

On Monday, November 22, 2021, I, Officer [REDACTED], was assigned to the Fall River Police Department Special Operations Division. At approximately 5:30 p.m., I responded to 120 Melville Street after hearing a radio broadcast "3-1" which is a code used when an Officer Needs Assistance.

When I arrived, I entered the first floor apartment of 120 Melville Street. Once inside the apartment, I observed a male lying on the floor inside of a bedroom. It was unknown to me at this time what had taken place. At the direction of Sgt. [REDACTED], I assisted other officers in clearing one of the rooms which was adjacent to the room I observed the male lying in. Upon knocking on the door, a male responded by opening the door while displaying both of his hands. The male occupant was ordered to exit the room at which time he was placed into handcuffs by Officer [REDACTED] and I for the safety of everyone inside the apartment. This male was informed that he was not under arrest but instead was being detained.

It was at this time, I entered the bedroom where the male was being treated by Paramedics from the Fall River Fire Department. I assisted medical personnel by bringing in a back board so that the patient could be safely secured for transport. Officer [REDACTED] and I assisted by carrying the lower portion of the backboard where the patient's feet were placed. In order to make enough clearance to safely move the patient, I removed a small chair and some assorted picture frames from the entrance of the bedroom. These items were obstructing the path where the patient was to be moved. Upon moving these items, I observed a knife on the floor. The knife had a stainless steel blade with a black handle. The remaining rooms of the apartment were still being searched by the other officers so for officer safety purposes I removed the knife and placed it on a desk which was also inside the bedroom. Once the knife was removed out of the reach of anyone inside the apartment, Officer [REDACTED] and I carried the backboard outside and onto a stretcher where the patient was placed before being transported to the hospital.

Respectfully Submitted,

Officer [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE FOR SERGEANT [REDACTED]

Ref: 21-8229-OF

On 11/22/21 at approximately 6:00 PM I, Sergeant [REDACTED], was assigned to the Fall River Police Dept, A- Watch, S-2, south end sector Sergeant.

On the above date at approximately 6:05 PM I was on patrol in the area of Pocasset Street when I heard Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] change their location to 120 Melville Street in an attempt to make an arrest. Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had originally responded to 130 Lowell Street regarding a past domestic that had been reported by a [REDACTED]. Approximately five minutes after their arrival I heard a frantic radio transmission of "3-1", which is our code for Officer needs Assistance. I radioed dispatch and asked which unit had called the 3-1 and was informed it was the units on Melville St. I immediately activated my emergency lights and responded to 120 Melville Street. I was the first unit to arrive on scene, quickly followed by Officers [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and every other available sector car in the city. We ran to 120 Melville Street which is set back and entered the first floor apartment where I located Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Both officers had their service weapons drawn and were pointed in the direction of a bedroom. Upon seeing me enter the room Officer [REDACTED] stated, " That guy just tried to kill me with a knife! [REDACTED] shot him!" At that point I drew my service weapon and rounded the corner where I observed a male later identified as Anthony Harden DOB [REDACTED]/91 laying on the floor just inside the door way of a bedroom on the right hand side of the hallway. Mr. Harden was laying belly down on the ground, groaning and was still moving his hands around. I began giving Mr. Harden commands to stop moving and to show me his hands. Once I could see both hands I moved forward into the room and secured him in handcuffs with the assistance of Officer [REDACTED]. Mr. Harden attempted to resist my efforts to place handcuffs on him by attempting to pull his hands away from me and tuck his hands under his body. Once we secured him in handcuffs I notified dispatch that we needed a rescue for Mr. Harden and shouted for someone to grab a med bag to render aid. I then moved back out into the hallway in an effort to clear the rest of the house while other officers moved in to render aid to Mr. Harden. Due to the chaos and confusion of the scene I do not recall which officers entered to render aid. I proceeded to clear the rest of the first floor apartment with the assistance of Officers [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. A male who identified himself as Mr. Hardens brother was located in the bedroom across the hall along with a large aggressive pit bull. Mr. Hardens brother was secured in handcuffs and removed from the bedroom. A shield was utilized to push into the bedroom with the pit bull in order to fully clear the room. A second male was located on the second floor and secured. Both men were ultimately transported to the station where they were later interviewed by MCD detectives. A secondary search of the apartments were completed, during which time I observed a black handled stainless steel steak knife on top of a table immediatly adjacent to where I located Mr. Harden. I was later contacted by Officer [REDACTED] who informed me that he had observed the knife on the floor in the immediate area of where I had secured Mr. Harden. He stated that he put the knife on the desk while Mr. Harden was being placed on the back board by Rescue personnel.

Once the scene was secured Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were posted at the entrances of 120 Melville Street and a crime scene log was started. Mr. Harden was transported via Rescue 2 accompanied by Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to St. Annes where he was later pronounced deceased. Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were transported to CMH for medical evaluation. Sgt. [REDACTED] responded to CMH to secure Officer [REDACTED]'s service weapon per FRPD policy. I remained on scene and set a perimeter up and notified the watch commander, Lt. [REDACTED]. Crime scene tape was set up at Melville at Hamlet and Lee and Melville. Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were posted on the perimeter for scene control. Animal control was later contacted per my request to respond and remove the pit bull from the residence. ACO [REDACTED] responded and safely removed the dog. I remained on scene along with MCD Detective [REDACTED] and MA State Police Detectives, Officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I was later relieved by Sergeant [REDACTED] and responded to the station to author my report.