

INTERVIEW OF OFFICER DAVID SAVIO

LIEUTENANT PAUL BULMAN, MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE
DETECTIVE MICHELLE HALLORAN, READING POLICE DEPARTMENT

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

1 **LT. BULMAN:** Good evening, the time is
2 approximately 12:50 p.m. on February 4th, 2018. My name is
3 Lieutenant Paul Bulman of the Massachusetts State Police
4 assigned to the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, and, if
5 you could identify yourself?

6 **DET. HALLORAN:** Detective Michelle Halloran,
7 Reading PD.

8 **LT. BULMAN:** Do you mind just identifying yourself?
9 And spelling your last name?

10 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yes, my name is David Savio. The last
11 name spelling is S-A-V-I-O, and I'm a Police Officer with the
12 Town of Reading.

13 **LT. BULMAN:** David, how long have you been employed
14 by the Town of Reading?

15 **OFC. SAVIO:** I just started my twenty-fourth year in
16 September.

17 **LT. BULMAN:** And prior to working for Reading, did
18 you work anywhere else in a law enforcement capacity?

19 **OFC. SAVIO:** No.

20 **LT. BULMAN:** Can you tell me what your assignment
21 was today?

22 **OFC. SAVIO:** Patrol.

23 **LT. BULMAN:** And what shift were you working?

1 **OFC. SAVIO:** The C shift, which is 4 p.m. to
2 midnight.

3 **LT. BULMAN:** To the best of your recollection, can
4 you tell me what transpired after you got on duty today?

5 **OFC. SAVIO:** So, most of the day shift was on a
6 disturbance call at 1462 Main Street. And we were sitting in
7 roll call. Me, and Erik Drauschke, and Matt Vatcher, the C shift
8 officers. And the Sergeant came down and said "The day shift's
9 tied up on a call at 1462 Main Street", "We're not sure what
10 we're going to do yet with you gentlemen, so just sit tight".
11 So, at about 4:20, he came back into the room, and he said "You
12 know what we're going to do, we're going to have the night shift
13 officers head up and try to relieve some of the day shift
14 officers". And as that was occurring, Sean Wilson came over the
15 air, and he said something to the effect is "This is turning
16 into a show. The suspect just armed himself with a pole". I
17 thought he said. So, Sergeant is like "Grab any cruiser you
18 can", that was to me and Erik Drauschke, and, he said "Head up
19 there". Now he had sent Matt Vatcher up there a few minutes
20 prior to us. First he said to Matt, "Listen, you had a call" -
21 we actually were at at this residence the night before, on the C
22 shift. For another domestic disturbance. Me, Fontes, Drauschke,
23 Vatcher. All four of us are on the same shift together. And we
24 were at this house, the same address, at 7:30 the night before.

1 For the same type of incident, a domestic disturbance between
2 roommates. But, in any case, Sergeant Silva said to Matt
3 Vatcher, "Listen, you were the sector officer last night. You
4 took the report on the incident that took place. Why don't you
5 go up there, where you have a background on this address". So he
6 had sent Matt up a few minutes prior to us, so we were all still
7 sitting around. And it was around 4:20 that the Sergeant said
8 "Why don't you guys go up and see if you can relieve the day
9 shift?". So Erik and I were looking for a cruiser, but there
10 were no available cruisers, so we ended up taking the - loading
11 our police equipment - into the ACO van, which is a white van
12 the parking enforcement officer uses, and also, it's also used
13 for Animal Control. So we took that van up and I noticed that
14 Sergeant Silva was also in the Supervisor vehicle behind us, so
15 we kind of went up one after another. We were right in traffic
16 together, and we arrived on scene at the same time. So, me, Erik
17 Drauschke, and Sergeant Silva all arrived on scene at about the
18 same time.

19 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay. Then what happened?

20 **OFC. SAVIO:** So when I got there, I exited the car,
21 and the first thing I do when I get on scene, is I try to get an
22 update, and I want to see what the plan is - what - what's the
23 plan that's formulated on scene? Because the officers had
24 already been there for like a half hour. So, the information

1 that I got on scene, from the officers on scene - the officers
2 on scene were Matt Vatcher, Wilson, Mike Lee, Kaylyn Gooley,
3 Fontes. So, the information that I had was, there was a suspect
4 inside the apartment. The door was locked, and one of the
5 officers said he had a piece of wood in his hand with screws or
6 nails on it at one point. So, I said, okay. It seems like
7 everyone is here out front, did anyone go to the rear of the
8 property, to make sure that the suspect didn't exit? So, I took
9 it upon myself, I walked around to the rear of the apartment
10 complex, and I walked around, and I noticed that there was a
11 window wide open, and a curtain blowing through the window, and
12 there was a screen ripped and torn on the ground, which was - it
13 looked like a stairwell into a basement. So I immediately called
14 Sergeant Silva on the air and I said "Sergeant", I said "51 to
15 80" and he answered me, and I said "Look it, there's a open
16 window out here, the suspect might have already escaped through
17 this window". And, so I walked around the side, and the Sergeant
18 was already on the side of the property, and he said "Dave, the
19 officers are heading in now, just keep the perimeter". So I
20 walked over to the open window and I looked inside, and I could
21 see the officers inside the apartment. And it didn't appear that
22 there was any suspect inside the apartment. So Sergeant Silva
23 walked out back, and so didn't Sean Wilson. And they said "Hey
24 do you see any footprints in the snow? Do you see any footprints

1 leading anywhere?" So I started to look for footprints, and all
2 of a sudden, I heard, bang, bang. I heard two shots. And then, I
3 heard Erik Drauschke say on the radio "Shots fired". So all of
4 us started to run around the building back to the front, and we
5 didn't know where the shots came from, and when I came to the
6 front of the building, if the right side of the building is
7 where the apartment is, and then the left side of the building
8 is the - the - the gas station, and then to the left of that are
9 where all the customer cars are parked. So we were on the right
10 side of the building, so we came around to the right side - on
11 the right side of the building and there were - there were
12 officers lined up in the entryway to the house. They thought
13 that the shots - it seemed like everybody thought the shots were
14 coming from inside the house, so, Sergeant Silva said on the air
15 "Erik, where are you? Erik, where are you?" and I heard Erik say
16 "Near the cars. Near the cars." So, then, I started to make my
17 way toward the cars, and I saw a gentleman running at me, and
18 then he dropped down to his knees, and he started to yell "I'm
19 gonna own this town. I'm gonna own this town". I didn't know who
20 it was at the time, but then someone told me that it was the
21 brother. So, I continued up to where I saw Erik Drauschke, and
22 Kaylyn Gooley, and Sergeant Silva was with me - and years ago, I
23 had taken a NESPIN class - it was a two week drug class and we,
24 we actually - they spent a lot of time on officer involved

1 shootings. And I was rehearsing this in my head as I ran up, so
2 I said to myself - the first thing they always said, if there's
3 an officer involved shooting, make sure that first off, the
4 person's in handcuffs, second off, you secure the scene, secure
5 the weapon, third off, render medical aid. So when I arrived at
6 Officer Drauschke and Kaylyn Gooley, I said to Officer
7 Drauschke, I said "Where's - where's the weapon?" And he said,
8 "We couldn't find a weapon". But he did say, twice, he repeated
9 himself to me, "He wouldn't show me his hands. He wouldn't show
10 me his hands". I said "Okay". So I saw the suspect, on the
11 ground, he was already in handcuffs, and he was bleeding from
12 the chest, and, I knew there was no weapon to secure, so
13 immediately, now I'm thinking, let's render medical aid to the
14 suspect. Let's preserve life. So, Sergeant Silva said to me
15 "Dave, go get a trauma kit and an AED". So as I turned around to
16 run and get the trauma kit and AED, I could see Officers Vatcher
17 and Officer Lee running from the cruisers with an AED and a
18 trauma kit, so as soon as they put the bags down on the ground,
19 I took the Ambu bag out and I got to the head, and I put the
20 Ambu bag together, and Kaylyn Gooley took a pulse, and initially
21 she said he did have a pulse, and then she said he did not. So,
22 Mike Lee, began chest compressions, and we were doing two person
23 CPR, he did thirty compressions, I did two on the Ambu bag, and
24 we went through about, I would say four to five cycles. The fire

1 department had arrived on scene and hooked the Defib up, and
2 then fire officials started to change out from the police
3 officers that were on scene, to render care, because they were a
4 higher level of care.

5 **LT. BULMAN:** Yeah. Did you have any conversation
6 with anyone else while you were on scene, did you talk to Erik?
7 Did you talk to anyone else about what transpired or?

8 **OFC. SAVIO:** No. So, what ended up happening was,
9 the Sergeant said to me, "Dave, I want you to stay with Erik,
10 you work with him, just make sure he's okay. Standby Erik, and
11 if he needs to go to the hospital, just go with him.", and, at
12 that point, we were told not to discuss the incident at all, so,
13 there was no discussion of the incident at all, with anyone. I
14 just stood by Erik, and he was having some stress and anxiety
15 issues, from being involved in that critical incident, so they
16 transported him to the hospital, and I also went. While we were
17 performing CPR, there was there was a lot of blood, there was a
18 lot of blood splatter, because of the two bullet wounds to the
19 chest, and also there was blood in the mouth, so every time they
20 did compressions, and we did, the breaths, there was blood
21 splatter - so I have blood splatter on my face, and other
22 officers also got blood splatter, so we all had to do exposure
23 forms obviously, to protect ourselves.

1 **LT. BULMAN:** Face, hands, and uniform? I'm
2 assuming, uniform shirt?

3 **OFC. SAVIO:** So, yeah - yeah, on my jacket, and on
4 my face.

5 **LT. BULMAN:** Jacket. Okay.

6 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yeah.

7 **LT. BULMAN:** And you got, you got baseline tests for
8 blood?

9 (PAUSE)

10 **OFC. SAVIO:** I got all baseline tests, yes, and I
11 filled out an exposure form.

12 **LT. BULMAN:** Do you - are you aware of any witnesses
13 that we should talk to, that may perhaps, someone hasn't told us
14 about already about? Or can you recall any civilians? People at
15 the gas pumps, neighbors? Anyone that you could - potentially be
16 a witness to this event?

17 **OFC. SAVIO:** No.

18 **LT. BULMAN:** Other than the police officers?

19 **OFC. SAVIO:** The only other thing that I think would
20 be helpful - with this event - is the night prior, the domestic
21 that we went to at the house - I think it would be helpful for
22 you, as an investigator to understand what was happening at that
23 house. When we went to that domestic on the night prior at
24 around 7:30, between the three roommates. It was Kim Bellino,

1 Devin McDonald, and then the other person that was involved was
2 Alan, the person that was involved in this case obviously, and
3 he had already fled the scene when we arrived, but we
4 interviewed Kim, and we also interviewed Devin, and he was
5 having a traumatic experience, Alan, because he had just - it
6 sounds like he had just come from his friend's wake. His friend
7 had just died from sleep apnea, that was my understanding. And
8 apparently he was very upset, he was high on drugs and alcohol,
9 and when he came into the apartment, he demolished a wooden
10 table from IKEA, in the kitchen, and it was splintered into
11 like, fifty or hundred pieces, and it was demolished on the
12 floor. So when I interviewed Kim, who was on the second floor,
13 she said he had come up the stairs and he had grabbed her by the
14 arm and pushed her out of the way and then she said that he
15 attacked, Devin. And I said "What do you mean by attacked?"
16 She's like "Well he tried to strangle him, or choke him." So,
17 when they were - when Officer Vatcher, who was actually writing
18 the report, he was the sector car, he was the one responsible
19 for the report, he was interviewing Devin downstairs, he asked
20 Devin about being choked, and Devin said "Well, I was placed in
21 a headlock", so, I'm sure that's all in Officer Vatcher's
22 report. But at that time, we gave Kim and Devin the information
23 on a 21 - an emergency 219A - at that time, they both declined,
24 and I believe Officer Vatcher took out paperwork for an arrest

1 warrant on Alan at that time, from the night prior. So there
2 was already a domestic disturbance between roommates on the
3 night prior around 7:30, so this had been brewing from the night
4 prior.

5 **LT. BULMAN:** I'm not sure if I asked you already,
6 but, had you ever had any prior dealings with Alan?

7 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yes.

8 **LT. BULMAN:** Had you arrested him?

9 **OFC. SAVIO:** No, I don't believe I've arrested him,
10 but we have been to that property several times, for the same
11 type of thing - disturbances between roommates.

12 **LT. BULMAN:** Do you remember what the outcome of
13 those times - did it involve an arrest, or was it just, you
14 know?

15 **OFC. SAVIO:** One night, he wouldn't let Devin back
16 in the apartment and Devin decided just to have his mum pick him
17 up, and, he went home. But they were having - apparently those -
18 Devin and Alan are childhood friends, and they kind of have a
19 soft spot for each other, but it doesn't seem like they get
20 along when they - when they drink. So I think that's - that
21 causes some of the behavior here, is the drinking, or the
22 alcohol dependency.

23 **LT. BULMAN:** So it was basically, tenant disputes
24 that you'd been there before -

1 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yes.

2 **LT. BULMAN:** Involving alcohol?

3 **OFC. SAVIO:** Roommates.

4 **LT. BULMAN:** Roommates.

5 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yeah. Definitely involving alcohol.

6 (PAUSE)

7 **LT. BULMAN:** You don't wear a body cam or anything
8 like that?

9 **OFC. SAVIO:** No.

10 **LT. BULMAN:** None of you guys do, right?

11 **OFC. SAVIO:** I don't believe so, no.

12 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay. Can you think of anyone else that
13 I could talk to, that might shed some light on what happened?
14 Other than the officers -

15 **OFC. SAVIO:** Each officer on scene -

16 **LT. BULMAN:** Yeah.

17 **OFC. SAVIO:** I would speak to, because everyone has
18 the own perspective obviously -

19 **LT. BULMAN:** Yeah.

20 **OFC. SAVIO:** And they were in different locations at
21 the time.

22 **LT. BULMAN:** Do you recall any other civilians
23 there?

1 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yes, there were other civilians there.
2 I'm not sure. It sounds like the other officers got the names -

3 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay.

4 **OFC. SAVIO:** The telephone numbers of the other
5 witnesses on scene.

6 **LT. BULMAN:** So you were more concerned with your
7 duties regarding providing medical care and treatment to this
8 guy, and then obviously getting yourself -

9 **OFC. SAVIO:** And then I was assigned Erik.

10 **LT. BULMAN:** Decontaminated.

11 **OFC. SAVIO:** Then I was assigned to Erik too. Yeah.

12 **LT. BULMAN:** Yeah. Did the fire department
13 decontaminate you too? On the -

14 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yes. Actually, Firefighter Belmonte
15 (phonetic) came over, he decontaminated Erik and I at the same
16 time, so -

17 **LT. BULMAN:** Did Erik have blood on him as well, or?

18 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yeah. He actually - Erik has to fill
19 out an exposure form, and he's already - at the hospital, he
20 went on one of the cocktails.

21 **LT. BULMAN:** He did?

22 **OFC. SAVIO:** Because he had blood on his clothing,
23 and he thought he had blood splatter in his face, etcetera, so -

24 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay.

1 **OFC. SAVIO:** He was exposed to a good amount of
2 blood.

3 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay. So the brother, Anthony, was
4 running from the direction of where his brother was? As you were
5 running towards the brother?

6 **OFC. SAVIO:** The brother, Anthony, was underneath
7 the awning where the gas pumps were, when he dropped to his
8 knees and he was yelling "I'm gonna own this town", something to
9 that effect.

10 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay. So he was by the gas pumps, he
11 wasn't coming from the direction of where the shooting happened?

12 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yeah, that was probably thirty yards
13 away from where he was -

14 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay.

15 **OFC. SAVIO:** At the time.

16 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay.

17 **OFC. SAVIO:** So, I'm not sure if he was over there
18 at the time of the shooting.

19 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay.

20 **OFC. SAVIO:** But, when I encountered him, he was
21 underneath the awning.

22 **LT. BULMAN:** Alright.

23 (PAUSE)

1 **LT. BULMAN:** Did you have occasion to look inside
2 the vehicle at all? Or did you notice anything about the
3 vehicle? Did you see anything in the vehicle?

4 **OFC. SAVIO:** I just glanced to the front passenger
5 seat and I didn't see anything on the front passenger seat. It
6 was - it was a Hummer H2.

7 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay.

8 **OFC. SAVIO:** And then we were really focused on
9 medical aid, we were focused on trying to help this person.

10 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay.

11 **OFC. SAVIO:** Erik actually assisted with the medical
12 care too, he was the one that cut the shirt off the - Alan - so
13 that we could expose the chest, so we could get the Defib pads
14 on.

15 **LT. BULMAN:** Erik did that? Okay.

16 **OFC. SAVIO:** Yeah. He helped also.

17 **LT. BULMAN:** I can't think of anything else. Can
18 you?

19 **DET. HALLORAN:** No.

20 **LT. BULMAN:** Okay. The time is approximately 1:10
21 a.m. on February 4th, 2018. This concludes the interview.

22 END OF INTERVIEW
23
24

