



ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT



Oakland Police Department Officer Involved Shooting March 21, 2009

OIS Initial Assessment - as of March 22, 2009
Facts and circumstances may change as more
information becomes available

Assistant Sheriff M. R. Hillmann

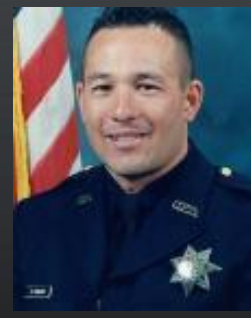


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Killed in the Line of Duty EOW – March 21, 2009



Sergeant Mark Dunakin
40 years, 18 years OPD
Traffic Motor Officer



Sergeant Ervin Romans
43 years, 13 years OPD
SWAT



Sergeant Daniel Sakai
35 years, 9 years OPD
SWAT



Officer John Hege
41 years

A fifth unidentified OPD Officer
wounded - treated and released from
Highland Hospital



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KIA by SWAT



Lovelle Mixon, 26 years, Parolee/San Francisco;
Convicted of assault with a deadly weapon stemming from armed robbery in San Francisco;
Served six years in Corcoran State prison;
Served additional 9 months after violation of parole.
Married childhood girlfriend (Amora Langston) while in prison;



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Summary...

- 1308 hours
 - Motor officers initiated a "routine" traffic stop of a 1995 Buick in the 7400 block of MacArthur Boulevard in East Oakland - Adjacent to Eastmont Town Center.
- 1315 hours
 - Reports of "Officers Down" - Sgt. Dunakin – KIA – shout in neck/Officer Hege – wounded shot in head. (NOTE: Dunakin family lives in Aliso Viejo and was assisted to airport by OCSD personnel)
- 1530 hours
 - OPD, Alameda County Sheriff's Office, BART Police and CHP conducted search.
 - Officers received anonymous tip - gunman inside a nearby apartment building - 74th Avenue near Hillside Street.
 - After repeated attempts to communicate with Mixon - OPD SWAT team entered apartment to clear and search - gunman opened fire.
 - Two members of the SWAT team killed - a third officer grazed by a bullet - SWAT Sergeants Sakai/Romans – KIA – assault rifle; SWAT Officer - grazed



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- Suspect's location - Two bedroom apartment (74th Avenue/Hillside Street)
 - 16 year old Reynete Mixon (sister) inside apartment
 - Did not see/hear brother come into apartment
 - Heard loud noises and saw police officers enter location
 - Police used “flash bangs” – shredded pajama bottoms and caused legs to bleed.
 - Reynete Mixon ran out of apartment.
 - Mixon hiding in closet, shot through door with (unknown) “assault rifle”.
 - Shot SWAT officers in rear and during entry – SWAT did extraction of downed officers.
 - Mixon subsequently shot and killed by SWAT



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Miscellaneous Facts...

- Traffic Stop (Lovellette Mixon)
 - Stopped and provided possible fraudulent license to motor officer.
 - Waited in car momentarily, got out and walked back to officers.
 - Shot both in head with 9mm handgun – fled area.
- Apartment
 - Utilized assault rifle (possible AK-47) during barricade – shot through walls.
 - Shot and killed two SWAT personnel and a fifth officer shot – through and through wounds.



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Historical Insight...

- Tension between police and community elevated due to fatal shooting of unarmed 22 year old Oscar Grant (BART OIS, January 1, 2009).
- Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Officer Johannes Mehserle – pleaded not guilty to murder.
- Preliminary Hearing scheduled – Monday March 23, 2009
- Violent protests have erupted on streets of Oakland in weeks following Grant's death further inflaming tensions



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Points to Ponder



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These are not criticisms, these are points to remember...

- No such thing as “Routine”
- Set up “cover” for yourself to re-deploy if necessary
- Don’t take your eyes off vehicle and subjects
- Conduct cursory searches when reasonable - officer safety
- Be mindful of “walk backs” – suspect having a weapon (both motor officers shot near their motorcycles)
- SWAT is just as vulnerable as any other entity within law enforcement
 - High caliber weapons
 - Strategies - Time – Talk – Tear Gas – Tactics
- Stay focused – *the only easy day was yesterday!*