

PROGRESS REPORT

CR # CT13-44545
CASE TYPE: Arapahoe High School Shooting
REPORT BY: Investigator Antonio Hernandez
ACTION DATE: 12/19/13
DATE TYPED: 12/20/13
SUBJECT: Student Interviews

On 12/19/13, I responded to the Arapahoe High School located at:

2201 East Dry Creek Road
City of Centennial, Arapahoe County, Colorado

to assist with various Investigations functions ongoing at the school since the active shooter situation on 12/13/13.

At 0830 hours, I met with Littleton Security Officer GUY GRACE who showed me footage from the incident on 12/13/13. GUY explained that:

The video footage he was about to show me was of the northwest entrance where KARL PIERSON had made entry into the school just prior to him firing his first shot in the trophy hallway.

At 1114 hours, security cameras caught two subject propping that same door open.

He then showed me the footage which showed two individuals; one being a white male with brown medium-length hair wearing a grey hoody with two lines of small print on the front, black shorts with print on the left leg, light and dark colored tennis shoes with black and white soles, carrying a clear water bottle; a second white male with medium-length brown hair wearing a black hoody, dark jeans, dark shoes and a black and grey backpack with shiny shoulder straps in what appears to be a plaid. The two individuals approached the northwest doors. Both males exit through the inner foyer doors however they can be seen opening and playing with the outer foyer door. It appears that they may be propping it open. The second individual wearing the black hoody does not reenter the school however the first individual wearing the grey hoody does, walking southbound through the hallway and then out of sight of the camera.

At the time that I viewed the video, both subjects were unknown. GUY was able to provide me with color copies of stills taken from the security footage which I eventually handed off to ACSO Investigator MARY LOU GWALTNEY, who I was told would do follow-up with regard to trying to identify the two males.

I was then informed by ACSO Lt. KEVIN HEATON that a female, later identified as:

Exhibit No.:	40
Deponent:	Song
Date/PPR:	10/9/15
Hunter + Geist, Inc. AM	

██████████
DOB: ██████████

had told the School Psychologist, Dr. SONG, that KARL PIERSON told her that he had bought a shotgun named "Kurt Cobain" prior to 12/13/13.

I was able to locate ██████████ in the school cafeteria. She agreed to be interviewed. I then took her into a conference room where a video camera had previously been set up. My interview with ██████████ was taped and she, in essence, stated the following:

She knows KARL PIERSON through her ██████████ ██████████ ██████████

Both ██████████ and KARL were on the Debate Team.

██████████ considered KARL to be a friend.

KARL had a reputation for shocking people.

On Thursday, 12/12/13, she needed to turn in a homework assignment to a teacher (who she identified only as Mr. MEYER).

She located Mr MEYER who was having a conversation with KARL, ██████████ and an unidentified fourth male, in the school hallway.

She approached the four of them and overheard KARL talking about a shotgun that he had recently purchased and that KARL had named the shotgun "Kurt Cobain" stating, "What else would you name a shotgun?"

During the conversation, ██████████ was lightheartedly giving KARL a hard time however she does not remember exactly what was said.

KARL responded by saying, "Don't make me show you Kurt Cobain" in a lighthearted manner.

Mr. MEYER then stated, "You know, KARL, if ██████████ had felt threatened, you could get suspended;" at which time ██████████ stated, "Oh, yeah KARL, another suspension."

At that time, the conversation between all five of them ended and they all went their separate ways.

██████████ stated that:

PROGRESS REPORT
CR#CT13-44545

Prior to her arrival, KARL had shown [REDACTED] a picture of the shotgun however [REDACTED] did not see that picture.

She believes that Mr. MEYER also did not see the picture of the shotgun however she is not sure.

After they went their separate ways, [REDACTED] stayed next to Mr. MEYER to hand in her homework and they talked briefly about how strange KARL and the other unidentified fourth male were.

I asked [REDACTED] to describe the unidentified fourth male and she stated that:

He is a skinny white male with brown hair and glasses and she believes that he is a senior; she could not give any further description.

I then asked [REDACTED] to explain why she and Mr. MEYER had made the comments about KARL and the other boy being strange. [REDACTED] stated that:

KARL always likes to expand conversations.

I then asked [REDACTED] to describe KARL a little bit better in her own words. She stated that:

KARL's parents were super conservative and KARL had swung the other way.

KARL was very proud of his role on the Speech and Debate Team however he did have anger issues.

Often, it was his way or not.

She remembers an instance a long time ago where KARL had asked someone out however the girl declined; he was very, very angry about that.

She could not remember any other specifics about that incident to include the name of the girl that he tried to ask out.

I asked [REDACTED] if she personally was threatened by KARL and she stated no. [REDACTED] further stated that:

She knew KARL was dating someone but the girl did not attend Arapahoe High School.

I then asked her if there were any incidents that come to mind that we should know about previous to Thursday. [REDACTED] stated that:

PROGRESS REPORT
CR#CT13-44545

Nothing came to mind however she did once again acknowledge that KARL had anger management issues but he was getting better.

KARL had never talked about guns or violence previous to Thursday.

After interviewing [REDACTED] I was informed by ACSO Lt. KEVIN HEATON that a student by the name of :

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
DOB [REDACTED]

had seen a picture of the shotgun purchased by KARL previous to the shooting. I was able to interview [REDACTED] in a similar interview situation to that of [REDACTED]. During the taped interview, [REDACTED] explained, in essence, the following:

She is on the Debate Team along with KARL.

She remembers seeing a picture of a shotgun that KARL had recently purchased.

She believes she either saw the picture on the Tuesday previous to the shooting which would have been 12/10/13 or the Thursday exactly one week before the shooting which would have been 12/05/13.

I asked her to explain the circumstances of when she observed the picture of the shotgun. She stated that:

She was sitting with KARL and [REDACTED] as always, during lunch.

KARL pulled out a picture of a shotgun which she believed was mostly black with some brown; no further description available.

In the picture, the gun appeared to be lying on a table and there were no other details that she could give about the pictures.

[REDACTED] remembers stating out loud, "Who would let KARL by a gun?"

[REDACTED] couldn't really explain why she had made that statement other than to say that she was trying to give KARL a hard time.

KARL did not say where or why he purchased the shotgun.

[REDACTED] then stated that:

After the fact, she had talked to another student who she knew only as:

[REDACTED]

who told her that when he was made aware of the shotgun, he asked KARL if he was going to go hunting with it.

[REDACTED] reiterated that this was third party information and that she had no other details about the conversation between [REDACTED] and KARL. [REDACTED] then explained that:

She has known KARL since freshman year.

She is currently in the 11th grade.

She is very close with him and considers him to be like a brother.

KARL was very serious about his role as captain of the Debate Team.

I asked [REDACTED] if she remembers anything significant previous to the Thursday when she saw the picture of the shotgun. She could only state that:

KARL was very into socialism and communism but she thought he was a closet conservative.

His favorite shirt was a red shirt with yellow writing which he wore at least two times a week.

She does remember [REDACTED] telling her about an incident where KARL had threatened him with a gun however she could provide no more information about that incident.

[REDACTED] never expanded on his feelings about that threat.

I then asked her about KARL's relationship with Mr. MURPHY. She explained that:

It was a very strained relationship and at the beginning of the year, KARL had been suspended for three days for comments he had stated in class.

As punishment, Mr. MURPHY removed KARL's captain title however KARL continued to consider himself a captain of the Debate Team.

KARL was only allowed to practice by himself for debate functions.

KARL was allowed to attend tournaments.

██████████ stated that:

She also had a strained relationship with Mr. MURPHY.

Once, she had texted KARL in tears because MURPHY was being such a tough coach.

KARL would help her by making her feel better.

I asked ██████████ if KARL had ever made any threats towards Mr. MURPHY. She stated that.

She remembers one threat; back in September, he had joked about killing Mr. MURPHY.

She did not take this threat seriously and thought that he was merely joking.

The previous year, everyone on the Debate Team had tried to remove Mr. MURPHY as coach.

Mr. MURPHY had made the comment to the team that if they wanted him to be removed as coach that they needed to go to administration.

Nobody on the Debate Team really followed through with this.

She then explained that:

She was aware that KARL was reading the Anarchist Cookbook however she did not know much about the book and could not expand any more on that.

She did believe that KARL had a girlfriend and that she goes to ██████████.

KARL hit on ██████████ every day.

██████████ had a crush on him but they never dated or had any other type of intimate relationship.

I then asked her if KARL had been reading the Anarchist Cookbook, did he ever mention anything about making a bomb and she said no. ██████████ then stated that:

She had found out through the news that a classmate identified only as:

██████████
DOB: Unknown

PROGRESS REPORT
CR#CT13-44545

had given an interview to the L.A. Times stating that he was trying to get help for KARL.

She had a brief conversation with [REDACTED] at which time she brought up the interview however [REDACTED] did not wish to talk about it.

I then asked her who KARL would have confided in and she stated:

His three friends, [REDACTED]

I then asked her about what she observed on 12/13/13 during the incident. She stated that:

At the time of the shooting, she was in Room C8 in AP Calculus.

She remembers hearing something loud out in the hallway which she believed was a gunshot.

She then heard 3 to 4 more gunshots coming from an unknown location in the school.

Everyone else then went into lockdown.

While in lockdown, she heard someone out in the hall shouting, "Where is he? Where is he?"

After that, she only remembers hearing various SWAT Teams in the hallway at different times.

The only other thing she heard was police activity out in the hallway until the time that they were allowed to leave the classroom.

After they were outside, she remembers hearing rumors that it was KARL that was responsible for the shooting.

Once they were at the Shepherd of the Hills School, she found out for sure that it was KARL that had perpetrated the shooting.

At 1452 hours, I spoke by phone with

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] name was on the roster of Debate Team Members. [REDACTED] stated that:

PROGRESS REPORT
CR#CT13-44545

He does not know KARL very well, only that he was kicked off the team in September and that is approximately when he joined the team.

I asked [REDACTED] if he knew any of KARL's friends and he stated:

Only one, identified us:

[REDACTED]
DOB: Unknown

He spoke with [REDACTED] after the incident and [REDACTED] was angry, saying that KARL was a good person and that he was surprised that he was responsible for the shooting.

I asked [REDACTED] if anybody on the team ever talked about KARL and he stated that:

No one did prior to the shooting.

Everybody on the team liked KARL.

It was out of character for him to do such a thing.

[REDACTED] did not know anything about a gun.

I asked [REDACTED] who KARL's closest friends may be and he stated that:

There were three known to him:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] then clarified that [REDACTED] was his closest friend. I then asked [REDACTED] where he was during the actual shooting on 12/13/13. He stated that:

He was in the swimming pool area during 5th period.

Two girls ran in to the pool and told Mr. RICHMOND who was the coach at the time, that there had been a shooting.

Mr. RICHMOND ushered the kids into a locker room.

A friend of his named [REDACTED] had a computer and that is how they found out that there was, indeed, a shooting in the school.

PROGRESS REPORT
CR#CT13-44545

██████ believes that they were in the locker room for at least 2 ½ hours before police escorted them outside.

██████ stated that he had nothing else important to share with me at that time.

I then did a personal interview with another Debate Team Member, identified as:

████████████████████
████████████████████
who stated that:

He was a freshman and had just recently joined the Debate Team and did not really know of anything of importance to share with me regarding KARL.

I then asked him where he was at the time of the incident and he stated that:

He was at home, sick.

He only found out through news about the shooting and about KARL's involvement.

He had nothing further to offer.

That concluded the interviews that I conducted on 12/19/13.

On 12/20/13 I conducted a phone interview with debate team member:

████████████████████
████████████████████
██████ stated in essence the following:

She is not very familiar with KARL PIERSON and does not consider him a friend.

She has heard that he was respectable, intelligent, and likeable.

She had brief interactions with him last year and she does not remember anything out of the ordinary about him.

It has been almost a full year since she has spoken to KARL.

During the shooting on 12/13/13 ██████████ was in Ms. Lee's 5th hour English class, room C14.

PROGRESS REPORT
CR#CT13-44545

She heard one gunshot and was very confused.

She then heard a second gunshot right after the first and realized what they were.

Ms. Lee put the class on lockdown.

██████████ heard one more shot a few seconds later.

She and the rest of the students remained in the class room on lockdown for the next hour and a half.

While on lock down ██████████ remembers hearing shouting in the hallway which made her think the shooter was still active.

She could not make out what was being said.

She then got a text alert saying there were police in the building and remembers the door handle being jiggled several times while they remained in lockdown.

It wasn't until they were evacuated to the football field when she found out that KARL had fired the shots she heard in the hallway.

██████████ could not give me any other specific information about KARL or the incident.

On 12/23/13 I drafted a preservation letter directed to Facebook for the following account belonging to KARL at the time of the shooting:

<https://www.facebook.com/karlisboss?ref=ts>

I provided this preservation letter with Facebook using both the on-line link provided on their website and their fax number, #650-472-8007. A copy of the letter was sent to records.

Nothing further at this time.