

Strasburg Police Case Report

Summary

Print Date/Time: 03/19/2025 11:42
Login ID: tshillingburg
Case Number: 2023-00018532

STRASBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORI Number: VA0850400

Case

Case Number:	2023-00018532	Incident Type:	Disorderly Conduct
Location:	21 SIGNAL KNOB DR STRASBURG, VA 22657	Occurred From:	12/17/2023 22:28
Reporting Officer ID:	326 - Poe	Occurred Thru:	12/17/2023 22:28
		Disposition:	TOT
		Disposition Date:	12/20/2023
		Reported Date:	12/17/2023 22:28 Sunday

Offenses

No.	Group/ORI	Crime Code	Statute	Description	Counts
1	State	90C	18.2-415 M	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	1

Subjects

Type	No.	Name	Address	Phone	Race	Sex	DOB/Age
Complainant	1	Mowery, Tammy Lynn	[REDACTED] STRASBURG, VA 22657	[REDACTED]	White	Female	
Other	1	Corman, Troy Charles	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	White	Male	
Other	2	Setser, Crystal	[REDACTED] 121 Manassas, VA 20110	[REDACTED]	White	Female	
Other	3	Ours, Renee	[REDACTED] Woodstock, VA 22664		White	Female	
Suspect	1	Tompkins, Melissa Renee			White	Female	06/09/1983 40

Arrests

Arrest No.	Name	Address	Date/Time	Type	Age
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Property

Date	Code	Type	Make	Model	Description	Tag No.	Item No.
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Vehicles

No.	Role	Vehicle Type	Year Make	Model	Color	License Plate	State
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**STRASBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
INITIAL REPORT**

SPD Case Number: 2023-18532
Report Date: December 19, 2023
Event Type: Disorderly Conduct
Case Agent: Detective G. R. Poe, #807

BRIEF SYNOPSIS:

Initial report concerning response to Ramada Inn located at 21 Signal Knob Drive, Strasburg, Virginia in reference to a disorderly subject.

REPORT OF INCIDENT:

1. On December 17, 2023 at the approximate time of 22:33 Hrs, Officer G. G. Rathore and Officer B. M. Hager arrived at the Ramada Inn located at 21 Signal Knob Drive in reference to a disorderly female who was said to be behind of the front desk without permission, throwing cans of soda in the lobby area of the business, and running through the hallways carrying a fire extinguisher.
2. Shortly following his arrival, Officer Rathore encountered the female who has been later identified as being Melissa TOMPKINS (NFI). Officer Hager encountered a male, later identified as Troy Charles CORMAN (NFI).
3. At some point during this encounter, a physical altercation ensued between Officer Rathore and TOMPKINS in the customer parking lot portion of the establishment.
4. One should refer to reports to be submitted by Officer Rathore, Officer Hager, and Officer Rhodes at a later date as to the specific details and events that occurred during this incident.

CURRENT CASE STATUS:

Currently this investigation is classified as Closed and has been assigned to the Virginia State Police who accepted all investigative responsibility.

EVIDENCE CHAIN OF CUSTODY:

Nothing to Report.

PERSON DETAIL:

- a) Troy Charles CORMAN
- b) Melissa TOMPKINS

STRASBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

SPD Case Number: 2023-18532
Report Date: December 19, 2023
Event Type: Officer Involved Shooting
Case Agent: Detective G. R. Poe, #807

BRIEF SYNOPSIS:

Case update following response to an officer involved shooting matter.

REPORT OF INCIDENT:

1. On Sunday December 17, 2023 at the approximate time of 22:40 Hrs, Detective G. R. Poe was notified of an officer involved shooting that had just occurred at the Ramada Inn located at 21 Signal knob Drive, Strasburg, Virginia.
2. While enroute to the scene, Detective Poe was advised that a Strasburg Police Officer had initially responded to business to address a disorderly female who was in the main lobby.
3. Detective Poe was further informed that the female responsible for causing the disturbance had not yet been identified but was being transported to Winchester Medical Center with life threatening injuries, and the Strasburg Police Officer involved was currently enroute to Shenandoah Memorial Hospital with non-life threatening but serious head injuries.
4. Detective Poe arrived on scene at the approximate time of 22:55 Hrs. and assisted Lieutenant P. A. Henry with securing the interior scene as well as the exterior scene.
5. Detective Poe and Lt. Henry further coordinated with the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division to maintain a uniformed law enforcement presence to be stationed centrally on all (3) floors of the hotel to include the hotel lobby where the incident was said to have originated.
6. At the approximate time of 23:50 Hrs, Detective Poe assisted the hotel staff by entering the front desk office area and collecting the master key to access guest rooms because the office area was closed for an undetermined amount of time as it was part of the overall crime scene.
7. This master key was immediately provided to Tammy Lynn MOWERY who was part of the hotel staff working when this incident occurred.

8. At the approximate time of 00:04 Hrs. Detective Poe and Lt. Henry exited the hotel and removed a pair of shoes from SPD Unit #4, a marked patrol vehicle assigned to Officer D. M. Rhodes.
9. At the approximate time of 00:15 Hrs. Senior Special Agent Eric Deel and Lieutenant Jay Perry with the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations, Culpeper Field Division (Division #2) arrived on scene and at this time all investigative responsibility was assigned to them and their agency.
10. After Detective Poe and Lt. Henry provided S/A Deel and Lt. Perry with all known facts and circumstances surrounding this incident, Detective Poe was assigned to maintain exterior scene security at the parking lot entrance located on Signal Knob Drive.
11. Detective Poe was relieved and departed the scene at the approximate time of 02:10 Hrs.

EVIDENCE CHAIN OF CUSTODY:

Nothing to Report.

PERSON DETAIL:

Nothing to Report.

STRASBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

SPD Case Number: 2023-18532
Report Date: December 20, 2023
Event Type: Officer Involved Shooting
Case Agent: Detective G. R. Poe, #807

BRIEF SYNOPSIS:

Case update following the receipt of biological specimens from the Northern Virginia Regional Medical Examiner's Office to be tested for the presence of communicable diseases.

REPORT OF INCIDENT:

1. On Wednesday December 20, 2023 at the approximate time of 11:33 Hrs. Detective G. R. Poe arrived at the Northern Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner located at 10850 Pyramid Place, Suite #121, Manassas, Virginia for the purpose for retrieving biological specimens (Blood) belonging to the decedent, Melissa Renee TOMPKINS for communicable disease testing.
2. The underlining purpose for the communicable disease testing is due to an exposure of biological fluids that Officer D. M. Rhodes experienced while attempting to perform lifesaving measures (CPR) on TOMPKINS on the evening of December 17, 2023.
3. The said specimen was provided to Detective Poe in a sealed clear plastic bag along with a self-contained ice pack to maintain the integrity of the sample while in transit.
4. Detective Poe was also provided with an evidence receipt indicating that the specimen was relinquished by Crystal SETSER and received by Detective G. R. Poe on this date; this document will be placed in the official case file
5. At the approximate time of 13:02 Hrs. Detective Poe arrived at Shenandoah Memorial Hospital (SMH) located at 759 South Main Street, Woodstock, Virginia and met with Renee OURS who is the Director of Laboratory Services for this facility.
6. At this time, Detective Poe briefed OURS on the known circumstances and the manner in which Officer D. M. Rhodes was exposed to TOMPKINS's blood.
7. OURS stated that she would forward the specimen to the appropriate personnel and our agency would be notified of the results in approximately seven (7) to ten (10) business days.

EVIDENCE CHAIN OF CUSTODY:

- a) One (1) sealed clear plastic zip-lock bag containing one (1) vial of frozen blood and one (1) self-contained ice pack was relinquished to Detective G. R. Poe of the Strasburg Police Department on Wednesday December 20, 2023 at the approximate time of 11:33 Hrs. by Crystal SETSER who is a Laboratory Technician employed by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner located at 10850 Pyramid Place, Suite #121, Manassas, Virginia.
- b) At the approximate time of 11:35 Hrs. Detective G. R. Poe departed the Medical Examiner's Office en route to Shenandoah Memorial Hospital located at 759 South Main Street, Woodstock, Virginia.
- c) At the approximate time of 13:02 Hrs. Detective G. R. Poe arrived at Shenandoah Memorial Hospital and relinquished the sealed zip-lock bag containing one (1) vial of frozen blood and one (1) self-contained ice pack to Ms. Renee OURS who is the Director of Laboratory Services for Shenandoah Memorial Hospital.

PERSON DETAIL:

- a) Crystal SETSER
Laboratory Technician
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner – Northern Virginia District
10850 Pyramid Place, Suite #121, Manassas, Virginia 20110
Phone: (703) 530-2600
- b) Renee OURS
Directory of Laboratory Services
Shenandoah Memorial Hospital
759 South Main Street, Woodstock, Virginia 22664
Phone: (540) 327-8400

CURRENT CASE STATUS:

- Currently, this case is classified as being Open-Active pending the submission of additional supplemental reports by Officer G. G. Rathore, Officer B. M. Hager, and Officer D. M. Rhodes.
- All additional investigative responsibility has been assigned to Senior Special Agent Eric Deel of the Virginia State Police, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Culpeper Field Division (Division #2).

Case#: 2023-18532

Victim:

Suspect: Thompsons, Melissa Renee

Location: 21 Signal Knob Drive Strasburg, VA 22657

Offense: Disorderly Conduct

Date: 12-17-23

Case notes of Officer P. A. Henry II

On 12-17-23 at approximately 2230hrs, I received a phone call from communications informing me there was an officer-involved shooting at the Ramada Inn located at 21 Signal Knob Drive Strasburg VA 22657. I advised communications I would be responding.

I contacted Sergeant Foster to make him aware as his shift was on duty at the time. I contacted Captain Magdinec to make him aware of the incident. I then contacted Sergeant Nixon and requested that he arrange for two officers from his shift report to work in a patrol capacity.

I then responded to the Ramada Inn located at 21 Signal Knob Drive in Strasburg VA. When I arrived, the initial area behind the Ramada Inn in the area of Que Botana was cordoned off with crime scene tape.

I made contact with Officer Rathore who had obvious injuries and confirmed that Shenandoah County Fire and Rescue were treating him. I also confirmed that Officer Rathore did not have his department-issued firearm. Officer Rathore's vest was secured in my vehicle and Officer Rathore was transported to Shenandoah Memorial Hospital for treatment.

I learned this incident originated inside of the Ramada in the lobby area. I requested Sergeant Foster to cordon off the building and the entire parking lot of the Ramada with crime scene tape and to treat the area as a crime scene.

I confirmed with communications that a Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office was enroute to Winchester Medical Center to maintain custody of the female, later identified as Melissa Tompkins who was transported.

Officer Hager advised she had taken possession of Officer Rathore's department-issued firearm and secured the weapon in her patrol vehicle. Officer Hager's patrol vehicle was inside of the initial area cordoned off with crime scene tape and I escorted her to her vehicle at which time I retrieved Officer Rathore's firearm. Officer Hager retrieved personal items from her patrol car at this time due to it being inside the crime scene.

Officer Rathore's firearm had not been cleared and I turned it over to Captain Magdinec in the same condition. Officer Hager and Officer Rhodes were transported to the Strasburg Police Department to await VSP BCI's arrival.

I requested communications contact Virginia State Police and request BCI respond to investigate this incident.

I spoke with Lieutenant Perry with VSP and advised him of the incident requesting that VSP investigate this incident. Perry advised he would have agents enroute.

Detective Poe and I went to the lobby area of the Ramada Inn to ensure that the inside of the business was secure for evidentiary purposes. I requested Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office have an officer on each floor of the hotel in a central location to ensure the scene was secure until VSP BCI could arrive. While in the business, I spoke with Tammy Lynn Mowery who was on duty at Ramada Inn when this incident took place. Mowery advised that she has access to the camera system if needed. Mowery also requested to retrieve a master key from the main desk area of the hotel. This area was affected by the incident so Detective Poe retrieved the key and turned it over to Mowery. Detective Poe and I then exited the hotel.

Officer Rhodes requested shoes from inside his patrol vehicle which was inside the crime scene. Detective Poe and I retrieved 1 pair of shoes from inside of Officer Rhodes patrol vehicle.

Lieutenant Perry and Special Agent Deel arrived on location and all information was relayed to them. Due to the rain, two (2) canopies belonging to the Strasburg Police Department were retrieved and put up in the area of evidence at the scene in an attempt to preserve evidence.

I stood by at this location and assisted in scene security and as needed until VSP advised I could clear.

PAH/803

On 12/17/2023 At 2235 hours, Officer D. M. Rhodes arrived on location at Ramada Inn (21 Signal Knob Dr. Strasburg, VA) where Officer G. Rathore and Officer B. Hager were on location of a reported disturbance. Shenandoah County ECC had advised a female had been throwing things around, inside the hotel and was last seen in possession of a fire extinguisher.

As can be seen in body camera footage during Rhodes' response, it was raining steadily at the time of the incident.

Rhodes heard Rathore on the radio advise he had one running on him. When Rhodes arrived on location, he observed a Police Cruiser in the rear parking lot behind Que Botana Mexican Grill & Bar (19 Signal Knob Dr. Strasburg, VA). Rhodes observed Rathore standing in the parking lot and what appeared to be a female laying on the ground ten (10) to twenty (20) feet in front of him.

As Rhodes exited his Patrol vehicle, he observed Rathore to have his firearm in his right hand, and his radio was out of the holder with the radio mic dangling off of his uniform. He stated "Why did you do that. Shots fired, shots fired shots fired. Why did she make me do that?" Rathore had blood coming from the right side of his head, Rhodes instructed Rathore to holster his weapon and Officer Hager took him back to the cruiser to evaluate his injuries and get him medical attention.

As Rhodes approached the female to evaluate her condition, he observed the following: She was wearing a dark colored sweatshirt or jacket, no pants, and pink underwear. There was what appeared to be a department issued taser laying on the ground several feet away from her, appearing to have both of the two (2) cartridges deployed in the direction of her person, at least one of the wires still attached to the female in the area of her abdomen. In addition, the female had an ASP Baton in her right hand which appeared to be in the fully extended position.

Rhodes removed the ASP baton from the female's hand, rolled her to a supine position (she was laying on her right side when he approached), and checked for a pulse. Pulse was not noticeably present and rescue compressions were started. Rhodes continued compressions until the arrival of rescue units who then took over lifesaving efforts.

After rescue took over, Rhodes advised Shenandoah County ECC to have a Law Enforcement unit respond to the hospital, notify Strasburg Police Department supervisors and investigations, and have the first incoming law enforcement units set up scene tape and scene security. Rhodes remained in the immediate area of where the suspect had been located until other units could arrive to provide scene security. Once Captain Magdinec arrived, Rhodes turned his body camera over to him for evidence.

Magdinec escorted Rhodes and Hager back to Strasburg Police Department where Rhodes realized he had, had an exposure to the female's blood. Rhodes had a cut on his right thumb which was there prior to the incident. The cut was bandaged and Rhodes had gloves on at the time of the incident however; Rhodes had been in direct contact with a large amount of blood from the female while performing lifesaving efforts. Blood had gotten into the gloves and soaked through the bandage Rhodes was wearing. Rhodes immediately notified Lt. C. Mead of

the exposure. Rhodes washed his hands thoroughly and cleaned the area with medical disinfectant wipes.

Rhodes was transported by Sgt. T. Foster to Shenandoah Memorial Hospital to obtain medical treatment for the exposure.

Rhodes is continuing with medical treatment due to the discovery of the female being positive for HIV and Hepatitis B.