



PURSUANT to URCrP, Rule 16(e) and UCS §77-38-6, the victim(s) and witnesses' identifying information has been redacted from the enclosed documents.

**FORCE INVESTIGATION
TEAM**

**Force Investigation Team Report
Officer-Involved Shooting**

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Weber County Attorney
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Ogden Police Dept.

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South Ogden Police Dept.

Detective Sean Endsley
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Detective Larry Lewis
Ogden Police Dept.

FIT-IC Jamie Pitt
Court Technical Specialist

Incident: Officer-Involved Shooting-Fatal

Agency(s) Involved: North Ogden Police

Relevant case numbers: NOPD 23NO4636, CSI 23CS486, ME 202301245 & 202301244

Date of Incident: April 27th, 2023

Time of Incident: 19:15 hrs

Location of Incident: , North Ogden, Utah

FIT Lead Investigator: Investigator Steve Zaccardi

Involved Officer(s): Dustin Farnsworth, Richard Lopez, Gabriel Mata

Involved subject (s): Jeffery Roberts

Involved victim (s): Scott Roberts

Jodi Roberts

Introduction

On April 27, 2023, North Ogden City Police Department reported that there had been an officer-involved shooting, which involved three of their officers. The Weber County OIS protocol was initiated.

Officer-involved shooting investigations are the responsibility of the Weber County Attorney Force Investigation Team. (FIT) The information contained in this document is a summary of the complete investigation conducted by the WCAO FIT with assistance from investigators with the Weber County Homicide Task Force (HTF). The following investigators worked on the case with a summary of their assignments.

Lead Investigator: Steve Zaccardi, WCAO FIT

Crime Scene: Steve Haney, WCAO FIT

Witness interviews: Cameron Hartman, WCAO FIT

Witness interviews: Sean Endsley, WCSO FIT

Suspect background/Search warrant: Rick Childress, OPD FIT

Crime Analysis: Mandy Kruger ATAC

Summary

On April 27, 2023, at approximately 1900 hrs. Scott Roberts and his wife Jodi Roberts were at home at _____, in North Ogden eating dinner. There was a ring at their front door. Scott answered the door to find his older brother Jeffery Roberts. Jeff told Scott he was there to visit their mother. Scott told Jeff that their mother didn't live at the house and was staying with some other people out of state. Without provocation, Jeff pulled out of handgun from a concealed shoulder holster and shot Scott several times. Jeff entered the home and shot Jodi as she tried to run away. Jeff then proceeded to ignite the house on fire.

At 19:14 hrs, North Ogden Police were dispatched to report "shots fired" at _____. As soon as officers arrived they started taking gunfire from Jeff Roberts who was inside the home.

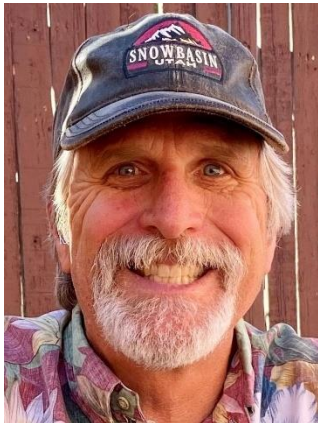
Three officers returned fire and were in a short gun battle with Jeff. Ultimately Jeff was shot and killed by police. No officers were injured in the exchange of gunfire. Scott Roberts died at the scene, his wife Jodi suffered one gunshot wound to the upper back but survived. The house was fully engulfed in flames until the fire department was able to extinguish it. Scott and Jodi's two family dogs both died in the fire.

Once the OIS protocol was initiated, investigators from the FIT unit responded to the scene. CSI was already there and starting their scene processing. I was informed that the Officers involved in the shooting had been taken to the North Ogden Police Station. I instructed a supervisor with NOPD to make sure the officers remained in the attire they were in while at the scene. I was told that the victim Jodi Roberts was at the hospital. I assigned Investigator Cameron Hartman to respond to that area and see if he could check on her status and if possible get a statement from her.

I had Det. Sean Endsley and Det. Childress search the area for eyewitnesses. I assigned Investigator Haney to the crime scene and to assist CSI. I along with CSI Grogan responded to the NOPD to process the officers and conduct a bullet count. See individual investigators' reports for details, the following is a summary of the entire investigation.

Scott and Jodi Roberts

Scott Roberts, and Jodilyn (Jodi) Roberts had been married for 37 years. Their house was built in 2017 in North Ogden.



Scott Roberts

Scott was born in Long Beach CA. He received a Ph.D. in Forestry from Utah State University. He had been a professor of Forestry at Mississippi State University. At the time of his death, he was the editor of Forest Science Journal.

Jodi Roberts



Jodi Roberts's statement

Jodi had suffered a gunshot wound to her back and was transported to McKay Dee Hospital for treatment. At that location, Investigator Cameron Hartman had an opportunity to speak with her. This conversation was audio recorded, reference that recording for more details. The following is a summary of that interview.

Jodi said that she and Scott were eating dinner when their doorbell rang. There was a short discussion on who was going to answer the door, but eventually, Scott went to the door. Jodi said she heard a gunshot go off. Jodi jumped up and ran toward the door. It appeared that Scott was trying to get the deadbolt shut but was unsuccessful. Jodi said she saw Jeff come around the door and she turn and ran. He shot her in the back. Jodi ran into the garage and hid under the truck which was parked inside. Jodi said she was in there for a little bit when she heard the door from the house open and Jeff came in and threw a lit road flare under her vehicle, he then left.

Jodi got out from under the truck and pushed the auto garage opener for the third bay, which opened. She ran out of the garage. As she came around the corner she saw a police car, then an officer, so she ran in that direction. The officer spoke for a moment but left and ran toward the front of the house. She then heard multiple gunshots going off.

Jodi told Hartman that she believes that Jeff was angry about their mother's estate situation. Jeff had complained to all of the family about it multiple times, however, they have had no contact with Jeff since May 2020 and had no warning that Jeff was coming to the house.

Jeffery Roberts

Jeff Roberts was born in Long Beach California on . He was never married or had no children. At the time of this incident, he was living in Long Beach.

He had no reported criminal history.

Roberts' family history/Jeff's motive

This is a summary of the Roberts family history. This information is intended to give some background on the family dynamics which could help explain a possible motive of Jeff Roberts. This is done by trying to balance the need for information with the privacy of family.

Gerald and Jean Roberts had four children all boys, Harry, Jeff, Scott, and Jack. They were all born and grew up in Long Beach, California. Gerald was the first to pass away in 2003, followed by the oldest child Harry. At different times Scott and Jack eventually moved out of California. At the time of the incident, Scott lived in Utah and Jack lived in Missouri. In 2016 Jean Roberts remained living in her home in Long Beach with son Jeff.

Based on conversations I have had with family members and friends of family members, as well as reading documents provided by Jeff Roberts the following is what I have been able to ascertain as to where issues started to arise between family members. In 2017 Jeff, who was living with Jean, had told others that Jean was suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia. He needed to take over her care and finances, which he did for some time.

Jean had a brother who lived in the area, named Jim. After the information of Jean having dementia came out, Jim went to visit her. During this visit, Jim stated that he saw no sign of dementia or Alzheimer's. Jim took a look at the trust that Jeff had drafted and found that Jeff had made himself the sole executor. Jim explained this to Jean and asked her if that is what she wanted, she said no that was not her understanding of what he was doing. Jim and Jean got the trust changed so Jean had control again. During this time, Jean had given a large amount of money to Jack, which Jeff disagreed. This money was ultimately given back to Jean.

Jean eventually moved from Long Beach and lived with Scott and Jodi in North Ogden. Prior to her leaving Jean asked Jeff to move out of the house. Family members said that Jeff was very bitter about how he was treated in the process.

Eventually their Uncle Jim was made the executor of the Will. He was unable to continue then it would fall to Scott, then to Jack. As Jim was getting older and due to his health, he decided that it would be better for Scott to be the executor of Jean's estate. So it was reported that a week prior to this incident Jim and Scott had started the process of making Scott the executor but it had not been finalized.

The reasoning is disputed between family members but Jean eventually went to live with Jack in Missouri. She remained there for some time and again, the reasoning is in dispute but at the time of this incident, Jean was still living in Missouri but with a friend of the family. According to the family, Jeff had little or no contact with either of his brothers for several years before this incident.

Before his death, Jeff had written a letter that was left inside his van. The letter was addressed to Scott & Jodi Roberts and their family. It included instructions for Jim, Flo, Terri, Jack, and Mom to all read it. In that letter and conversations I had with friends of Jeff, his version was that his mother did have dementia and he was taking care of her daily needs, which was a big responsibility. He believed that his brothers and uncle manipulated his mother and convinced her to leave California and cut him out of the estate. In his letter he accused Scott and Jodi of lying, again telling Jean that Jeff was getting too much of the estate. He accused Scott of being the family favorite and his younger brother Jack of always being the baby in their mother's eyes. He on the other hand had done the most for his mother and had gotten nothing out of it.

His friends said that he was always bitter about his family and would talk about them often. According to them, in December 2022 he found out that his mother was living with someone other than one of his brothers. This bothered Jeff. His stance was his family convinced his mother to move, with the promise of taking care of her, then they sent her to live with someone who was not family.

The last page of the twenty-seven-page letter Jeff wrote. "To go along with a lie, knowing it's a lie, is worse than the lie itself." Like Jack Burton said, "Someone must pay." That is you, Scott, and Jodi

The murder of Scott Roberts and the attempted murder of Jodi Roberts

On 4/27/2023 Jeff left his motel in Salt Lake City and drove his van to Scott and Jodi's home in North Ogden. According to Jodi she and Scott were inside their home eating dinner when someone rang the doorbell. Outside Jeff had backed his van into the driveway, got out, and approached the door. The time stamp on the doorbell camera is 19:11:46

Scott and Jodi's home was equipped with a doorbell camera, which captured portions of the incident.



Before the door was answered, Jeff reached into his coat and adjust something. He was later found to have a shoulder holster under his jacket. It appears that he was getting his handgun prepared for the inevitable exchange.

Scott answered the door, he is off camera but it is obvious by the exchange that he was standing on the threshold of the front door speaking to Jeff. The following is a transcription of the exchange.

Door opens,

Jeff: Hey what's up?

Scott: What are you doing?

Jeff: I came by to see mom

Scott: She is not here

Jeff: Where is she at?

Scott: In Missouri

Jeff: What is she doing there?

Scott: Well, she is living with Lorenda's mom who is taking care of her.

Jeff: Really? Well, how long has she been there? (information received is Jeff already knew this)

Scott: Well about a year

As Scott was saying this, Jeff places his right hand in his jacket.

Jeff: Really?

Scott does not reply. At 19:12:45 on the camera time stamp, Jeff pulls the gun out and points it down at what appears to be Scott's lower body, and fires one shot. In the audio, Scott can be heard falling. There are three more shots fired. Jodi can be heard screaming, then there are four more shots heard, then the camera cuts off.



The next time Jeff is seen on the video the time stamp is 19:13:08. Jeff leaves the house walking off-screen toward his van. As he travels down the sidewalk he drops a magazine out of the gun onto the sidewalk.



Jeff returns at 19:13:46 carrying a shotgun and a duffle bag that appeared to be heavy.



Jeff next appears on the camera at 19:19:10. Six minutes from when he last appeared, and seven minutes since shooting Scott. In this appearance, Jeff is talking on his cell phone. I later learned that Jeff was making a phone call to his friend in California, Randy Baker. Randy did not answer the phone and went to voicemail. Randy later told me that he didn't listen to the message for several hours, but once he heard it he called Weber County Dispatch. Randy later sent me the entire voicemail message. One interesting thing is Jeff did not hang up the phone so you also hear the first exchange of gunfire between Jeff and the police. Based on my experience it sounds like the first shots are fired from Jeff's shotgun. [Note: Using the voicemail timeline the shooting between Jeff and the police lasted 20 seconds. End note]

I attempted to embed the audio of the phone message below.



voicemail-613.m4a

The next time the camera captures any footage is at 19:20:06 hours. A North Ogden Police vehicle is parked out in front of the home. Jeff's weapon can be seen in the top frame of the video.

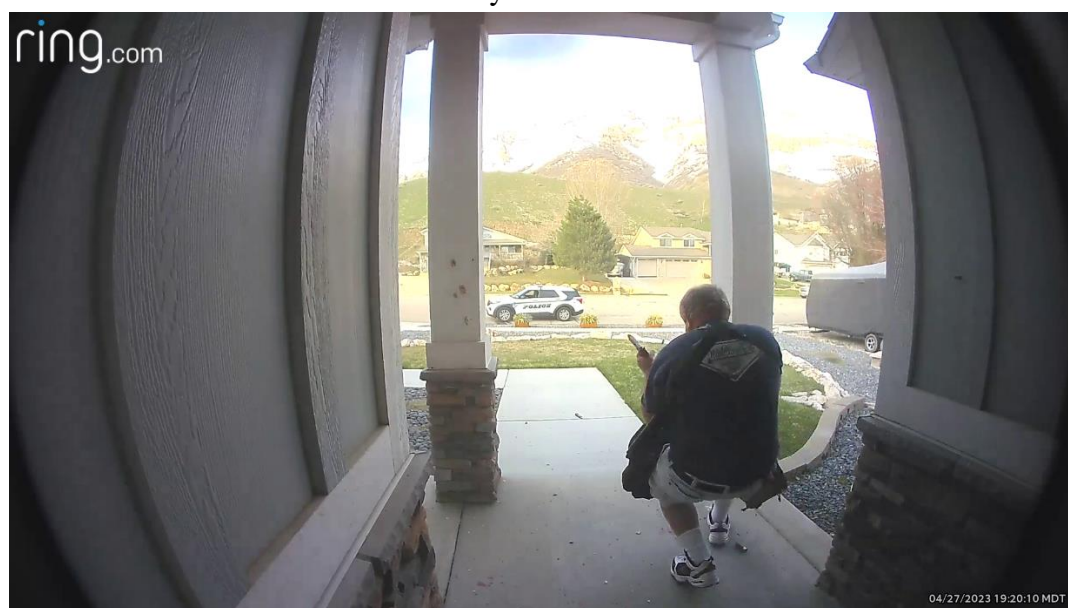
North Ogden Officer Farnsworth is seen on the video with his weapon raised. Also in the photo on the porch is a spent shotgun shell.

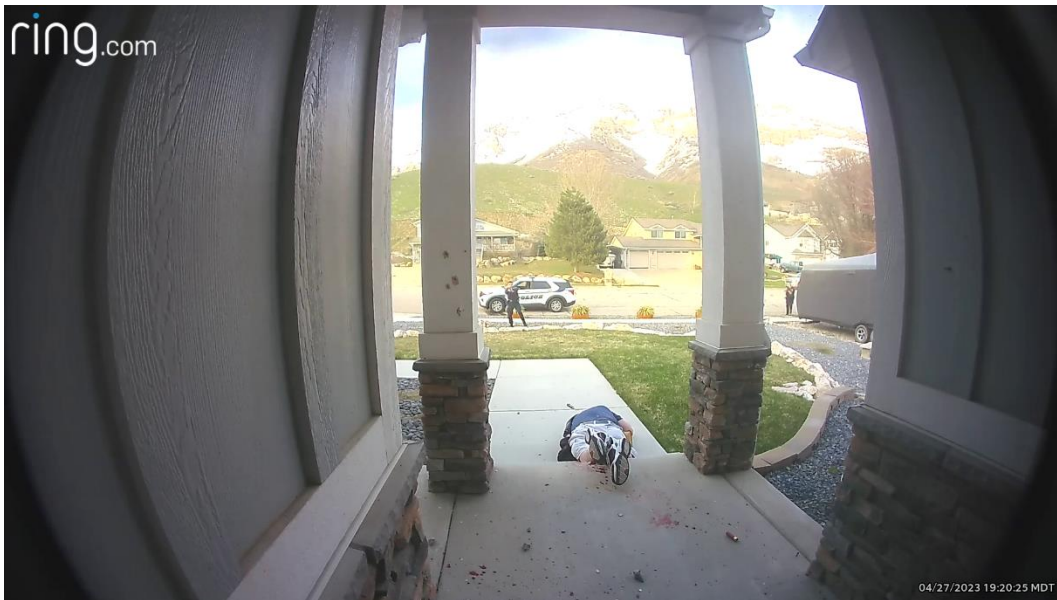


Officer Farnsworth moves back to his right out of the camera frame. Jeff comes out of the house with his pistol raised. Jeff fires a round. In the camera frame, an ejected round can be seen coming from the gun.



The below photos of the sequences of shots fired. As Jeff comes out of the house firing, he is struck by police and falls face down on the walkway.





Jeffery Roberts's movements before arriving at North Ogden

It was initially thought that Jeff Roberts had left Long Beach California and drove directly to North Ogden. However, during this investigation, it was revealed that Jeff might have left his home in Long Beach up to a month before this incident. The phone call he made right after he murdered Scott, was to a childhood friend Randy Baker. I have spoken to Randy on multiple occasions. He has been very cooperative with all of my requests and has offered information that I did not know. Randy said that he did not answer the phone when Jeff called as he was in the other room and did not hear the phone ring. A couple hours later he saw there was a voicemail

from Jeff. When he heard it, he immediately called Weber 911 and reported what he was told on the phone. Randy said that in the fall of 2022, Jeff had suffered a mild stroke. After this had happened, Jeff, who had never been married or had any children, wanted Randy to be the executor of his estate. Randy was put on his bank accounts and had keys to his house. After the incident, Randy went over to Jeff's house and discovered a handwritten will from Jeff. Randy provided this to investigators. It was dated 3/19/2023, at the top of the will it reads "Randy Baker is my executor, he gets everything. My family is not to get anything." The pages that followed detailed what Randy was supposed to do with his property.

Randy had told me that Jeff had left Long Beach around this time, telling Randy that he was going on a trip to visit some friends. In the weeks that followed Randy would get text messages from Jeff telling him that he had just left a particular place and whom he had visited. Randy said Jeff told him he was in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah.

On 4/17/2023 Jeff checked into the Home 2 Suites in Salt Lake City. He paid cash through 4/27/2023, checked out, and came up to North Ogden. Investigators Rick Childress and Rachel Walker served a search warrant at the Home 2 Suites and found the following:

Laptop

Tablet

Drug paraphernalia and marijuana

Ammunition- Found in closet

Medication- Found on the desk

Book- Found on the desk

Papers- Found in the trash

Calendar and notepad- Found on the desk

Room key folder- Found on the desk

Paper with numbers- Found on the desk

Notepad- Found on the shelf

notepad w/written directions- Found in a box

Maps- Found on the desk

Steel ball ammunition- Found in a closet

Fire

Inside the bag that Jeff was seen carrying inside the house, Investigators found several road flares. In her interview, Jodi Roberts told investigators that as she was lying under the vehicle in the garage, Jeff had thrown a lit flare under the vehicle next to her.

Deputy State Fire Marshal Lane Oberg made the following determination on the fire. This is a summary of what he documented in his report. The conclusion was the ignition source for the fire was road flares. Jeff took at least three road flares and lit them. He placed one flare on or near the bed in the master bedroom, located on the west side of the main level of the residence.

He placed a second flare in the closet of the master bedroom. He placed at least one more flare on or near the bed in a bedroom on the main level on the southeast corner.



Officers arrive at the house

Officer Gabriel Mata



At the North Ogden Police Station, CSI Supervisor Sandy Grogan and I conducted a bullet count on each officer's gun. This process helps us determine how many times the officer fired his/her weapon. Additionally, CSI will routinely take a photograph of the officer the way he/she was at the time of the incident. This helps establish if the officer was visually identifiable as a police officer at the time.

CSI Grogan took overall photos of Officer Mata, who was in full police uniform at the time. Clearly identifiable as an officer. Mata was missing one magazine of the two he normally carried. Investigators believe that he had ejected this magazine at the scene. This magazine was found by CSI Pontius in the gutter near Mata's patrol car. CSI Pontius wrote in her report that the magazine contained ten (10) cartridges.

He was carrying a Glock 17, Gen5. The serial number is . He also had a red dot sight on the weapon.

He had 1 round in the chamber, with 17 in the magazine for a total of 18. The other magazine he had on his person had two (2) rounds in it.

Based on these numbers, the Glock magazine holds 17 plus one in the chamber when he originally pulled it out of the holster. He started with 18, minus 10 in the magazine so he fired 8 times. Mata said in a statement that the slide did not lock back when he changed magazines, therefore a round is still in the chamber. The second magazine had two remaining rounds. The magazine again holds a total of 17 plus one in the chamber. He fired 16 rounds out of the second magazine. For a total of 24 rounds fired during the incident.



Mata statement

On May 3, 2023, Officer Gabriel Mata came into our office for an interview. This interview was recorded and is available for review, the following is a summary of what he said in that interview.

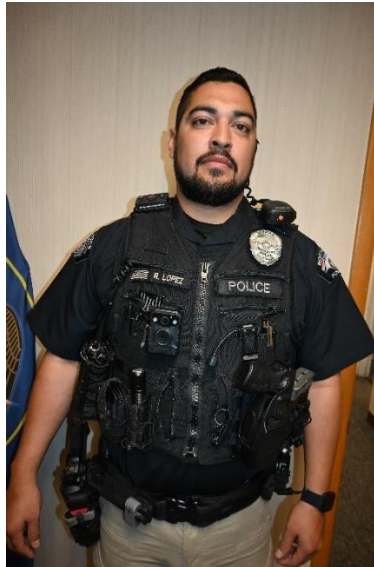
I asked Officer Mata to walk me through what happened chronologically starting from when the call was dispatched. Officer Mata said that at the time of the radio dispatch, he was just finishing up a call with Weber County Sherriff's office. The call came over the air as shots fired at . Mata said that Officer Lopez was the primary officer for the call. Mata said that he could see Officer Lopez's patrol vehicle in front of him as they traveled. Lopez had gone up a street that would have put him out on the north side of the address in question, so Mata drove to an area where he could come in from the south.

Mata said he arrived on the scene and stopped a few houses to the south. Up the hill from his position, he could see Officer Lopez. Mata said that he saw the brown van in the driveway that was described in the call notes. Officer Lopez said over the radio that a woman was running toward him. As she got to Officer Lopez, Mata could see the back of her shirt was covered in blood. Mata decided to drive up to where Lopez was to see if he could help. As he started driving he started to back trace where the woman had come from. He said there was a black RV at the neighbor's house that was blocking his view, but he saw the van again in the driveway. He said that he looked to his left and saw a man charging out the front door. He described the look on his face as "mad." In his hand, the man saw two guns, a handgun and a long gun of some type. As he is coming out of the house and sees Mata the male drop the guns but then immediately goes down and starts to pick them back up.

Mata said he stopped the car and got out. There was a brick mailbox on the grass strip next to the roadway, which Mata took cover behind. As he was taking cover the male fired two shots at him. Mata pulled his weapon, came out of cover, and returned fire. The male did not go down and continued to fire. Mata came out from cover again and fired another volley but the male still didn't appear to be impacted. Mata told himself that his shots must be missing. He reloaded with a fresh ammo magazine. He said the male continued to shoot. Mata said the third time he

exposed himself he remembers putting his red dot on the male's chest and shooting. At some point, the male went to his knees and then fell. He said that another officer was yelling cease fire so he stopped firing. The male was lying face down on the sidewalk leading up to the house. He said as they approached he looked down and noticed his body camera had not been activated so he pushed the button to start recording. They handcuffed the male. Mata said that he heard a window break, and that is when he noticed the house was on fire. They could see some legs of another male sitting at the front door of the house. Mata said the smoke was very heavy and they didn't think they could enter safely from the front door, so he and two other officers tried to enter the house through the garage. While they were in the garage, Mata saw a glow from under the car, so he looked under the car and saw a lit flare under the car. Not knowing how dangerous a lit flare is under a vehicle the group decided to leave the garage. As other officers arrived on the scene he was taken from there to the North Ogden Police Station. Mata said that he was in fear that he was going to be killed if he did not use deadly force.

Officer Richard Lopez



CSI Grogan took overall photos of Officer Lopez. He was dressed in a full police uniform.

He was carrying a Sig Sauer P380 9mm handgun, serial [REDACTED] with a red dot sight.

He had 15 cartridges in the magazine and one in the chamber for a total of 16.

Both his other magazines had 21 in each, which is full capacity.

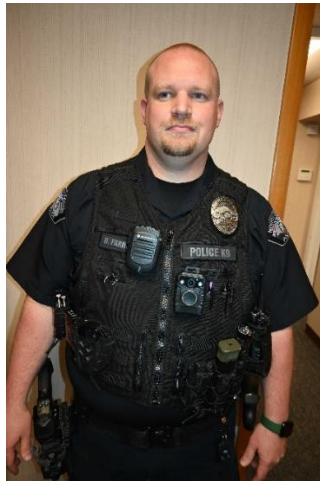
It appears that Lopez did not conduct a reload, therefore if he started with 21 in the mag and one in the weapon for a total of 22. He fired six (6) times.



Lopez statement

Officer Richard Lopez refused to provide a statement to investigators.

Officer Dustin Farnsworth



CSI Grogan took overall photos of Officer Farnsworth. He was dressed in a full police uniform.

He was carrying a Sig Sauer P320 9mm handgun, serial _____, with a red dot sight.

He had 20 cartridges in the magazine and one in the chamber for a total of 21.

He had one other magazine on his person which had 21 rounds, which is full capacity.

He was missing one magazine from the holder. It appears that he conducted a reload on the scene.

On scene, CSI Pontius located an empty Sig Sauer magazine with a green bottom. This magazine is consistent with Farnsworth's other two magazines. Assuming that Farnsworth weapon was fully loaded with 21 rounds in the magazine and one in the chamber at the time, it appears that he fired 22 times.



Farnsworth statement

Officer Dustin Farnsworth refused to provide a statement to investigators.

Body Camera Footage

The type of BC worn by the North Ogden Police Department did not have what is called a pre-event buffer capability. In some brands when an officer activates his BC it will capture video 30 secs before the actual activation. In this case, the feature did not exist. Only one officer activated his body camera during the incident. Therefore only one camera captured a portion of the actual shooting. The other two cameras were activated but only after the OIS had taken place.

Below are some still-frame photos from Officer Farnsworth's camera.



Officer Mata is in the background behind the mailbox firing like he described in his statement. Officer Lopez is in the foreground.



In the background of this photo, the viewer can see Roberts as he is coming out of the home. Roberts van is in the foreground.



In the background of this photo, Roberts is down on the ground after being struck.

The Crime Scene

Weber County CSI responded to the scene and processed it. This took two whole days to completely document everything. Because of the house fire and the efforts to extinguish it, investigators were unable to do a complete crime scene examination of the home. To further complicate matters when CSI Pontius arrived at the scene several pieces of evidence were being washed down the road due to the water from the fire department. CSI Pontius gathered as much of the evidence as possible before it was lost.



Overview of the home after the fire was extinguished. It was deemed not safe to enter so all of the scene processing was done outside.



CSI Investigators placed trajectory rods in holes that struck the home. This is a typical way to process these types of shootings.





The fire and the firefighting efforts did extensive damage. In the above photo, Scott Roberts was lying just inside the doorway. Insulation and other debris fell on him covering most of his body.



This is the brick mailbox that Officer Mata was taking cover behind. CSI placed markers where the bullet impacts were. There were up to thirteen bullet impacts on the mailbox. This further demonstrates that Jeff Roberts was trying to kill Officer Mata.



One of the rounds fired was embedded in between the brick on the mailbox.



Officer Mata's vehicle and windshield were also struck by gunfire.



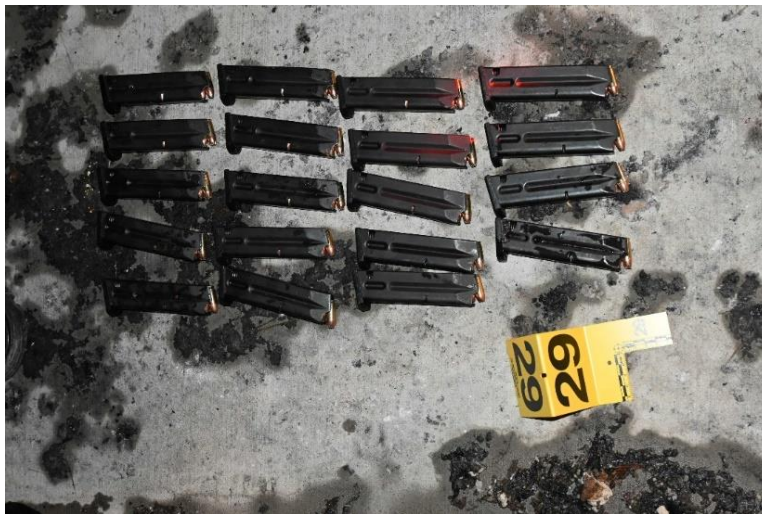
. The neighbor's house across the street was struck by gunfire approximately 20 times. No one was injured inside the residence.



. The neighbor to the north of the Roberts home was also struck by gunfire. This was believed to have come from the north bedroom of the Roberts home. Investigators believed that Jeff fired multiple rounds at Jodi and one of his misses went out the window and struck the neighbor's house.



Jeff was armed with a Beretta 9mm 92FS handgun. There were three spent 9mm shell casings located on the porch. An E-trace was conducted on the gun which shows it was purchased in 1990. Unfortunately, the firearms dealer is no longer in business and it was not recorded to actually purchased the weapon.



On Jeff's body was a black bag which had a large pocket. Inside the bag, Investigators discovered nineteen (19) ammo magazines. After Jeff shot Scott he emptied the magazine and left it on the ground. He also had one ammo magazine in the weapon for a total of twenty-two magazines on his person. We did not count each round, however, the standard for the 92FS is 19 rounds. Assuming all the magazines were fully loaded, Jeff had up to four hundred and eighteen rounds on him.



Jeff was also armed with a Winchester 12 gauge shotgun. An E-trace was run on with a weapon that showed that it was purchased in 1987 by Jeff Roberts in Lakewood California. Inside the black bag mentioned above Jeff had loose shotgun shells. They were counted and there was a

total of 88 of them. There were three spent shotgun shells found on the porch and in the grass area, near where Jeff Roberts died.



Jeff Roberts also had a .22 caliber Derringer in his pocket. We do not believe that Jeff fired this weapon.

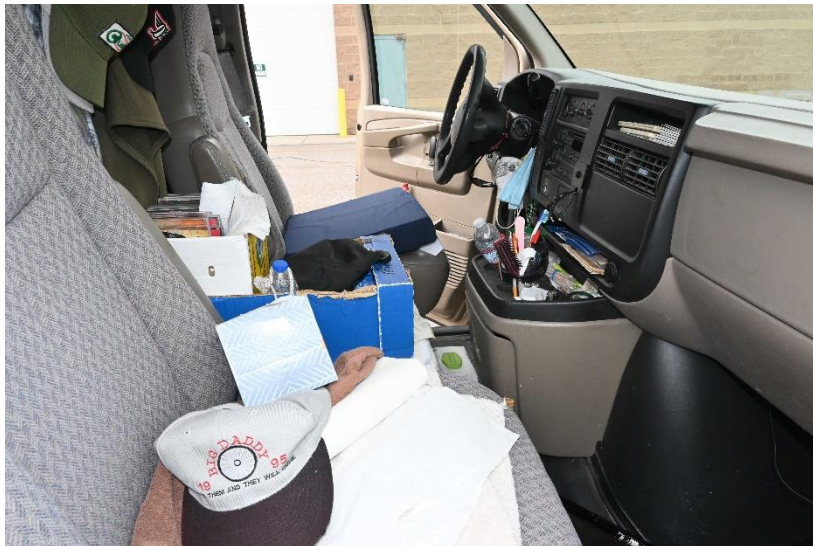
Faro 3D scanner



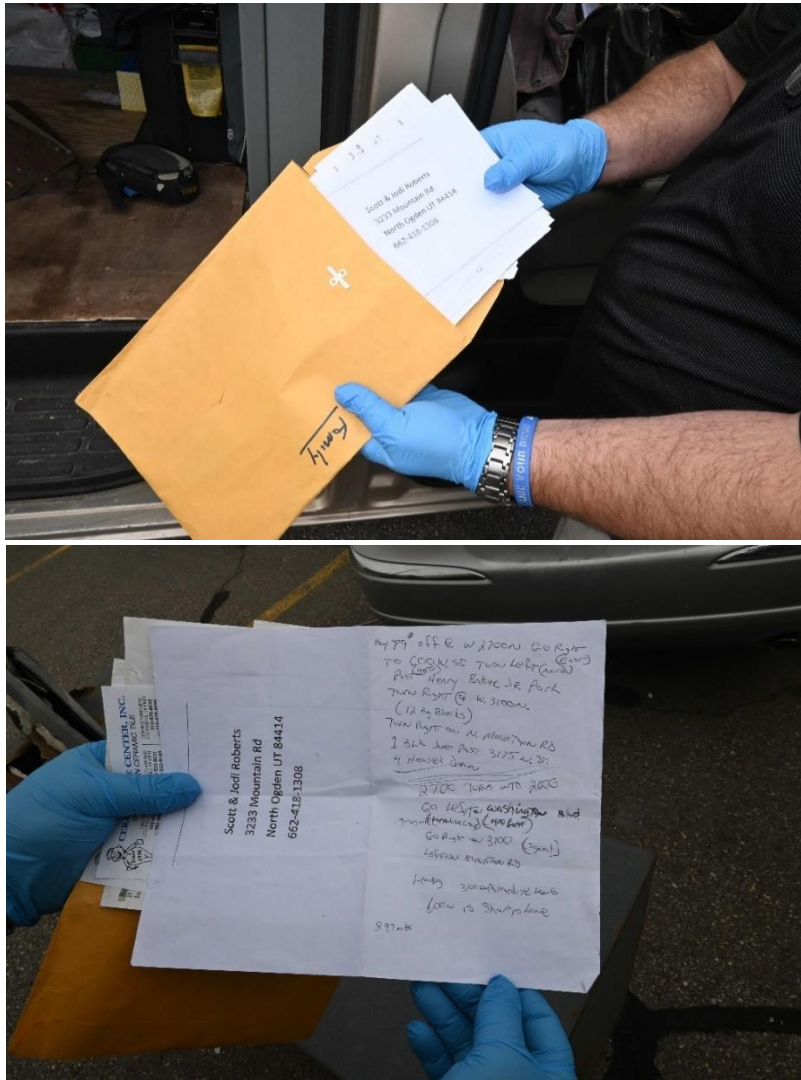
The above photo is a screenshot from the Faro 3D scanner. We utilize these scanners to get accurate measurements of crime scenes. We utilized the body camera images to position the officers where we believe they were located when they fired. 59 feet appears to be the average distance that the officers fired from.

Van/Property (Jeff)

The van that Jeff had driven to the Roberts house, was transported to Weber County Crime Scene Unit for searching and further processing.



Few shots from inside the van give a perspective of the condition.



Investigators located paperwork that showed Scott and Jodi Roberts's address as well as step-by-step directions on how to get there.



Investigators located a .22 caliber handgun and several magazines of ammo for the weapon.





Investigators also found a bag that contained more ammo magazines, with 9mm and .22 cal.



Medical Examiner Report

Scott Roberts

On 4/28/2023 the autopsy of Scott Roberts was conducted by Dr. Neil Haycocks. The opinion is the following: Scott Roberts, died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds. The list of wounds and where they were located are as follows:

- a. One gunshot wound of the chest
- b. One gunshot wound of the left shoulder
- c. One gunshot wound of the left arm
- d. One gunshot wound of the right thigh
- e. One gunshot wound of the left thigh
- f. One gunshot wound of the right shoulder
- g. One graze wound of the left lower leg

Scott's remains were released to Jodi Roberts and her and Scott's daughter. (Investigator Hartman was able to retrieve the bodies of both family dogs from the fire. Victim Coordinator Jamie Pitt was able to make arraignments with Meyers Pet Memorial to have to two dogs cremated free of charge and given to Jodi Roberts.)

Jeff Roberts

On 4/28 & 29/2023 the autopsy of Jeff Roberts was conducted over two days by Dr. Neil Haycocks. The opinion is the following: Jeff Roberts died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds. The list of wounds and where they were located are as follows:

- a. Three gunshot wounds of the head
- b. Two gunshot wounds of the chest
- c. One gunshot wound of the right abdomen
- d. One gunshot wound to the left torso
- e. One perforating gunshot wound to the right back
- f. One gunshot wound of the right forearm
- g. One gunshot wound of the left shoulder
- h. One perforating gunshot wound of the left arm
- i. One gunshot wound of the right thigh
- j. Two graze gunshot wounds of the right chest

Jeff Roberts's remains were released to his friend and executor of his will Randy Baker. Randy also drove to Utah and picked up Jeff's van.

Conclusion

This conclusion will address the actions of Officer's Mata, Lopez, and Farnsworth to determine if their use of deadly force was reasonable and justified under the law.

On April 27, 2023, Jeff Roberts traveled to his brother's house in North Ogden, and without provocation murdered Scott Roberts and attempted to murder Jodi Roberts. There had been a long-standing feud between the brothers and other family members over the family estate. However, by all accounts, there had been no interaction between the two brothers for several years that might have provided a warning of what was ultimately about to happen.

It is clear from the video that Jeff had murderous intent when he arrived at the home. When he left California a month earlier he had written out a will, understanding that he was not planning on returning. After shooting Scott and Jodi, Jeff had eight minutes to flee the area to get away from the police response. He did not leave, instead he went to his van and obtained more weapons and ammunition.

When Officer Mata arrived on the scene he immediately took fire from Jeff. Officer Mata took cover behind a brick mailbox which was probably four feet tall and three feet wide at the most. Upwards of the thirteen bullet impacts were discovered on the mailbox itself, not including several bullet impacts on Officer Mata's vehicle. At least three shots came from the shotgun that Roberts had. It is nothing short of miraculous that Officer Mata was not struck by gunfire, and he was fortunate that the brick mailbox was located where it was or he most likely would have been. Officer Mata stated in his statement that as he arrived he saw "the male" with two guns in his hand. He remembers being fired upon several times and was in fear for his own life when he took action.

When Officer Lopez arrived on the scene, he was immediately met with Jodi Roberts running up to him, hysterical and covered in blood. Officer Lopez had no time to react before shots were fired from the house at Officer Mata. Unfortunately, Officer Lopez refused to provide a statement to investigators on what he saw. However, it can be safely assumed that he knew as shots were being fired at Officer Mata and that Officer Mata was in immediate danger of being killed or seriously injured when he responded and returned fire.

Unfortunately, Officer Farnsworth refused to give a statement to investigators, so we are unclear as to what he knew or saw when he arrived on the scene. It is clear by his body camera that there was an active gunfight going on between officers and Jeff Roberts when Officer Farnsworth fired his weapon.

There were upwards of thirty shots fired at officers on this day. This was evident by the bullet holes in the neighbor's house across the street, the bullet impacts on the mailbox, and Officer Mata's patrol vehicle. It is clear from the evidence that Jeff Roberts was trying to kill as many people as possible before being shot himself. He posed a clear danger to Jodi Roberts, the Police Officers, and anyone else in the neighborhood that day that might have attempted to stop him.

All of the information should be considered when determining if Officer Gabriel Mata, Officer Richard Lopez, and Officer Dustin Farnsworth were justified in using deadly force against Jeffery Roberts.

Steve Zaccardi
Chief Criminal Investigator
Force Investigations/Homicide Task Force



August 18, 2023

Chief Dirk Quinney
North Ogden Police Department
515 East, 2600 North
North Ogden, Utah 84414

RE: OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING; OFFICERS MATA,
FARNSWORTH, AND LOPEZ

Dear Chief Quinney:

Chief Investigator Steve Zaccardi, with assistance from investigators with the Weber County Force Investigation Team and the Weber County Homicide Task Force, has completed the investigation of the officer-involved shooting involving North Ogden Officers Mata, Farnsworth, and Lopez. CSI processed evidence from the scene. Officers and other witnesses who were present during the incident were interviewed and provided statements. However, Officers Farnsworth and Lopez exercised their constitutional rights in refusing to provide a statement or grant an interview.

I have thoroughly reviewed the investigation and discussed it at length with investigators and senior prosecutors in my office. The circumstances and evidence set forth in this letter are just a summary of the much-more detailed information provided in the full investigation report provided along with this letter. My conclusions are as follows:

Background

On April 27, 2023, at approximately 1900 hrs. Scott Roberts and his wife Jodie Roberts were at home at [REDACTED] eating dinner. There was a ring at their front door. Scott answered the door to find his older brother Jeffery Roberts. Jeff told Scott he was there to visit their mother. Scott told Jeff that their mother didn't live at the house and was staying with some other people out of state. Without provocation, Jeff pulled out of handgun from a concealed shoulder holster and shot Scott several times. Jeff entered the home and shot Jodie as she tried to run away. Jeff then proceeded to ignite the house on fire using road flares.

It appears that Jeff anticipated a shoot-out with police. After shooting both Scott and Jodie, Jeff had eight minutes to flee the area to get away from the police response. Video shows that instead of leaving, he went to his van (parked in the driveway) where he obtained more guns and ammunition and went back inside the house. At 19:14 hours, North Ogden Police were dispatched to a report of "shots fired" at [REDACTED]. When Officer Mata arrived on the scene he saw Jeff Roberts come

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out of the front door carrying two guns. Jeff immediately began shooting at Officer Mata. Mata took cover behind a brick mailbox which was probably four feet tall and three feet wide at the most. Upwards of thirteen bullet impacts were discovered on the mailbox itself, as well as several bullet impacts on Officer Mata's vehicle which was parked in the street next to the mailbox. At least three shots came from the shotgun that Roberts had. It is nothing short of miraculous that Officer Mata was not hit by gunfire, and he was fortunate that the brick mailbox was located where it was or he most likely would have been shot. Mata said that he was in fear for his own life when he took cover.

Unfortunately Officers Lopez and Farnsworth refused to provide statements to investigators. However, much of their involvement is established through body cam footage, Officer Mata's statement, and other physical evidence. For instance, we know that Officer Lopez arrived on the scene just before Officer Mata. Lopez was immediately met with Jodie Roberts running up to him, hysterical and covered in blood. Officer Mata could see this playing out just to the north of him as he was pulling up in front of the home. It is also apparent from the body cams that both Officer Lopez and Farnsworth were standing in the driveway just on the north side of the front porch where Jeff Roberts was located while the shooting was underway. Moreover, it appears that Roberts may have been shooting not only at Mata, but at the other officers as well. This is borne out by the fact that the home across the street, directly behind Lopez and Farnsworth, had been hit by approximately twenty bullets. All three officers fired multiple rounds as they returned fire at Jeff Roberts, and Roberts was ultimately hit and killed.

Analysis

Pursuant to Utah Code Section 76-2-404(2) "The defense of justification applies to the use of deadly force by an officer . . . when: (c) the officer reasonably believes that the use of deadly force is necessary to prevent death or serious bodily injury to the officer or an individual other than the suspect." In *Graham v. Conner*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989), the United States Supreme Court instructed that "reasonableness" for law enforcement officers must be assessed objectively, in light of a "reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight." *Id.* At 396 (internal citations omitted). The *Graham* court also explained that "The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments – in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving – about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation." *Id.* At 397.

There is no question that Jeff Roberts opened fire on Officer Mata when Mata arrived on scene. It is also clear that the attack was unprovoked. It is absolutely certain that Mata's life was in grave danger at the time. In fact, it is remarkable that Mata was not injured or killed. Officer Mata stated unequivocally that he feared for his life as Jeff

Roberts was shooting at him. Bullets were hitting the mailbox and missing Mata by mere inches. Therefore Officer Mata was obviously justified in using deadly force when he returned fire at Jeff.

While Officers Lopez and Farnsworth did not provide statements, body cam footage, Officer Mata's statement, and other physical evidence provide sufficient details of their involvement. Both officers were standing in the driveway, just yards away from Jeff during the firefight. From their position they would have seen Jeff shooting toward Mata, and at them. They also would have been able to see Officer Mata taking fire behind the mailbox. Although they did not provide a statement, the evidence overwhelmingly supports the conclusion that Lopez and Farnsworth reasonably believed the use of deadly force was necessary to prevent death or serious bodily injury to Officer Mata, themselves, and surrounding residents.

CONCLUSION

An objective evaluation of all of the circumstances and evidence in this case overwhelmingly supports the conclusion that it was reasonable for Officers Mata, Lopez, and Farnsworth to believe that deadly force was necessary to prevent death or serious bodily injury to the officers or others, including local residents. Therefore, I conclude that all three officers were justified in their use of deadly force.

Please feel free to call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Christopher F. Allred
Weber County Attorney