

MIKE BUMCROT CONSULTING

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

DATE: January 27, 2012

SUBJECT: Officer Involved Shooting Death of David Ledesma, which occurred on January 7, 2012

CASE: Riverside Police Department File #P12-003517

LOCATION: 10745 Cypress Ave., Riverside

I was asked by Frank Hauptmann, Manager of the Community Police Review Commission to conduct a neighborhood canvass at the location of the officer involved shooting death of David Ledesma. The purpose of the canvass was to search for potential witnesses who had not been located by Riverside Police Department on the day of the incident. If any witnesses were identified, I was asked to conduct a thorough interview and provide a copy of said interview to Riverside Police Department.

On January 13, 2012, six days after the shooting death of Mr. Ledesma, I responded to the location and contacted several residents but was unable to locate any witnesses to the shooting.

On January 25, 2012, I attended the briefing of the Police Review Commission regarding the Ledesma shooting, conducted by Riverside Assistant Chief of Police Christopher Vicino. Also present were several members of the Ledesma family as well as several members of the community. Assistant Chief Vicino gave a PowerPoint presentation of the facts surrounding the officer involved shooting followed by comments from several Ledesma family members. After the presentation, I spoke with the Ledesma family at length. I was advised that they had found 2 neighbors who had witnessed the shooting, were critical of the incident, and told a different version from the Police Department's account. They were also afraid of the Police Department. I was



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also told that they were in possession of a piece of lumber that one of the shooting officers had tripped over, as well as a piece of pvc pipe that Mr. Ledesma was holding just prior to the shooting. It was arranged for me to meet with the Ledesma family at their residence to collect any possible evidence, interview the 2 neighbors, and be shown through the crime scene.

On January 27, 2012, I responded to 10745 Cypress Ave., along with my partner Dennis Robbins. We contacted several Ledesma family members, including Mr. Ledesma's wife Rebecca, and some of their children. Although the entire family was agitated and upset, it was learned that none of the family members, except Mrs. Ledesma, was present at the location at the time of the shooting. For this reason, we dealt mostly with Mrs. Ledesma, who parked her car in the same position it was in at the time of the incident. She said that as the officers approached her husband, he was working under the hood of her car. She was asked by the officers to stay in the front yard as they walked towards her car which was parked in the rear yard. She heard a conversation between her husband and the officers as they approached. She saw one of the officers step back, stumble, and fall onto his back. She then heard several gunshots. When asked about the piece of lumber her family had said the officer had tripped over, she stated there was no lumber, that the officer had tripped over the uneven ground.

We noticed several apparent bullet strikes on a trailer frame which was parked next to the Ledesma automobile. We also saw apparent bullet strikes in the back fence and the wall of a shed. We were advised that an attorney, hired by the Ledesma family, had recovered some firearms evidence, as well as the length of pvc pipe mentioned earlier.

The Ledesma children were then asked to identify the 2 neighbors who had witnessed the shooting. We were provided with written statements on Riverside Police Department Complaint Control Forms that had been obtained by the Ledesmas. One form had the name Ariel Ramirez, 10761 Cypress Ave. written on it. Mr. Ramirez wrote



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that he was in his residence at the time of the incident when he heard gunshots. He ran outside to see someone lying on the ground surrounded by policemen with guns in their hands. We interviewed Mr. Ramirez who could add nothing further. The other witness was identified as Miguel Serna, 10765 Cypress Ave., who wrote that he saw officers walking towards Mr. Ledesma, telling him to drop the knife, which he did. He then saw Mr. Ledesma bend down and pick up a pole, which he threw at the officers. He then heard 6-7 gunshots. We responded to Mr. Serna's residence and learned from his mother that he was in school and his parents do NOT want him to make a statement. A business card was left with a request to contact us.

A check of the Riverside Police Department witness list, provided by Detectives, revealed that both of these witnesses had been interviewed the day of the incident.

A copy of the Complaint Control Forms was provided to Detective Rick Wheeler.

I will complete my review of the officer involved shooting when Riverside Police Department provides access to their files.



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