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City of Louisville

DIVISION OF POLICE

633 W. Jefferson Street • Louisville, Kentucky 40202-2786



April 20, 2002

Transcriber, this is uh, Detective Francisco Rivera, from the Louisville Police Department Homicide Squad. Today's date is the uh, Saturday, April the 20th, of 2002. The current time is 0329 hours, and uh, this is a uh, correction; this statement is in reference to uh, Case File 02-048. Present with me is Officer uh, Wayne Kaufman, Code #20...2921.

Rivera

Officer Kaufman, are you aware of the uh, recorder, that the tape recorder is on?

Kaufman

Yes, I am.

Rivera

Okay. Speak up a little louder, please.

Kaufman

Yes, I am.

Rivera

Okay. Uh, did this meet with your approval?

Kaufman

Yes, it's fine.

Rivera

Okay. Uh, for the record, go ahead and uh, uh, state your name and uh, spell it for me, please.

Kaufman

Larry Wayne Kaufman, Junior. It's L-A-R-R-Y W-A-Y-N-E K-A-U-F-M-A-N, Junior. I go by my middle name, Wayne.

Rivera

Okay. And uh, what is your date of birth?

Kaufman

8/5 of '71.

Rivera

Okay. What is your code number?

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Kaufman

2921.

Rivera

Uh, what district are you working?

Kaufman

Uh, K9 Unit.

Rivera

Okay. I got that. And you are employed by...

Kaufman

Uh, the Louisville Division of Police.

Rivera

Okay. Uh, on your own words, go ahead and, and tell me what, what happened tonight here.

Kaufman

I heard that they had a barricaded subject in the First District, that uh, apparently they had used pepper balls on, and it didn't work, and I went, I went ahead and uh, started out that way, in case they may be able to use the dog, uh, not knowin' what was goin' on, really. Uh, myself and K9-3, Dale Cottongim, went out there, and uh, they made the decision that they would try to use uh, pepper gas on the guy, to get him to come out. He was wanted on some felony warrants, the way we understood it, for assaultin' an officer. And uh, he was standing in his kitchen when I got there. You could visibly see him through the back of the apartment, holdin' a knife in one hand--a real big butcher knife--and a cast-iron skillet in the other hand, and you could see, visibly, where he had been shot with the pepper balls; that had no affect. And uh, through the course of, I guess it was the night chief and uh, District Commanders, and everybody showin' up, they uh, deemed a SWATT call out. The SWATT team arrived and they all got set up and they decided they were gonna try pepper first. They used uh, the more potent pepper on 'im, which didn't work. They flash banded him. It didn't

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work, and as a last resort, they were going to uh, make entry through the sliding glass door, at which time, I was to have the dog keyed up on the subject and they were gonna shoot him with the uh, beanbag rounds to try to distract him, while I sent the dog...while I sent the dog in after him. Well, they shot 'im with the beanbag rounds, and he did flinch, and I sent the dog, and immediately when the dog engaged him, he stabbed the dog. The dog backed off, ran in a circle, and went back to re-engage again. And the entire time that he's doin' this, they're still shootin' 'im with beanbags. And when he went to re-engage the second time, the guy stabbed him again. The dog backed off again and come back to me as, you know, he was, as if, this guy's hurtin' me, and I sent the dog after him again. In the meantime, when the dog was comin' back to me, the guy came after me with the knife, rather than the dog. And the dog, when he re-engaged the third time, caught the guy's attention again, and drew it away from me, and he stabbed at the dog a couple more times, and uh, the dog finally came back to me. I was tryin' to get to my service weapon, was unable to do it with the beanbags flyin' by both sides of my, of my head, and uh, decided that I'd start tryin' to get closer to the door. As I did, the guy, when the dog came away from the guy and started comin' back to me, the guy came after me, at which time, the SWATT team thought that uh, my life was in danger, obviously. He was comin' after me with a knife and got extremely close, lungin' at me with the knife, and uh, it was at that point that someone fired live rounds and struck the subject. That got 'im to step back long enough for me to grab the dog and get out of the

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apartment, and uh, we rushed the dog to Shively Animal Clinic for surgery, and he's currently there now.

Rivera

Okay. Uh, could you describe that subject for, for the record?

Kaufman

He's a very large white male, uh... approx...

Rivera

...About how tall...I'm sorry, go ahead...

Kaufman

...approximately...I don't know...6 foot, uh, 6-2, 300, 350 pounds...

Rivera

Okay. Uh, do you remember, what was he wearing?

Kaufman

Uh, I'm not sure if it was jeans or not, he was barefoot, he had socks on, but he didn't have any shoes on. He had uh, some type of a dress shirt, like a button-down-type shirt, with uh, long sleeves.

Rivera

Okay. You mentioned that he had a knife. What kind o' knife?

Kaufman

He had a very large uh, butcher knife...

Rivera

...Okay...

Kaufman

...from like uh, the kitchen, and a large cast-iron skillet.

Rivera

Okay. Do you remember in which hand did he have the uh, knife?

Kaufman

...He had the knife in the right hand and the cast-iron skillet in the left.

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Rivera

Uh, you mentioned that he uh, threat you or threat, threat you with, with the knife or with the...

Kaufman

...He came after me with the knife...

Rivera

...Okay...

Kaufman

...uh, lunging towards me. As, as he was, he was tryin' to stab me the same way that he stabbed the dog.

Rivera

Okay. So he was attempting to stab you.

Kaufman

Yes.

Rivera

I'm going to ask you, did you at that time, feel that your life was in danger?

Kaufman

Yes. At that point, if I would o' been able to've gotten my weapon out, I would o' shot 'im.

Rivera

Uhm, where did he stab the dog?

Kaufman

He stabbed the dog...the two times, for sure, that I know about, which the clinic paged me and let me know that there is a third wound also, I don't know where that one's at...the one is in his neck. The other one is in his ear. The one in his neck missed his main artery by one millimeter, almost killin' the dog.

Rivera

And uh, Transcriber, for the record, Officer Wayne Kaufman is dressed in a Class B., uh, uniform, and is clearly marked with the uh, uh, uh, Police Department uh, K9 emblem and a uh, Police Department uh, patches. Uh, is there anything else that you want to add at this time, Officer?

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Kaufman

Uh, do you need the dog's name or...

Rivera

Yes, please.

Kaufman

The dog's name is K9 Rooky.

Rivera

K9 Rooky?

Kaufman

Rooky.

Rivera

Okay. Uh, what ha...what happened after, after the uh, subject got uh, got, did you say the subject got shot by the SWATT team?

Kaufman

Yes.

Rivera

Okay. What happened afterwards?

Kaufman

Uh, my back was to the SWATT team when they actually shot 'im. I just assumed, with all the gunfire goin' off, that it was still beanbags, but when they seen that my life was in danger and I was gettin' extremely close to bein' stabbed, one of 'em shot 'im with live rounds and that caused him to step back, and, at that time, that's when someone grabbed me from behind and pulled me out the door, and I had just got ahold of my dog. Pulled myself and my dog out the door.

Rivera

Okay.

Kaufman

And uh, the stand-off continued after that, the lie rounds didn't really seem to affect him, at that time, uh, 'cause we rushed the dog to the hospital, which is all the way in Shively. We came back because we still had some other, another K9 Unit there, and my vehicle was still

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there, and, in the meantime, they had tried several other things, and he was still inside, bein' shot twice, and they were just gettin' ready to use the uh, fire hoses, and uh, ultimately, the fire hoses pinned him in the bathroom, and the combination of, I guess, loss o' blood and the fire hoses, they were finally able to overpower 'im with the uh, the SWATT team and the shield, and pin him to the floor and cuff him. And uh, I didn't see it, but they started hollerin' for another set of uh, cuffs, because they had put the flex cuffs on 'im and, although he was on the ground and under the shield, he was able to break the flex cuffs. And he was a rather large man, so they had to use two sets of metal cuffs on 'im to uh, sub...finally subdue 'im. And they uh, at that time, they brought 'im out and EMS was already standin' by, waitin'. EMS loaded 'im straight on the stretcher and took him straight to the hospital.

Rivera

Is there anything that you want to add?

Kaufman

Umm, that about sums it up.

Rivera

Okay. Uh, Officer Kaufman, are you under the influence of alcohol, or drugs, or any intoxicants, at this time?

Kaufman

No, sir.

Rivera

Were you on duty at the time of this incident?

Kaufman

Yes.

Rivera

Okay. We will now conclude the uh, taped statement. The time is 0340 hours, uh, we're still uh, Saturday, April the 20th, of 2002.

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END OF STATEMENT

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