

K-9 ACTIVITY REPORT

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT		609-597-8581	Case Number : I-2013-003979
<input type="checkbox"/> Arson <input type="checkbox"/> Article <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Box <input type="checkbox"/> Explosive <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Narcotic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Track <input type="checkbox"/> Others			
Date of Incident : 03/02/2013	Day of Week : Saturday	Time in service : 18:18	Time out service : 20:03
* NOTE: Time in and out of service are only for actual time K-9 team was actively involved in search, etc.			
Address / Location : 36 ROSS CT., MANAHAWKIN NJ 08050			
Article / Subject / Suspect / Substance Located : ARMED ROBBERY SUSPECTS			Quantity located : N/A
Requested by : ON-GOING INVESTIGATION			Telephone # :
Department / Agency : STAFFORD TWP.			
Weather conditions : CLEAR			Winds : 3-5 MPH
Terrain : GRASS, WOODS (BRUSH)			
Was search warning given? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		Was there an apprehension? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Was perimeter secured prior to arrival? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		Were search conditions favourable? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
REMARKS :			
<p>On 3/2/13 Stafford Police Communications received a call from Ocean Twp. reference a report of an armed robbery which just occurred in their town. The suspects brandished a handgun and after receiving money from the victim, the male and female fled in a black Honda Elantra, bearing NJ plate of [REDACTED]. This plate returned to 36 Ross Ct., Manahawkin NJ. Stafford Police Communications broadcast the above message to all of the road units. Upon hearing this information, the road units responded to the area of 36 Ross Ct, to check for the above mentioned vehicle. Officers checked 36 Ross Ct., but the above vehicle was not there. One unit stayed in the area of the house in question, while the other units checked the area for the above vehicle. At approximately 1816hrs, Ptl. Sutter located the above vehicle parked, unoccupied on Kristine Dr. Kristine Dr. is one street east and runs parallel to Ross Ct. I immediately responded to Ptl. Sutter's location, to start a track with my K9 partner Titan.</p> <p>Upon arrival to the vehicle, I met with Ptl. Sutter and Ptl. John Morrin, we cleared the vehicle of any occupants and did not notice any handgun visible. At this time I retrieved my K9 and placed his tracking harness on him. I brought K9 Titan to the drivers door of the suspect vehicle and gave him the track starting command at which time Titan pulled across Kristine Dr. to the west side and onto the the front properties of the houses. Ptl. Sutter and Morrin assisted me on the track as back-up officers. K9 Titan continued to pull in a westerly direction, between two houses as we entered the back yards. We now entered a section of woods which divides the backyards of the houses on Kristine Dr, with the backyards of the houses on Ross Ct. K9 Titan continued to pull west and we now entered an unfenced yard of a house located on Ross Ct. At this time Ptl. Sutter advised me to stop and informed me that this yard is 36 Ross Ct. I stopped the track and took a cover position behind a shed, located on the north east corner of the property. Ptl. Sutter proceeded through the wooded area and took a position on the southeast corner of the property, while Ptl. Morrin took a position on the front northwest corner of the property. These three positions gave us a view of all four sides of the house. My position placed me on the garage sided approximately 15-20 yards from the garage door, from this position I could clearly see the garage door and most of the driveway. The interior of the house appeared to be dark; however, the outside light above the garage door was on along with the interior electric garage door opener light, Stafford Police Communications made contact with, at the time Sergeant Pharo of the Stafford Police, who is the Southern Ocean Swat Commander. He was briefed on the incident and current situation. We were advised by him, to hold our positions while he calls out his team and responds to our location. The remaining road units were in positions near the front of 36 Ross Ct.</p> <p>Sergeant Pharo responded to the area of were the suspect vehicle was located then proceeded through the same area of the track and met with us at our positions. The Swat Team was inbound and would be responding to 36 Ross Ct. on Sergeant Pharo's command. A short time later, while I was still in my position behind the shed, I observed Sergeant Pharo near the driveway with other members of the Swat Team. While these Swat members were near the driveway, a female arrived to the house and from what...</p>			
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I could hear from my position, she was the oldest daughter of the owners of the house and was advised by her father (owner of 36 Ross Ct) to let the officers into the house, to look for the male and female actors. The actors were identified as Vasilio and Katrina Koutsogiannis. They are brother and sister and the younger siblings of the female Sophia, who was now on location. At this time the garage door of the residence began to open and almost immediately began to close. Prior to closing, Ptl. Morrin and Ptl. Schiattarella (Stafford Officer and member of the Swat Team) ran to the garage door and stepped in front of the inferred beam, which made the door begin to re-open. Upon seeing the door open, I proceeded with Titan to the garage and entered this area with the Swat Members. A vehicle was parked in the garage and was cleared of anyone inside of it.

We proceeded to the interior garage door, where Ptl. Morrin was the first Officer at the door. He slightly opened the door and began to announce and identify himself. A male subject slowly came to the garage door with his hands up and was met by members of the Swat Team. This male was identified as Vasilio Koutsogiannis he was taken out of the garage and secured by waiting officers. Ptl. Morrin continued to call out to the female and informed her that a Police K9 was going to enter the house. Swat members began to enter the house through this door. A female began to slowly walk up the stairs from the basement and was apprehended by members of the Swat Team. She was identified as Katrina Koutsogiannis. Neither of these two suspects were in possession of a hand gun. A protective sweep of the house for anyone else was conducted by the Swat Team and myself and my K9. The house was clear.

At this time I cleared from the house and returned to my vehicle on Kristine Dr.

At approximately 0226hrs 3/3/13 I responded back to 36 Ross Ct and met with Officers from the Ocean Twp. Police, to assist them with a search warrant of the house. Sophia Koutsogiannis was inside of the residence and let us inside. Prior to our arrival, Sophia had already collected CDS and CDS paraphernalia, which she stated belongs to her brother and sister and placed it on the kitchen table. A search of the house revealed no handgun, while conducting a second search of the garage, I located a black book bag behind a standing toolbox which, I missed the first time. I opened this bag a located a black handgun, described as a Browning 9mm, with brown grips. The gun was unloaded at the time it was located. I turned it over to the Ocean Twp. Police Officers on scene. The Ocean Twp. Officers completed their paperwork with Sophia and all officers cleared from the house.

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