



**NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWTON, MA**

INCIDENT # / REPORT #

21000646 / 1

OFFICER

DOWLING D

RANK

CAPTAIN

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

INCIDENT #21000646 DATA

As Of 01/27/2021 11:46:01

BASIC INFORMATION**CASE TITLE**

INVESTIGATION - CONLON

LOCATION

16 LINCOLN ST

APT/UNIT #**DATE/TIME REPORTED**

01/05/2021 13:43:27

DATE/TIME OCCURRED

On or about 01/05/2021 13:43

INCIDENT TYPE(S)/OFFENSE(S)

(9996)INVESTIGATION

PERSONS**ROLE**

INVOLVED PARTY

NAME

CONLON, MICHAEL

SEX

MALE

RACE

WHITE

AGE

28

DOB

07/09/1992

PHONE

(HOME) [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: 18 LINCOLN ST NEWTON, MA

(CELL) [REDACTED]

[NO OFFENDERS]

[NO VEHICLES]

PROPERTY**CLASS**

OTHER

DESCRIPTION

FIRE EXTINGUISHER

MAKE

AMEREX

MODEL

B500

SERIAL #

XN764040

VALUE**OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 1 / DOWLING D (13363)****DATE/TIME OF REPORT**

01/05/2021 21:59:42

TYPE OF REPORT

INCIDENT

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

REPORT OFFICERS

Reporting Officer:

DOWLING D

13363

Reviewing Officer:

MCLEAN S

24875

Approving Officer:

DOUCETTE D

23297



**NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWTON, MA**

INCIDENT DATA

<u>INCIDENT #</u>	<u>DATE/TIME REPORTED</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION TYPE</u>
21000646	01/05/2021 13:43	GENERAL INCIDENT

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 1 / DOWLING D (CAPTAIN)

<u>DATE/TIME OF REPORT</u>	<u>TYPE OF REPORT</u>	<u>REVIEW STATUS</u>
01/05/2021 13:43:27	INCIDENT	APPROVED

NARRATIVE

At 1342 hours on January 5th, 2021, the Newton Communications Center gave out a broadcast for a 911 hang up call from 16 Lincoln St for a guy with a knife. Dispatcher McDonald stated that it sounded like a robbery. Numerous units were dispatched and responded to the scene. Dispatch updated units that the caller was pretending that she was speaking with UPS. Dispatch also updated the business name as Indulge (16 Lincoln St).

At 1344 hours 516, 498 and detail Officer Spinney report they are off. They quickly update responding officers that the subject is a white male with a knife and a green jacket. Detail Officer Spinney then reports the suspect is running up the stairs at 18 Lincoln St. The officers on scene then state and repeat that the subject is on the third floor. In the background, you can hear the subject screaming. In the meantime 507, 1304, 497, 508 and 514 arrive on scene. At 1346 hours, 514 (Captain Marzilli) comes on the air and states that there are plenty of officers on scene, to slow down, but continue. Captain Marzilli then starts having officers block off the street. At 1347 hours an unknown unit comes on the air stating Less Lethal on scene, which the dispatcher confirms. Then 516 gives the suspects information as, "Michael Connolly number 3 next door". It should be noted that the suspect was later identified as Michael Conlon 7/9/92 18 Lincoln St Newton Highlands. At 1347 hours, there is a request made for a Medic unit to stand by. Lt Dangelo then comes on the air and requests that NEMLEC be notified for a negotiator. At 1352 hours Captain Marzilli calls the Communications Center to update them what is going on. For the duration of the call, you can hear the subject screaming in the background.

At 1352 hours, I arrived on scene and spoke with Captain Marzilli in the alley way of 16 Lincoln St. Marzilli updated me on what assets we had in place, the current situation, and the officers repeated attempts to deescalate the situation. One team of officers were staged at the foot of the stairs on

the second floor. The second team had just made their way up the back stairs of 18 Lincoln St to the third floor. Capt. Marzilli also informed me that the subject had brandished a knife and had been swinging a fire extinguisher around, and that Conlon now had the knife to his throat and was threatening to hurt himself. It should be noted that when I arrived our social worker was on scene, but due to the volatility of the situation, I did not feel it was prudent or safe to put her in that position. Inside the apartment building, two officers, one from the second floor and the other officer on the third floor, made repeated efforts to talk with the subject and get him to drop the knife. There were at least five officers at the foot of the stairs (2nd floor) one of the officers had a Less Lethal shot gun and one of the other officers had a ballistic shield. At 1408, 522 updates dispatch that two MSP units have arrived on scene to assist with Less Lethal (Tasers), their radios are not operational and to update their communications center.

After speaking with Captain Marzilli, he told me he'd go around the front and work his way up to the second floor with the other team of officers. I made my way to the rear of 18 Lincoln St and walked up the very narrow stairwell. As I got to the top floor, there were two Newton officers just staged off to the left on a porch and one watching a door to my right where the suspect was behind (a locked door). The officers had barricaded the back porch door of Apt# 3 to prevent anyone from that apartment from entering the porch area. I then made my way into an apartment (I believe was Apt # 4) through the rear door. The female resident rushed right by me and the other officers and said, "I want to get the hell out of here". She was directed to the rear stairwell. After walking through the bedroom, I entered the living area of the apartment, where I met other Newton officers who informed me the subject was outside just down the hall. I briefly peaked my head out to assess the situation, I was able to see the subject, a W/M with a green jacket and knife to his throat, screaming and demanding we call his father and the next door neighbor Danielle. I closed the door and retreated to the rear of the apartment. At about this time, the two troopers joined us after coming up the back stairs. Additional MSP resources start arriving to assist as well. We discussed our less lethal options, now that we had troopers with tasers and one of our officers with a less lethal shotgun. As we discussed our options, one officer stepped out the front door of the apartment (I believe was #4) closest to Lincoln St and attempted to speak with Conlon. At the time, Conlon was standing at the top of the flight of stairs and about 15-20 feet away from the front door of #4. The officer repeatedly asked to talk to him and for him to drop the knife. Present in the room (I believe Apt #4) right next to the officer speaking with Conlon were two troopers (assigned as Less Lethal Tasers) a Sgt (assigned Less Lethal

Shotgun) and two uniformed Newton officers as backup and a Captain in close proximity.

After speaking with the officers on the third floor, I was about to head down to the second floor and advise those officers. Before leaving, Capt Marzilli came up to the third floor and I advised him what we had set up and started down to the second floor to advise that team. On the second floor, I spoke with two sergeants and one lieutenant and advised them of what we were setting up on the third floor. As I was returning to the third floor, Captain Marzilli radioed me that he thought he had an opportunity to take a shot (less lethal). I radioed back, all right if you got it. A short time later, I heard a number of shots ring out from the third floor.

At 1411 hours, you can hear an officer say, "Shots fired, Medic, Shots fired, AED", "Man down on the top floor". Medics are on scene and entering 18 Lincoln St right after the broadcast. Officers attempted to use non lethal means on the subject but were unsuccessful, and were then forced to use deadly force to save their lives and the lives of the officers/troopers with them. A number of officers rendered immediate first aid and began doing compressions and attempting to control bleeding on the subject. At 1412 hours, 512 (Chief of Police) arrives on scene and is updated as to the status. At 1419 hours, a second BLS truck was requested to transport four officers who were involved in the incident. A second BLS unit was requested for two additional officers involved in the incident. At about this time, Captain Marzilli passed over investigative responsibility to Detective Sgt O'Connell and Detective Curry. Lt. Dangelo was charged with securing the scene. Officer Umina secured a knife and cigarettes from Conlon in a paper bag which were turned over to Sgt. O'Connell. First Half Detective Sgt. Tramontozzi was also notified by me to activate the Stress Team and acquire what ever resources he needed. A number of CPAC troopers arrived to assist with the investigation as well. Due to Sgt O'Connell's involvement in the incident, he was relieved by Sgt. Tramontozzi and his first half detectives, and then assigned to assist CPAC with their investigation. An additional five officers, once the scene was secure, would self transport themselves to Newton Wellesley Hospital for a medical evaluation.

There were a number of officers holding perimeter positions and using yellow police tape to prevent traffic and pedestrians from entering the scene. Officer Justin Lau was assigned to the front door to log personnel entering and leaving the scene. Sgt Valente was tasked with supervising the officers that were sent to the hospital for evaluation. Officer Schaefer was dispatched to the scene to secure the officers weapons, two of which were turned over to the MSP. Lt Apotheker notified the District Attorney's Office

@ 1421 hours. Four additional Newton officers, after the scene was secured, drove themselves to NWH to be evaluated as did the two MSP Troopers.

At 1505 hours, Chief Mintz had Lt McMains and Sgt Rudd respond to the scene to assist me. At 1530 hours Medic 4 transported Conlon to Newton Wellesley Hospital. At approximately 1545 hours, I turned over command of the scene to Lt. McMains. Shortly there after, Conlon was declared deceased. A number of MSP and Newton units remained on scene to complete their investigation.

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 2 / LAU J (OFFICER)

<u>DATE/TIME OF REPORT</u>	<u>TYPE OF REPORT</u>	<u>REVIEW STATUS</u>
01/05/2021 13:43:27	SUPPLEMENT	APPROVED

NARRATIVE

On 1/5/20 at 15:09 hours I was assigned to be the scribe of who enters the front of the building. After Mr. Conlon was transported to Newton Wellesley Hospital the following people entered the building.

Newton Medic - John Journet
 Newton Police Department - Mike Gaudet
 Massachusetts State Police CPAC - Trooper Baulman
 NPD Detective Fontano
 NPD - Eric Rosenbaum
 NPD Detective Sergeant - Brian Tramontozzi
 NPD Detective - Peter Koerber
 MSP Crime Scene Sergeant - Colleen Tanguay
 MSP Lieutenant - Robert Dates
 MSP Crime Scene - Gary Comeau
 MSP - Stephanie Devlin
 MSP Lieutenant - William Donaghue
 MSP Sergeant - Sean O'Brien
 MSP - Mark Delaney
 NPD Lieutenant - George McMains
 MSP Crime Lab - Kelley King
 MSP Crime Lab - Erin Miller

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 3 / MCMAINS G (LT)

<u>DATE/TIME OF REPORT</u>	<u>TYPE OF REPORT</u>	<u>REVIEW STATUS</u>
01/05/2021 13:43:27	SUPPLEMENT	APPROVED

NARRATIVE

On Tuesday January 5, 2021 at approximately 11:30 pm, at the request of the Massachusetts State Police I, along with Officer Nick Gamble reposnded to 18 Lincoln Street to retrieve a fire extiguisher identified by Officers involved in this incident as being wielded by Mr. Conlon.

Upon arrival at 18 Lincoln Street, Officer Gamble and I were met by a building maintenance person who allowed us access. I retrieved the fire extinguisher from the third floor and exited the building.

The fire extinguisher will be submitted to property and evidence.

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 4 / MCLEAN M (OFFICER)**DATE/TIME OF REPORT**

01/05/2021 13:43:27

TYPE OF REPORT

SUPPLEMENT

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

NARRATIVE

I retrieved the fire extinguisher from Lt McMains and checked it in to Property and Evidence. The extinguisher was then turned back over to Lt McMains for transport to the State Lab.

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 5 / CURRY C ()**DATE/TIME OF REPORT**

01/05/2021 13:43:27

TYPE OF REPORT

SUPPLEMENT

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

NARRATIVE

On 1/5/2021, Detective Curry responded to 16 Lincoln Street in Newton Highlands for a report of a man with a knife, a possible armed robbery at Indulge candy store in Newton Highlands. I was assigned to 516 and I pulled up with 498, Off Raymond, in front of Indulge and stopped across the street. I saw a white male coming out of the front door of Indulge. As I exited my cruiser, I heard dispatch say the suspect was wearing a green coat. The suspect I saw was wearing a green coat. When he saw the responding officers he abruptly went into the adjacent doorway to Indulge, at #18 Lincoln Street, and ran up the stairs. Off Raymond was ahead of me up the stairs and when I reached the top of the stairs on the second floor I saw the same man at the top of the stairs on the third floor waving a knife in his hand and yelling loudly. When the suspect saw me he asked me who I was and I identified myself as Detective Curry with Newton Police. He turned his attention away from me.

Other officers arrived on scene and we remained on the second floor at the

bottom of the stairway. Officers were yelling repeated commands to "drop the knife". The man would not drop the knife and continued to yell and scream in an irrational manner. The man was banging on the door to apartment #3 and was calling for his father, his real father and the FBI. Officer Raymond was trying to calm him, trying to engage him, asking his name, offering to contact his father and offering to get him help. The man did not respond appropriately to commands and questions and continued wave the knife in a threatening manner towards officers and towards himself. He was very agitated, angry and threatening during the entire encounter.

As more officers arrived on scene, I called Dispatch and requested a less than a lethal weapon and an ambulance respond to the scene for an EDP. On scene, I learned of a possible name of the suspect and advised Newton Control. When Sgt. McLean arrived on scene with a less than lethal shotgun and shortly thereafter Lt. D'Angelo arrived on scene with a body bunker, I took up a position on the first floor at the front door.

Upon arrival of Capt. Marzilli and Capt. Dowling, I updated them as to the suspect's position on the third floor stairwell and the responding officers' positions on the second floor stairwell.

I heard gunshots and shortly thereafter there was a call over the air "shots fired" and then a call for the medics. I waved the medics over who were on scene on Lincoln Street and they were directed up the stairs.

I interviewed, the complainant, Linda Gulman, who owns Indulge on Lincoln Street. Another woman, Wendy Green, was present, but was not herself a witness and was with her as her friend for moral support. During the interview Ms. Gulman still appeared to be highly stressed and frightened by the incident.

Ms. Gulman related the following: She was alone in the store behind the counter when a man entered the store unmasked. Ms. Gulman said she recognized the man as a previous customer who has "very apparent mental health issues". Ms. Gulman said that she knows that the man lived upstairs in the same building and he appeared to be "off his meds" because he was sweating profusely and agitated. Ms. Gulman said that she initially told him that he needed to wear a mask and then saw that he was holding a knife in his right hand. Ms. Gulman described the knife a steak knife. Ms. Gulman said she was on the store phone with USPS at this time. Ms. Gulman said he was holding the knife down low by his side, and "he was not trying to hide it". Ms. Gulman said the man told her that she needed to come upstairs with him. Ms. Gulman said she tried to remain calm and hung up the work

phone and dialed 911. Ms. Gulman said she left the line open and carried the store phone with her so the police would hear what was going on. Ms. Gulman said she told the man he needed to explain and he told her that he was not going to explain anything. Ms. Gulman said that she told him that he was scaring her because he had a knife. Ms. Gulman said the man told her repeatedly to come upstairs with him. Ms. Gulman said she told him again that she was frightened by him because he had a knife. Ms. Gulman said he put the knife in his pocket. Ms. Gulman said she told him that she had to get her keys and she grabbed her keys and came around the counter and walked behind him. Ms. Gulman said when he saw the police he said told her that she called the police. Ms. Gulman said that when he walked out the door she quickly locked the door behind him.

Ms. Gulman said that she recognized the man because he comes in the store two to three times a week, at different times of the day and always buys the same thing; twenty dollars' worth of chocolate Swedish fish. Ms. Gulman said that when he comes to the store, it must be "after he takes his meds" because he is usually "blotto" and is drooling from his mouth and nose. Ms. Gulman said she always has a bag pre-packaged and ready for him, and she held up a bag she had behind the counter to show me. Ms. Gulman said she usually makes a "fast exchange" with him right at the door when she sees him coming to minimize contact.

Ms. Gulman said that she remembered that the man told her that he had not taken his meds in days, when he was in the store today. Ms. Gulman said that she knows that he receives a pharmacy delivery about once a week and assumes that the delivery is his medication.

Ms. Gulman said that the man is a heavy smoker and she sees him out smoking on the back steps near where she parks her car every day. Ms. Gulman said he makes her nervous and she is uncomfortable going to her car at night when he is outside smoking, because he is smoking so close to her car. Ms. Gulman said he seems like a nice kid, who is usually heavily medicated and unpredictable. Ms. Gulman said that another tenant in the building who lives in Apt #3 knows this man and he was asking about her when he was in the store today. Ms. Gulman said the tenant's name is Danielle and that she worked across the street at Salon Capri.

Ms. Gulman said that the man moved in to the apartment over her store about one year ago. Ms. Gulman said that she owns the business, and rents the store space from The Hamilton Group. Ms. Gulman said that she has been running the business in Newton Highlands for twenty years.

Ms. Gulman said that she did not have video surveillance in her store.

State Police Lt. William Donahue and Trp. Sean O'Brien arrived on scene shortly after 3:00 PM and were updated. ADA Adrian Lynch arrived on scene and was updated. I returned to the station to write a report.

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 6 / UMINA S (OFFICER)

DATE/TIME OF REPORT

01/05/2021 13:43:27

TYPE OF REPORT

SUPPLEMENT

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

NARRATIVE

While I was at my position on floor two and after Medics arrived to tend to the patient, Officer Raymond came down the steps from the third floor after being relieved by them. In his hands he was holding a black handled knife and a pack of Marlboro cigarettes. I could see that Officer Raymond needed attention himself looking at his face. I told him to come with me to an ambulance. I put on a pair of rubber gloves and took possession of the knife and cigarettes from him. I then went to the first floor door and asked if someone could bring me an evidence bag to put the knife and cigarettes in. Detective Sergeant O'Connell brought in a brown paper evidence bad and a clear plastic round sharps container. I placed the knife in the container, Sergeant O'Connell placed the cap on it and placed it in the bag along with the cigarettes. He then took possession of the bag with the items inside.

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 7 / NARDELLI D (OFFICER)

DATE/TIME OF REPORT

01/05/2021 13:43:27

TYPE OF REPORT

SUPPLEMENT

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

NARRATIVE

On 01/05/2021 I responded to Lincoln St. and was working the perimeter of the scene. I was then directed by Sgt. Mclean and Sgt. Rudd to drive the ambulance with Mr. Conlon and Paramedics on board who were actively working on Mr. Conlon. Upon arrival at the hospital I remained on scene with Mr. Conlon. Trooper Hughes from the MSP arrived on scene and took possession of ballistic evidence. I remained on scene until properly relieved by Capt. Dowling.

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 8 / MINTZ H (CHIEF)

DATE/TIME OF REPORT

TYPE OF REPORT

REVIEW STATUS

01/05/2021 13:43:27

SUPPLEMENT

APPROVED

NARRATIVE

A call was received from a Mr. [REDACTED]. The caller stated that he was a friend of Mr. Conlon.

Mr. [REDACTED] stated that Michael Conlon believed that he lived in a computer simulation world. [REDACTED] said many others hold that belief but Mr. Conlon took it too far. In addition, he stated that Michale Conlon was delusional, paranoid and psychotic. Furthermore, he heard voices. Mr. [REDACTED] was not sure but did not think that Mr. Conlon was taking his medication.

Mr. [REDACTED] talked about being upset and that he has been speaking with a priest. He made suggestions about handling similar crises. I offered my condolences on the loss of his friend. The caller expressed appreciation for the call.

OFFICER REPORT: 21000646 - 9 / VALENTE D (SGT)**DATE/TIME OF REPORT**

01/05/2021 13:43:27

TYPE OF REPORT

SUPPLEMENT

REVIEW STATUS

APPROVED

NARRATIVE

On January 5, 2021 at approximately 1400 I responded to 18 Lincoln Street on a NEMLEC activation for the aforementioned incident. I arrived on scene just as the "shots fired" transmission came out over channel 1. Upon conferring with on scene personnel, I cancelled NEMLEC resources and remained on scene to assist. I was directed by Captain Dowling to escort Fallon Ambulance with Police Personnel on board to NWH.

While at NWH I acted as a liaison between hospital staff and the NPD. While on scene I met with Trooper Hughes, MSP ballistics section. In my presence he took custody of ballistic evidence from the property of CONLON.

Upon clearing from the hospital I returned to NPDHQ and was informed that the beanbag shotgun from cruiser 508 was still on scene at 18 Lincoln St, apt 4. MSP investigators had already taken ballistic evidence from the scene and secured. I took custody of the shotgun, tagged it and secured it in the armory.