MCNABB, J.D. (0038)

Suspect Hate / Bias Motivated:

## INCIDENT/INVESTIGATION REPORT

Narr. (cont.) OCA: 2016-012252

Sandy Springs Police Department

**NARRATIVE**

I, unit N120, was dispatched to a call of a suspicious activity. "CHATCOMM", relayed information from a caller that someone notified them that their screen was removed from the window at the incident location and that the window was open. As I was arriving at the incident location, "CHATCOMM", advised that they were receiving another call, from the same caller, and that the caller advised that their son had possible committed suicide, via overdose.

Upon my arrival, I made contact with Ritch outside the incident location. At that time, Ritch was crying and advised that when she arrived, she looked through the open window and saw her son, Roth, in her bed, slumped over the nightstand and she feared that Roth was dead from a drug overdose. Ritch stated that she went into the incident location to put her dogs away, but she was afraid to go into her bedroom where Roth was supposed to be located. After being briefed by Ritch, I knocked on the bedroom door and called out to Roth, but got no response. After knocking and calling out again, with no response, I opened the door. At that time, I observed Roth laying in the bed, on his left side, and his head appeared to be laying on the nearby nightstand.

As I approached Roth, he was motionless and not responding to my voice. The bedroom had a low light, so I took out my flashlight and shined it in the direction of Roth as I approached. At that time, I noticed that Roth's right eye was shut and the eyelid was purple. There were no signs that Roth was breathing as I observed the blood running from his nose. Blood also appeared to be gushing from the side of Roth's face that was in contact with the nightstand. The blood was also running down the front of the nightstand onto the carpet. As I scanned the room, I noticed a rifle with a collapsible stock (stock not extended), laying on the floor near the bed. There was also a gun case, at least one magazine, and several loose bullets on the floor near the foot of the bed. During the scan/ walk through of the bedroom, no one else was located.

After observing Roth's condition, I requested an ambulance, then made contact with Sgt Lapides, unit N8, briefing him on Roth's condition, advising him that Roth was apparently dead. After notifying Sgt Lapides, I secured the immediate area and gathered information on Roth, via Ritch. Ritch was very distraught at that time, but during periodic moments of self control, she was able to advise me that Roth was a heroin user and that Roth did not live at the incident location. Ritch stated that she attempted to help Roth about a week ago by allowing him to stay at the incident location for a few days, until she found drug paraphernalia in one of his bags and she put him out. I asked Ritch what made her return to the incident location to find Roth and at that time, she advised that she had received notification from the leasing office that a screen had been removed from her window and that the window to her apartment appeared to be open. Ritch also advised that she had been receiving text messages from Roth and that Roth advised that he found the gun and essentially threatened to kill himself.

Rural Metro Ambulance, #8211, arrived on scene and after observing Roth's body, they determined there was nothing they could do for him medically. After Sgt Lapides arrived on scene, he was briefed more thoroughly on the information I previously gathered. Once Det Cruz, unit D42, arrived on scene, he was also briefed and he took control of the crime scene. A crime scene log was started and prior to

**INCIDENT/INVESTIGATION REPORT**

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my departure, the crime scene log was turned over to Det Cruz.

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OCA : 2016012252

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Case Status: CLOSED

Case Mng Status: CLOSED

Occurred: 09/12/2016

Offense: PERSON DEAD

Investigator: BROWN, J. M. (0185)

Date / Time: 09/13/2016 13:05:19, Tuesday

Supervisor: VIK, N. C. (0104)

Supervisor Review Date / Time: 09/20/2016 12:17:13, Tuesday

Contact:

Reference: Evidence Collection

On Tuesday, September 13, 2016, I, Detective J. Brown was requested by Detective A. Cruz to process a Samsung Galaxy S7 cell phone collected from the victim in this case. Detective Cruz requested that I process the phone for messages to the victim's mother. Detective Cruz provided me with the cell phone.

## Device Details:

Make/Model: Samsung Galaxy S7 (Model: SM-G930P)

MEID: [REDACTED] 04335493

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

I utilized the Cellebrite UFED Touch version 5.2.0689 to perform a logical extraction of the device's internal memory. I directed the UFED Touch to store the extracted data on a previously wiped and formatted USB storage device. Upon successful completion of the extraction process, I utilized the Cellebrite UFED Physical Analyzer program version 5.2.5.24 to parse and analyze the extracted data.

I located the messages between the victim's phone and his mother and generated a report detailing my findings. I electronically transferred the report to a DVD, which will be placed into the property and evidence room. A duplicate copy of the DVD was generated and provided to Detective Cruz for his review. The cell phone was provided to Detective S. Ortega so that it can be placed into the property and evidence room.

[09/13/2016 13:05, JMB0185, 217, SSPD]

Investigator Signature

Supervisor Signature

# CASE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Printed: 03/15/2022 15:30

Sandy Springs Police Department

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Case Status: *CLOSED*

Case Mng Status: *CLOSED*

Occurred: 09/12/2016

Offense: *PERSON DEAD*

Investigator: *CRUZ, A. (0139)*

Date / Time: 09/19/2016 11:09:35, Monday

Supervisor: *VIK, N. C. (0104)*

Supervisor Review Date / Time: 09/20/2016 12:17:41, Tuesday

Contact:

Reference: *Officer Follow Up*

On 09/12/2016, I Det. A Cruz responded to 650 Willow Heights Drive at the request of Sgt. Vik regarding a suicide incident. Upon my arrival, I was briefed by Officer Gilmore who was the first responding officer to the scene. Officer Gilmore informed me of the following.

- " He was dispatched to the scene by Chatcomm 911
- " Once he arrived, he met up with the caller Debra Ritch who was the homeowner.
- " He was informed by Debra that she was contacted by lease management that her apartment window was open.
- " Once she arrived, she looked through her window and saw her son on her bed slumped over so she called 911.
- " Officer Gilmore stated that he entered the apartment and went inside the bedroom when he also saw the victim slumped over with blood coming from his mouth/face area.
- " He had EMS check for vital signs but none were found. He contacted his supervisor who in turn contacted detectives division.

After speaking with Officer Gilmore, I entered the home and was directed to one of the bedrooms. This bedroom was identified as the master bedroom and belonging to the caller Debra Ritch. Once inside the bedroom, I observed a white male with the lower part of his body on the bed and the upper half of his body on the night stand. The male had blood still pouring out from his mouth and onto the floor. There were several pieces of candy on top of the bed as well. On the floor beside the victim was a 22. Caliber Kalashnikov rifle. Also beside the victim on the floor was a black Samsung Cellphone and several more pieces of candy. In front of the bed was a large black rifle case which contained several boxes of ammunition and an extra magazine for the rifle. The bedroom had two windows and the one at the south end of the bedroom was located in the open position with the screen in the floor just outside. The victim was identified by Officer Gilmore as Wesley Brandon Roth (██████1982) who is the son of the caller. He informed me that Mr. Roth did not live at the location and made entry through the window. With that information I contacted the Fulton County medical examiner's office to notify them of the incident. Inv. McGee responded to the scene and took custody of the victim's body and the rifle. Once the victim was moved, he was inspected through and no injuries was located anywhere in his body. Inspection of the victim head did not locate any entry or exit wounds as well. Inv. McGee did located the presence of a lot of blood inside the victim's mouth and she believed that this could have been were the victim shot himself. Upon the body being moved, 3 shell casing were located on top of the bed. The room was inspected and no bullet holes were located.

Once the body was moved, I was able to speak with Debra who informed me that the victim was her son and was addicted to Heroin. She stated that he had been making threats of suicide for almost a year. She stated that he had lost his job and home due to the excise use of drugs. Debra stated that her son had broken into her home several day prior and stole several electronics and jewelry in order to make money for drugs. She stated that she did not notify the police but did change her locks and blocked his number to avoid any further contact. She also stated that her son had sent her message about her coming home since she was never going to see her again. Debra mentioned that her son's uncle had committed suicide, and his father had been killed by police in Arizona years ago due to

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Reference: Officer Follow Up

him taken them hostage.

On 09/13/2016, Det. JT Williams attended the autopsy for the victim. He stated that multiple track were located on the victim`s body. He also stated that X-rays did show a round in the victim`s head. Nothing else of significance was located.

Det. Ortega responded to the scene and took several photos of the scene. All photos were burned onto a disk and placed with the case file. The victim`s phone was taken by me and was downloaded by Det Brown in order to obtain a copy of the text messages sent by the victim to his mother on the incident day.

As of this time, all evidence points that this incident was a suicide and nothing to suggest otherwise has been found. The status of this case is changed to closed.  
[09/19/2016 11:09, ALC0139, 152, SSPD]

Investigator Signature

Supervisor Signature