

PROGRESS REPORT

CASE # CT13-44545

CASE TYPE: Homicide

REPORT BY: Investigator Jeff Himes

DATE TYPED: 01/31/2014

On 12/17/2013 at approximately 0716 hours, this Investigator interviewed Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Deputy James Englert in room 3408. The entire interview was recorded. Refer to the DVD for exact details of the interview.

Deputy Englert advised that he has been a Deputy at ACSO for over 14 years and been a School Resource Officer (SRO) at Arapahoe High School (AHS) for over 6 years. Deputy Englert described what he did on a usual day at AHS.

Deputy Englert continued and advised that kids are use to seeing a Deputy at AHS and he really enjoys working with the kids.

Deputy Englert stated that he was working on 12/13/2014 at AHS and arrived at approximately 0720 hours. ACSO Deputy Bratch was at AHS and they went to Starbucks. The two of them walked around the campus and then Deputy Bratch left prior to lunch. Deputy Englert stated the morning was uneventful and nothing sticks out in his mind. Deputy Englert did not see anything suspicious and did not receive any information that something bad was going to happen at AHS. Deputy Englert stated he got his lunch out of his office and went to cafeteria and he walked into staff eating area and Darrell Meredith, maybe Rod Mauler, Steve Sisler, Brian Jesse were sitting there. Deputy Englert said they were joking around and over the radio he heard an excited voice in Spanish. They kept talking and then he heard a voice that yelled, "Lockdown." Deputy Englert learned later that it was security guard Cameron Rust who yelled lockdown. He ran out of the eating area and saw people running and Rebecca was ushering kids into an office. He got on his radio, his ACSO radio and requested help from dispatch for additional officers. Deputy Englert stated that at this time, he still did not know what was going on, but just in case wanted the cavalry.

Deputy Englert continued and stated he somehow got info that he needed to go down the north hallway towards the library. He believes he saw haziness, almost like smoke in the hallway. As he was running down the north hallway, he was being very descriptive on the radio as to what he knew. Deputy Englert stated he pulled out his gun and was running towards the library. Deputy Englert advised that it was very hectic in the school. He stated he was listening for shots. Deputy Englert stated that Rod Mauler was running down the hall with him and Mr. Mauler told him afterwards that he, Mr. Mauler, heard a pop sound and asked Deputy Englert if he heard that. Deputy Englert stated he was looking for an active shooter and looked into the library and

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remembers seeing two little fires and said he saw a lot of smoke. He advised on the police radio that there was fire in the library. He got to the end of the hallway and looked and saw a girl laying there. Deputy Englert said he believed the girl was dead because there was a lot of blood. Deputy Englert tried to identify the girl by her appearance and was trying to listen for more gunshots. He asked Mr. Mauler to stay with the injured girl and that Mr. Meredith came up the hallway, he also saw another administrator, Kevin Kolosas, go into the library. Deputy Englert stated he saw shotgun shells on the ground.

Deputy Englert continued and advised that he turned around and did not see any other bodies lying on the ground. Deputy Englert stated that he did not know the injured girls name at the time, but later learned her name was Claire.

Deputy Englert continued and said Mr. Mauler to take the girl (Claire) out the south doors, by the study hall. Deputy Englert stated Mr. Mauler and Mr. Meredith carried Claire down the hall. Deputy Bratch and Deputy Mason then showed up, they continued to listen for shots and the fire alarms go off. Deputy Englert heard that the fires were out in the library and he decided he needed to go to the library and they began to approach the library. Deputy Englert remembers stepping into the library and he saw two legs so he began to give commands. The person came to him and he patted him down. Deputy Englert said there is a room in the library and for some reason he knew that people were in the room. The door to the room opened and he saw Carla who works in the library and Kevin Kolosas. Kevin Kolosas said to him, "It's Karl Pierson." Deputy Englert stated he knew Karl Pierson and was able to picture him in his mind. He stated he got on the radio and said it was Karl Pierson and gave a physical description.

Deputy Englert, Deputy Bratch and Deputy Mason began to clear the library and went to the right and they found Karl Pierson lying on the ground. Deputy Englert said he identified Karl Pierson as the person lying on the ground and he appeared dead as he saw no signs of life. Deputy Englert slid the shotgun away from Karl Pierson. Deputy Englert said that he knew that Karl Pierson did not like Tracy Murphy so he got on the radio and asked where Tracy Murphy was and was told Mr. Murphy was o.k. Deputy Englert stated that he smelled gasoline in the library and members of the bomb squad entered the library to search for explosives.

Deputy Englert continued and stated he exited the library and went into the north hallway and went to Karl Pierson's locker. Deputy Englert said he knew Karl Pierson was a smart kid and was concerned Karl Pierson could do a lot of damage if he put his mind to it. Deputy Englert stated he observed a lot of shotgun shells on the ground in the hallway, but doesn't remember seeing any shells in the library. Deputy Englert said he knew that Karl

Pierson had friends, but was unsure if his friends would be involved.

Deputy Englert stated he heard something as he was initially running down the hallway, but cannot say for 100% that it was a shot from a gun. He stated he never heard a steady pattern of gunshots. Deputy Englert was advised who the injured girl was, Claire Davis, but did not know her at the school.

Deputy Englert, when advised by Kevin Kolosas that it was Karl Pierson, was shocked because he knew Karl Pierson. Has never heard anything about Karl Pierson and Claire Davis being friends, boyfriends or anything else like that. Never heard anything that Karl Pierson and Claire Davis even knew each other.

Deputy Englert had some indication that Karl Pierson entered the school through the forum doors, a feeling because he believed that could be a way to enter the school. He cannot say exactly which door Karl Pierson entered. For arguments sake, if Karl Pierson entered the forum doors, those doors should be locked.

Deputy Englert gave a description of how he believed the doors worked.

Deputy Englert said he will usually check doors throughout the school to make sure they are closed and when they are propped open, he will immediately close them.

Deputy Englert stated he knew Karl Pierson, he hung out in the cafeteria a lot. Some of his friends are [REDACTED]. Karl Pierson would refer to him as Deputy Englert, he would always say hi. Deputy Englert stated that he did a report concerning Karl Pierson. He said back in September, he met with Kevin Kolosas and Mr. Kolosas said he wanted to tell him something, it's not that big of a deal, but just so you know. Deputy Englert advised that Mr. Kolosas told him that Karl Pierson had been kicked off the Speech and Debate team and Karl Pierson was outside and upset and Tracy Murphy may have been standing outside and Karl Pierson yelled something to Mr. Murphy. Deputy Englert said that he believed Karl Pierson may have told Mr. Murphy to fuck off, but he cannot remember, but his report accurately reflects what happened back in September. Deputy Englert advised that he has not looked at his report since he wrote it.

Deputy Englert said that he knew that Karl Pierson did not like Tracy Murphy because of the report he had taken in September. Deputy Englert has had meetings with Tracy Murphy concerning safety and he told Mr. Murphy that if something happened in the library, he should get out the door that is in the library. Deputy Englert said he spoke to Mr. Murphy about Speech and Debate and Mr. Murphy said there was a debate in Denver and Karl Pierson was talking about a penis during his speech and Mr.

Murphy felt that was inappropriate. Mr. Murphy told Deputy Englert that Karl Pierson had said inappropriate things in debates before. Deputy Englert said that Karl Pierson was a lower level member of the Speech and Debate team. Mr. Murphy told Deputy Englert that Karl Pierson gave him (Mr. Murphy) a weird feeling and Deputy Englert told Mr. Murphy that if anything happened, Mr. Murphy needed to tell him. After this, Deputy Englert said he would speak to Karl Pierson from time to time and the last time he saw Karl Pierson was earlier this week or last week. He said hello to Karl Pierson and he referred back to him in a manner not accustomed to how Karl Pierson usually acts.

Deputy Englert said that Karl Pierson was not a loner, he had friends, would hang out all the time with friends, he was smart, as far as he knows has good grades. He never heard anything about Karl Pierson being bullied. He knew that one of the school administrators thought Mr. Murphy was over reacting in his fear about Karl Pierson.