

## El Reno Police Department

116 N EVANS AVE., EL RENO, OK 73036

### Reporting Officer's Narrative

Report Date: 12/22/2009  
Type of Incident: MENTAL HEALTH - EMERGENCY ORDER OF DETENTION

Complaint No: 2009-3105

Case Status: CLEARED

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Narrative:

On 12/22/2009, at approximately 1834 hours, I, Officer Duran, was dispatched to 1955 South Shepard #703 in reference to a suicidal subject, who had taken unknown medication.

Upon arrival, Lonnie Tinsley, who is the grandson of, Lona Varner, met me at the front door. Varner was the subject who had allegedly taken medication in an attempt to overdose. I asked Lonnie where Varner was and he said inside. Lonnie said, "I don't think she wants you in there." As I started to enter the residence I heard a voice say, "Get out of here I don't want your help." I looked around the corner and observed Varner lying on a bed in the living room. I observed Varner reach for an object underneath her pillow while saying, "Get the fuck out of here." Unknown of what was under the pillow I backed up and bladed my self around the corner for cover. I observed Varner pull a kitchen knife from under the pillow and grasp it in a fashion commonly used to stab or slash. Varner looked at me and said, "I want to die, I did not call you so get the fuck out of my house."

I told dispatch I had a subject with a knife and that I needed more units. During this time Lonnie kept trying to advance on Varner to get the knife. I had to tell Lonnie numerous times to back away and to not approach Varner. I tried talking to Varner and calm her down but nothing would work. Varner told me she was in control of her life and I could not do anything to stop her. Varner looked me in the eyes and said, "If you try and get the knife I will stab you and kill you." Varner said, "I killed four japs in World War II and I would not bat an eye killing you."

At this time I was in fear for the safety of Lonnie, Varner and myself. I maintained my location and waited on additional units. Officer Tinga and Officer Sandberg arrived and assisted me on trying to calm the situation. When Varner saw Officer Tinga and Officer Sandberg enter she took a more aggressive posture on the bed and raised the knife above her head and said, "If you come any closer your getting the knife."

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Reporting Officer 615 DURAN, THOMAS

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Approving Officer 597 SMITH, ANTHONY

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At this time I along with other officer's had exhausted attempts at verbally getting Varner to comply. I told Varner if she did not drop the knife she would force us to use our Taser's. Varner continued to be aggressive and furthered my fear of injury to other's and myself. I deployed my department issued Taser (208930) using cartridge number T08-2070595. One of the Taser prongs made contact with Varner's upper chest but the other imbedded into a blanket Varner had around her abdomen. The Taser did not make good contact and did not affect Varner. Varner stared at me and continued to hold the knife up in an aggressive manner. I told Officer Sandberg who was next to me that my Taser was not working. Officer Sandberg deployed his Taser with both prongs making contact. The Taser rendered Varner incapable of any further aggressive action. Officers were able to remove the knife from Varner's hand and secure it safely. When the Taser was being used, Lonnie became very upset and tried to interfere with Officers. Officer Tinga and Officer Gore detained Lonnie. Lonnie calmed down and understood why Officer's had to use force.

While controlling Varner's arm and removing the knife, she received a laceration from her elbow to her wrist. Parkview staff later told me it was a very common occurrence for elderly subjects to receive bad lacerations with the slightest of contact with objects due to the thin nature of their skin.

After the scene was secured and safe Parkview EMS came in and transported Varner. I took pictures of the scene using the patrol camera and secured the knife as evidence. Varner told Parkview EMS she was going to stab me if I had approached any closer to her.

I went to Parkview hospital where pictures of the Taser impact marks were taken along with pictures of Varner's arm. Parkview removed the Taser prongs and I took custody of them for evidence purposes. While at the hospital Parkview EMS told me while transporting Varner she continued to make several statements about killing me and other police.

While at Parkview Varner made several statements of killing the police. Varner told me she was going to kill every officer that was in her apartment when she got

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out. Varner told me she was going to snap my neck like a twig just like she did during World War II.

I completed an officer's affidavit for emergency detention and later logged the evidence into the El Reno Evidence Facility.

Parkview staff told me Varner would either be admitted into Parkview or transported by ambulance to another facility, which could render medical care along with her mental health needs. Officer A. Smith advised me I did not have to stay at Parkview since Varner would be admitted.

I have nothing further at this time.

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