

CASE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Printed: 07/12/2018 13:45

*Palm Beach Gardens Police Department*OCA: **18000531**

THE INFORMATION BELOW IS CONFIDENTIAL - FOR USE BY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

Case Status: *CLOSED/CLEARED***Case Mng Status:** *CLOSED/CLEARED***Occurred:** *01/25/2018***Offense:** *DEATH INVESTIGATION***Investigator:** *MORETTI, R. T. (205)***Date / Time:** *05/07/2018 10:41:04, Monday***Supervisor:** *GUILLEN, E. (296)***Supervisor Review Date / Time:** *07/09/2018 15:22:29, Monday***Contact:****Reference:** *Detective Follow Up*

On Thursday, 01/25/2018, at approximately 07:05 a.m. I was contacted by Det. Sgt. Anderson to respond to the open field in the 5700 block of PGA Blvd. regarding a report of subject found deceased with an apparent gunshot wound to the chest.

I arrived on scene at approximately 07:46 a.m. and was briefed by Det. Sergeants Anderson and Grossman.

Prior to my arrival, Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue responded to the scene, Run #: 18-000833, (Capt. Petruzzi, Capt. Previs, Lt. Grimsley, Fire Medic Perkins, Fire Medic, Wichele and Firefighter Hodges). Captain Petruzzi pronounced the subject deceased at 07:19 a.m.

Members of the Palm Beach Gardens Detective Division, Crime Scene Unit, and road patrol responded to the scene. Refer to their supplemental reports for their respective involvement.

The scene:

An elderly w/m, later identified as Alan Jay Abrahamson (d.o.b. 07/09/1946), was found lying on his back in the grass of the open field on the south side of PGA Blvd. Abrahamson's head was towards the west, and his feet towards the east. Abrahamson was wearing a royal blue sweatshirt, blue ballcap, dark blue shorts, brown belt, blue/gray sneakers, white socks, and a blue undershirt.

Abrahamson's ballcap was positioned on his head, slightly askew. The bottom of his sneakers were clean. His legs were fully extended, and his arms were resting at his side. His hands were resting slightly on each side of his torso below the breast line, and his left-hand pointer finger was extended as it lay upon his torso.

Items located near the deceased were: cellular phone with white ear buds attached, a black/blue paper binder clip, and a small pair of silver metal scissors.

Discovery of Abrahamson:

Abrahamson was discovered by Doug Burgess, (w/m d.o.b. 12/12/1941). Det. Brashear interviewed Burgess who advised he was walking his dogs in the field earlier in the morning around 05:30 - 05:45 a.m. At that time he did not notice or see anything suspicious. Burgess took his dogs back to his residence. Burgess returned to the field for his normally scheduled walk with his dogs just before 07:00 a.m. His dogs immediately jumped from the golf cart and alerted to Abrahamson lying in the field. Burgess flagged down a passing bicyclist, Danielle Davis, and asked her to

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dial 9-1-1 to report the discovery of a body in the field, which she did.

Investigation:

Det. Clayton contacted the State Attorney's office, and informed Investigator Wills of the homicide. Det. Clayton also contacted the Medical Examiner's office who advised an investigator would be responding to the scene.

Medical Examiner Investigators Heron Ruiz and Jessica Baird arrived on scene at approximately 09:25 a.m. A pair of eyeglasses and a tissue were recovered from Abrahamson's front left shorts pocket, and a wallet was recovered from his left rear shorts pocket. The wallet contained various credit cards, driver's license, Medicare card, and insurance card in the name of Alan J. Abrahamson. The body was removed by Elite Removal Service and transported to the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner's office for a scheduled autopsy on Friday, 01/26/2018. The Medical Examiner's case number is 18-0156.

The field was searched for a shell casing with negative results. Detectives reached out to all businesses that might have surveillance video available: including BallenIsles guard gate, Starbucks, La Masseria restaurant, Mobile gas stations, and surrounding neighboring developments. Detectives also checked for surveillance video systems that might show Abrahamson walking on the day of the incident, with negative results. See supplemental reports.

Once the body was removed from scene, at approximately 11:15 a.m., I responded along with Det. Sergeants Anderson, Grossman, Det. Clayton and Ofc. Bahr to Abrahamson's residence, 120 St. Martin Dr., Palm Beach Gardens, FL in an attempt to make contact with his next of kin. No one was home, and the house was secure.

Det. Dore and I responded to the BallenIsles Pro Shop and were advised that Abrahamson had a scheduled 12:30 p.m. tee time as part of a foursome on Thursday, 01/25/2018.

Det. Clayton was able to make contact with Abrahamson's next of kin, Linda Abrahamson (wife), who was in Massachusetts for the last week and a half visiting her daughter. Det. Clayton informed Linda what occurred. Linda stated that Alan was the love of her life and that he came to Massachusetts with her but left after a week to go back to Palm Beach Gardens.

Alan was scheduled to return to Massachusetts on Sunday 01/28/2018. Linda advised that Alan has been walking in the mornings since he got back to Florida to meet his friend, Victor Greenstein, also of BallenIsles, for coffee at the Starbucks located in Garden Square Shoppes, 10925 N. Military Trail. Linda advised Alan would normally walk

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around the BallenIsles community and not on PGA Blvd., but this was a new thing he started when he got back to Florida. Linda informed Det. Clayton they would be flying home as soon as possible, most likely Friday, 01/26/2018, and would contact her when they landed.

On Friday, 01/25/2018, I spoke with BallenIsles Security Director, John Sawyer who advised Abrahamson's vehicle was on property on Wednesday, 01/24/2018 at approximately 7:38 p.m. Per the ADT alarm company, the residential alarm was not set and there was no activity on the alarm.

At approximately 12:40 p.m., I attended Abrahamson's autopsy along with Det. Clayton and Crime Scene Investigators, (CSI's), Loriquet and Woodrum. According to Dr. Tormos there was one bullet, one hole. The bullet mushroomed to six points upon entry, which produced a huge hole in the heart, passed through both lungs, broke a rib and lodged in the back, underneath the skin. The recovered bullet and clothing were recovered by CSI's Loriquet and Woodrum. The bullet was later sent out for analysis.

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Firearms Report stated: "The projectile is consistent with a specialty ammunition design known as solid copper hollow point, (SCHP) with a black oxide coating. These bullets are marketed under the names, "Colt Defender, and Crossfire Black Max," and possibly others."

Members of the Detective Division and Crime Scene Unit responded back to the field to search again for a casing. No casing was located.

Det. Clayton and I met with Linda Abrahamson at her residence at approximately 5:30 p.m. and conducted an interview which was recorded using our Body Worn Cameras (BWC's). Linda advised that Alan played golf and walked a lot. He would normally leave the house around 05:30 a.m. and walk within the BallenIsles community, however when he returned from Massachusetts this week he began a new routine of walking to the Starbucks located in Garden Square Shoppes to meet his friend, Victor Greenstein. Linda advised it was common for Alan to carry between \$200-\$300 in cash with him and keep the cash in a binder clip. Linda advised to her knowledge Alan never carried scissors with him. Linda advised that Alan informed her that he was tired of sitting in a hotel, and tired of the cold, so he decided to come back to Palm Beach Gardens on Sunday 01/21/2018, with plans on returning to Boston on Sunday, 01/28/2018.

Linda advised Alan would wear a watch sometimes and she recently purchased him a 55 mm blue "Kyobe" brand watch, valued at approximately \$350, which she purchased at a charity style flea market in December of last year. Linda looked through her house for the watch with negative results but did locate the empty case for the watch.

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Linda last spoke or communicated with her husband on the evening of Wednesday 01/24/2018. Det. Broehm was able to have Linda unlock Alan's cell phone to enable a search of his phone for investigative purposes.

On Sunday, 01/28/2018, I contacted Abrahamson's biological daughter, Rachel Abrahamson Wollner, (w/f d.o.b. 08/25/1979) who resides in Newton, MA. Wollner advised she was estranged from her father since her parents divorced. Rachel last attempted to communicate with her father on 01/17/2018 via text asking if he was still in Massachusetts but did not get a response. Rachel stated she doesn't know anybody who would want to harm him. Rachel advised she would be flying to Palm Beach County on Monday 01/29/2018. I advised Rachel I would meet with her when she gets to town and conduct a formal recorded interview.

On Monday, 01/29/2018, I interviewed Rachel Abrahamson Wollner at the station. The interview was video recorded. Rachel reiterated the previous comments she had mentioned to me during our phone conversation. See video recorded statement.

I spoke with Abrahamson's biological son, Daniel Abrahamson, (w/m d.o.b. 04/16/1983). Daniel resides in Texas and will be flying to Palm Beach County on Monday, 01/29/2018. We agreed to meet on Tuesday, 01/30/2018.

On Monday, 01/29/2019, Crime Analyst Machado was able to retrieve Abrahamson's Google Timeline. The Google Timeline is obtained through Google Maps and has a section labeled timeline. The timeline provides locations traveled, times and approximate route taken. It estimates if the route was driven, walked, or biked based on speed. From the timeline the following details were discovered:

On Sunday, 01/21/2018, Abrahamson arrived home via a Lyft ride from the Airport. On Monday, 01/22/2018, he drove to Jim Price's Auto Body Shop in Lake Park. On Tuesday, 01/23/2018, he walked to Starbucks, and drove to Air Gas in West Palm Beach.

On Wednesday, 01/24/2018, Abrahamson drove to Starbucks then drove on I-95 South to Belvedere Rd., and returned home, staying in the area of BallenIsles most of the day. At approximately 6:22 p.m., Abrahamson drove to the area of PGA Concourse and stayed in that area for approximately 55 minutes and returned home around 8:00 p.m.

On Thursday, 01/25/2018, the morning of the incident, the timeline shows Abrahamson left his residence on foot and at 05:42 a.m. The timeline stops, showing the area where he was as "BallenIsles Country Club." He remained there until 11:47 a.m., when the phone was driven to the Palm Beach Gardens Police Department.

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On Monday, 01/29/2018, Detectives Boubouras and Connerton responded to Air Gas located at 7001 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL to ascertain if Abrahamson purchased anything because his Google Timeline placed him at Air Gas on Tuesday 01/23/2018. They obtained a copy of a receipt for \$189.86 for the cash purchase of a 40-cubic ft. helium gas tank. The purchase was conducted at 11:21 a.m. in the name of Alan Abrahamson

On Monday, 01/29/2018, Det. Boubouras and Connerton obtained the BallenIsles north gate surveillance video. Video from the morning of the incident was reviewed. Abrahamson is seen exiting the north gate on foot at 05:53:27 a.m., according to the video timestamp. Abrahamson is wearing a blue long sleeve sweatshirt, blue ballcap, dark blue shorts, sneakers and is carrying something in his left hand. Abrahamson deviates from the sidewalk area and walks around the guard arm. If Abrahamson stayed on the sidewalk portion he would not have been visible on camera. The video recorded audio as well, so investigators continued to view the video in hopes of hearing audible evidence of what happened. At the video timestamp of 06:30:58 a.m., the sound of an apparent single gunshot can clearly be heard on the video. There is no other sound heard.

From the time Abrahamson exited the gate and the sound of the gunshot approximately 37 minutes and 31 seconds elapsed. I later walked the same route, exiting around the guard gate and then back onto the sidewalk to the location where Abrahamson was located. It took me approximately 4 minutes 3 seconds at a normal walking pace.

I met with Daniel Abrahamson at the station on Tuesday, 01/30/2018. Daniel advised he was basically estranged from his father and last saw his father approximately 3 years ago. See video recorded statement.

On Tuesday, 01/30/2018, I met with Thomas A. Bailey who walked into the police lobby and wanted to speak with somebody regarding the case. Mr. Bailey informed me he attends mass at St. Ignatius every morning for the 06:45 a.m. service. Bailey drives over the Turnpike around 06:30 a.m. On Wednesday, 01/24/2018, the day prior to the shooting, he advised he observed an individual in dark colored clothing heading eastbound over the PGA Bridge.

Friends of Abrahamson came to the station on 01/30/2018, to speak with investigators about their friend. Det. Sgt. Anderson and I interviewed Victor Greenstein. George Wicker was interviewed by Det. Dore, William Goldfarb was interviewed by Det. Clayton and Alan Hirsch was interviewed by Det. Adorno. Greenstein advised that he was friends with Abrahamson since Abrahamson moved to BallenIsles. Greenstein recently started meeting with Abrahamson at the Starbucks located in Garden Square Shoppes, starting the week of 01/22/2018 and believes the first time he had coffee with Abrahamson was either Monday or Tuesday. Greenstein advised that Thursday, 01/25/2018, would have been the third time he would have met Abrahamson for coffee. Their scheduled

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meeting time was somewhere between 06:30 a.m. - 06:45 a.m.

Greenstein advised that Abrahamson told him he put on a few extra pounds on his recent cruise and advised he would start walking to the Starbucks to meet him, get some exercise, and have coffee. Greenstein described Abrahamson's relationship with his wife, Linda as great and that they were soul mates. He described Abrahamson as not loud, but somebody everybody would gravitate to, and a fun guy that everybody wanted to be around.

The storm drains along the 5700 block of PGA Blvd. were searched on Wednesday, 01/31/2018, however nothing of evidentiary value was discovered.

On Thursday, 02/01/2018, CA Machado was searching through Abrahamson's cell phone and discovered an email in his Gmail account. The email was from a company named High Altitude Science.com, which advised, "Thank you for your purchase! Hi Alan, we're getting your order ready to be shipped. We will notify you when it has been sent. Order Summary: Weather Balloon \$55.00, 600 g x 1." The order was placed on 12/25/2017.

At that time, CA Machado also located an email from Abrahamson to High Altitude Science dated 01/04/2018 at 1:08 p.m. The email from Abrahamson stated the following; "I understand how the balloon lift calculator works. My question is at sea level what is the maximum cubic feet of helium will the 350-gram balloon accept without bursting? I have an 80-cu ft. tank. Can I empty it without bursting the balloon? If so, with an 800-gram load, what will the burst altitude be? Thank you, Alan."

Over the next couple of weeks, investigators inquired to family and friends of Abrahamson if he had interest in weather balloons, aerial photography, welding, diving, or meteorology, to explain the online purchase of the weather balloon and subsequent purchase of a 40-cu. ft. helium tank. Nobody could advise investigators that Abrahamson had any of those interests or have any reason why he would have a weather balloon or helium tank.

Det. Dore and I responded to Bank of America located at 5337 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL and confirmed that Abrahamson conducted a teller withdrawal inside the branch for \$300.00 on Tuesday, 01/23/2018 at 10:57 a.m. I later received the surveillance video from this transaction.

On Thursday, 02/01/2018, Det. Broehm and FDLE Agents responded to Abrahamson's residence along with Det. Clayton and obtained a forensic image of Abrahamson's laptop computer hard drive. A successful image was extracted. See Det. Broehm's detailed narrative. There was nothing of note in the downloaded computer information completed by FDLE.

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CA Machado prepared and distributed an Intelligence BOLO regarding the watch Abrahamson was possibly wearing the day of the incident. A check of the pawn system, Regional Automated Property Information Data Base, (R.A.P.I.D.) was checked on a regular basis with negative results.

On the evening of Thursday, 02/01/2018, Det. Broehm, theorized that it possibly was not a homicide, but possibly a suicide, surmising that he tied a gun to a string, and attached it to the weather balloon, and once the shot was fired the weather balloon ascended carrying the weapon from the scene. This theory is supported by the discovery of the weather balloon and helium tank purchase, and the fact that no family or friends had any knowledge of why he would have purchased those items.

Although the theory seemed far-fetched, it was plausible, so the investigation division began doing research on weather balloons, payload capacity, burst altitudes, distances traveled, etc. Upon researching this we discovered a 2003 television episode of CSI Las Vegas, which initially aired on 10/09/2003, titled "Homebodies." In the episode, one of the plot lines was of an individual who staged a homicide by tying a gun to helium filled balloons and the weapon carried gun from the scene.

Investigators learned of an incident that occurred in New Mexico on 03/15/2008, New Mexico case number, 2008-6846. In that case the helium balloons were found in the vicinity of the body, 20-30' away, entangled on a cactus with a ribbon attached to the handle of the gun. I requested and obtained a copy of the investigative report.

On Friday, 02/02/2018, I submitted subpoena requests for Abrahamson's credit/debit cards, (American Express, Bank of America, Chase and Barclaycard US). Det. Clayton prepared subpoena requests for Abrahamson's medical records and Det. Broehm prepared a search warrant for Abrahamson's Google account. A Crime Stoppers bulletin was also released, but no tips were received.

On Monday, 02/05/2018, detectives again searched the field where Abrahamson was discovered. In the field, approximately 40 yards west of the location of Abrahamson and approximately 20 feet east of the BallenIsles exit wall, pieces of white string/twine with knots tied and some colored rubber bands were located, (see Det. Dore's supplemental report). Later that afternoon, Sgt. Anderson and Det. Dore responded to Abrahamson's residence and located a bag of colored rubber bands in the top left drawer of the victim's home-office desk. In the middle drawer of the desk was a roll of white string. The string and rubber bands were consistent with items located in the field earlier in the day. On a wire shelving rack in the corner of the garage, Sgt. Anderson discovered a small, empty, brown box with a shipping label from a business called, "High Altitude Science." The label was dated October 6, 2017 and addressed

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to Alan Abrahamson at his home. This is the same business that the 600-gram weather balloon was purchased from on 12/25/2017.

On Tuesday, 02/06/2018, CSI Cohen advised me that she discovered something unusual on the sweatshirt worn by Abrahamson. CSI Cohen advised CSI Lorient requested her to photograph the sweatshirt. CSI Cohen advised the sweatshirt had a large blood stain on the upper, left side with a hole in the center. On the outside of the sweatshirt was a long thin, linear stain that traveled from inside the circular stain to the top, left side of the sweatshirt, possibly indicating that something was in the blood and dragged across to the top of the shirt.

On Thursday, 02/08/2018, Det. Dore heard back from the PBIA air traffic control tower regarding his inquiry if they had picked up anything on their radar like a weather balloon on the day of the incident. Det. Dore was informed nothing showed on their radar. Air traffic control advised Det. Dore the time of the incident a WPTV News Channel 5 helicopter was operating about one mile south of PGA Blvd. I later contacted traffic helicopter reporter, Johann Hoffend, and asked if he had seen anything suspicious the morning of 01/25/2018 near PGA Blvd. or if he possibly had observed a weather balloon. Hoffend advised he had not seen anything on that date.

Another search of the field was conducted using a drone, and the saw palmettos were cut back to aid in searching the heavily covered areas. Nothing of evidentiary value was located.

Det. Broehm informed me while going through the computer files that Abrahamson deleted his Drop Box on the evening of Wednesday 01/24/2018 at approximately 5:30 p.m.

I started going through a folder on Abrahamson's computer containing his payments/deductions from his Bank of America account. I put together a spreadsheet showing the transactions.

Det. Clayton received the requested medical records for Abrahamson. There were no major medical issues discovered.

On Monday, 02/12/2018, I completed a spreadsheet of Abrahamson's Bank of America main operating account, which is the account that paid their monthly bills and incidentals. This spreadsheet was compiled from a file on his computer. I noticed several large deposits into the account throughout 2017 from a company called FC Stone Financial. I contacted FC Stone and was advised they are a back-office services custodian for retirement accounts.

I also noticed payments to John Hancock Life Insurance. I prepared subpoena requests for FC Stone Financial and John Hancock Life Insurance.

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I later received copies of various life insurance policies held by Abrahamson. I received a copy of the financial documents from FC Stone.

Abrahamson had depleted his retirement account as of November 2017. I thought this initially to be suspicious; however, it was later discovered that there were no financial household concerns.

On Monday, 02/12/2018, I responded to the medical examiner's office and met with Dr. Tormos, who performed the autopsy of Abrahamson. I went over our findings in the case to date and informed her that the evidence appeared to be leading us towards a suicide with helium tanks and a weather balloon. Dr. Tormos advised the scenario was plausible and to keep her posted if anything more develops. Dr. Tormos told me that there was no evidence of any drugs in Abrahamson's system.

On Wednesday, 02/14/2018, Det. Clayton received a copy of the will from the family.

On Thursday, 02/15/2018, I faxed a copy of the received medical records to the Medical Examiner's office. I also received the requested documentation from Chase regarding card number: [REDACTED] I located the two purchases made by Abrahamson from High Altitude Science:

10/05/17 High Altitude Science \$127.72

12/25/17 High Altitude Science \$62.51

On Thursday, 02/15/2018, at the request of the Palm Beach Gardens Police Department the Jupiter Police Department Dive Team searched the canal to the south of PGA Blvd., adjacent to the field where Abrahamson was discovered. The dive team was looking for anything related to the investigation: gun, weather balloon, helium tank, etc. The dive team dove the lake for several hours with negative results.

On Friday, 02/16/2018, I contacted the Tampa Police Department and requested they have an officer go by the mailing address for High Altitude Science, a UPS Store located at 5004 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL because I had been unsuccessful getting anybody to answer the phone or return a phone message. Tampa PD made contact and a UPS representative contacted me. The UPS store representative was able to provide me the name of Joseph Maydell, 719-649-7509.

I located an address for Maydell of 3472 Research Parkway, Ste. 104, Colorado Springs, CO 80920. I researched that address and discovered it was another UPS Store. I contacted that store and was advised they would contact Mr.

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Maydell and have him contact me.

Maydell called me shortly thereafter, and I informed him that I was conducting a death investigation and was inquiring about a couple purchases made from his company by Abrahamson. I also asked if he had any email correspondence with Abrahamson.

Maydell confirmed that a 350-gram weather balloon and a weather balloon inflator were purchased by Abrahamson on 10/05/2017. The items were shipped to his residence at 120 St. Martin Dr., Palm Beach Gardens, FL. Abrahamson also purchased a 600-gram weather balloon on 12/25/2017. The balloon was shipped to his home address and arrived on 12/28/2017. Maydell provided me copies of the four emails he had with Abrahamson. The emails were dated 09/27/17, 10/17/17, 01/04/18 and 01/21/18 and were the only communication he had with Abrahamson. Maydell advised that a lot of people will do a test launch of a weather balloon.

Email # 1

Date of Email: 09/27/2017

Time of Email: 10:13 a.m.

"If I inflate a 350g balloon w/ 60 cu/ft of helium and don't launch for 12-14 hours, what will be my loss of gas, if any, during that time? Thank you, Alan"

Maydell advised me that this was unusual because most people will inflate a weather balloon at the time of launch.

Email # 2

Date of Email: 10/17/2017

Time of Email: 12:46 p.m.

"Quick questions. Will a 350-gram balloon be able to hold 65+ cubic ft of gas? Also, what will be the approximate diameter of the balloon be at launch? Thank you, Alan Abrahamson"

Email # 3

Date of Email: 01/04/2018

Time of Email: 1:08 p.m.

"I understand how the balloon lift calculator works. My question is at sea level what is the maximum cubic feet of

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helium will the 350-gram balloon will accept without bursting? I have an 80-cu ft. tank. Can I empty it without bursting the balloon? If so, with an 800-gram load, what will the burst altitude be? Thank you, Alan"

Email # 4

Date of Email: 01/21/2018

Time of Email: 10:51 p.m.

"I am trying to determine the volume capacity of a 350-gram balloon.

Using your calculator, I used a hypothetical example to determine the burst capacity of the balloon. I am told I can lift an 8lb (3584 gram) weight and a lift rate of 200 by inflating the balloon with 148 cu ft of helium. Obviously, the balloon will burst during inflation. My question is.... what is the volume capacity (burst size) of a 350-gram balloon? I know I need a larger balloon to lift 8 lbs., but I really want to know what the burst volume is for a 350-gram balloon. More specifically, can I inflate the 350 g balloon with 80 cu ft of helium without it bursting?

Thank you

Alan"

On Friday, 02/16/2018, Palm Beach Gardens Police Department issued an ATL (Attempt to Locate) via teletype for any agency that may have recovered a weather balloon or remnants.

On Thursday, 02/22/2018, I obtained video stills of Abrahamson exiting the north gate at BallenIsles on Tuesday, 01/23/2018. Abrahamson can be seen exiting the gate at 05:53 a.m. Abrahamson is wearing a blue ball cap, a blue short sleeve shirt and is carrying something in his left hand. Abrahamson was on his way to meet his friend, Victor Greenstein at Starbucks. Video surveillance from Starbucks shows Abrahamson walking in the front doors of the Starbucks at 06:36 a.m., which coincided with the Google timeline from his phone. It does not appear Abrahamson was carrying anything when he entered the Starbucks. It was later confirmed that Greenstein gave Abrahamson a ride back to his residence.

I spoke with Joseph Maydell of High Altitude Science again because I had questions regarding payload and lift capacity of a 600-gram weather balloon. Maydell advised that two 40 cubic ft helium tanks could launch 1800 grams, or 3-4 pounds. One 40 cubic ft helium tank could launch a 600-gram balloon with a one-pound payload. I asked Maydell how far a 600-gram balloon can travel, and he advised me he launched a balloon on Monday in Huntsville, AL and 18 hours later it burst in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of New Jersey.

We entered the data into a weather balloon path predictor. The weather conditions on 01/25/2018 were as follows:

Investigator Signature

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CASE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Printed: 07/12/2018 13:45

*Palm Beach Gardens Police Department*OCA: **18000531**

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Case Status: *CLOSED/CLEARED***Case Mng Status:** *CLOSED/CLEARED***Occurred:** *01/25/2018***Offense:** *DEATH INVESTIGATION***Investigator:** *MORETTI, R. T. (205)***Date / Time:** *05/07/2018 10:41:04, Monday***Supervisor:** *GUILLEN, E. (296)***Supervisor Review Date / Time:** *07/09/2018 15:22:29, Monday***Contact:****Reference:** *Detective Follow Up*

Temperature: 65-75 degrees

Wind Speed: 16 mph

Wind Direction: NNE

Max Wind Speed: 25 mph

Max Gust Wind Speed: 32 mph

Civil Twilight Time: 06:44 a.m.

Sunrise Time: 07:09 a.m.

The launch simulator showed that a balloon launched from the 5700 block of PGA Blvd. would have ascended, traveled towards the southwest, turned around to the north, and begin heading east north-east. The burst altitude of a 600-gram weather balloon is somewhere between 95,000 - 105,000 feet. The possible burst location would be somewhere north of the Bahamas in the Atlantic Ocean.

On Wednesday 02/28/2018, Detectives Adorno and Bowe traveled the route driven by Abrahamson on Wednesday 01/24/2018, which showed him driving from his residence to I-95 towards Belvedere Rd and then turn around and return home. When they exited at Belvedere Rd. they stopped by a company by the name of Nex Air, located at 418 Palm Street, West Palm Beach, which is close to I-95 and Belvedere. They discovered on Wednesday, 01/24/2018, Abrahamson purchased a second 40 cubic foot tank of helium, for which he paid \$132.21 cash. Abrahamson had called Nex Air the previous day but was advised they would have the tank ready for him the next day. The sales receipt is in the name of Alan Abrahamson.

On Wednesday, 02/28/2018, while organizing all the documentation received in this case, CA Machado was at my desk searching Abrahamson's cellphone. CA Machado discovered a "my activity" feature. The "my activity" feature records detailed search history and websites visited in the chrome browser. When Abrahamson's phone was initially extracted, that information does not show because the information does not live on the phone, but in the Google account, which can be accessed from a phone, computer or tablet.

CA Machado searched the Google "my activity" prior to 01/26/2018 in Abrahamson's phone. She found a Google Voice search for helium, which led to entering other key words such as balloon, helium, gun, suicide, ammunition, etc. Over the next several days multiple related searches were located. A typed list of the searches discovered is included in with this report. Some of these searches were voice searched, conducted by Abrahamson and in his own voice. A CD containing the Google voice searches was placed into evidence.

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Listed below are some, but not all the discovered searches, and websites visited. The searches began in 2009 and end in 2018.

Date	Typed Search / Voice Search or Website Visited
2009	
07/07/09	Suicide
	How to commit suicide
	Ways to kill yourself
2010	
06/04/10	380 Ammo for sale
2011	
03/29/11	Walther PPK 184269s
09/21/11	Stopping power .380 caliber
	Kill shot .380 caliber
10/18/11	Gunshot suicide
	Suicide by gunshot to the head

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Date Typed Search / Voice Search or Website Visited

2012

03/07/12 Carbon monoxide poisoning

Toxic dosage

Toxic dosage of iron

Hanging suicide frequency

Nembutal lethal dose

Ash2.wikkii.com/wiki/Nembutal

Nembutal Mexico

Danger of under-dose with Mexican Vet. Nembutal, Assisted-Dying

Nembutal for sale

03/17/12 short drop / simple suspension, lost all hope

04/02/12 Nembutal

Nembutal powder China

04/10/12 Life insurance suicide

2013

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10/01/13 voices.yahoo.com/nicotine-poisoning-signs-symptoms
Nicotine Poisoning

Date Typed Search / Voice Search or Website Visited

2014

01/06/14 Antifreeze poisoning

2016

03/04/16 Co Poisoning

Carbon Monoxide poisoning dangerous levels

03/17/16 www.abe.iastate.edu/extension-and Outreach/carbon-monoxide-poisoning-vehicles-aen-208

Undetectable suicide methods

7 Greatest Myths about suicide

Undetectable poison

03/29/16 www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/broken-heart-syndrome
VOICE SCH - Broken heart syndrome

11/24/16 VOICE SCH - How big a helium balloon do you need to lift 3
Pounds

11/29/16 Professional weather balloons 2 balloons, 3` 6 cu ft

12/20/16 how big a helium balloon do you need to lift 2 pounds

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2017

02/14/17 Physics stackexchange.com (destiny how much lift does the average latex helium filled party balloon produce)

Date Typed Search / Voice Search or Website Visited

02/21/17 How quickly do you die when shot in the heart

VOICE SCH - If shot in the heart do you die instantly

If you get shot directly in the heart, how many seconds do you have

02/21/17 Gizmodo.com, explains what happens when you get shot in the Head

Moyle information services for law enforcement suicide investigation

VOICE SCH - where is the least common place people who are committing suicide shoot themselves in the head

If shot in the heart do you die instantly

VOICE SCH - is there a way to hide a suicide gunshot

Why would anyone choose to die by a firing squad?

Suicide warning signs

Least common suicide entry wound

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Suicide shotgun wound on chest

Can you have a gunshot suicide with no weapon present

Risk Factors & Warning signs - AFSP

02/23/17 YouTube / SEG, Suppressors, Jefferson Silencer on Walther PPK's Suppressed .380

VOICE SCH - Do life insurance policies pay for suicide

Life insurance can actually cover suicide, here's how

03/17/17 Undetectable suicide methods

Date Typed Search / Voice Search or Website Visited

03/28/17 VOICE SCH - Lifting capacity of a 3-foot balloon

VOICE SCH - How much does a Walther PPKs weigh?

07/24/17 VOICE SCH - Can Life Insurance companies deny payment for suicide?

Life Insurance & Suicide: Will a policy pay suicide? - The Balance

08/28/17 VOICE SCH - How many cubic feet of helium do you need to raise one pound?

2018

01/22/18 Palm Beach Gardens, FL sunrise/sunset/dawn/dusk

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Sunrise/Sunset times, WPB

Peak season 2017, Traffic counts, Palm Beach County

Traffic volume, PGA Blvd., 33418

Dusk / Dawn times

01/23/18 VOICE SCH - Helium gas

Helium suppliers near me

Helium gas supplier

Buy helium gas or purchase liquid helium, (Prax Air)

Helium gas suppliers near me

01/24/18 Dawn / Dusk Times

On Monday, 03/05/2018, Det. Sgt. Anderson and I met with members of the State Attorney's office and presented our findings relating to the initial homicide investigation. We informed them through our investigation that it was a suicide made to look like a homicide. The case is now considered a suicide with the State Attorney's Office.

On Tuesday, 03/06/2018, Det. Sgt. Grossman, Det. Dore and I met with the staff at the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner's office and presented the findings. Dr. Tormos advised that the manner of death would eventually be changed from homicide to suicide once the final report has been completed.

On Wednesday, 03/07/2018, Det. Sgt. Grossman, Det. Sgt. Anderson, Det. Clayton and I met with Linda Abrahamson, her son, Ben, and her sister Margo at Abrahamson's residence to go over our findings. Later that afternoon I phoned Abrahamson's biological children, Rachel and Daniel and his ex-wife, Bernice Matty and informed them of our findings.

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On 03/23/2018, I spoke with Abrahamson's friend, Leonard Edelman. I heard from various friends that he might have had dinner with Edelman the night before, Wednesday, 01/24/2018. Edelman was out of the country during the bulk of the investigation. Edelman advised me he had dinner with Abrahamson on Tuesday, 01/23/2018, at the Pavilion in BallenIsles and described it as a normal dinner and they had a good time. At the end of their dinner, Abrahamson suggested that they have lunch the next day, which he agreed. Edelman had lunch with him the following day, Wednesday, 01/24/2018, at the Bistro in BallenIsles. At the end of the lunch, Edelman stated that Abrahamson told him he doesn't have to go back to Boston until Sunday and suggested they go out Friday night. Edelman thought this was unusual but agreed. Edelman stated in retrospect he believes Abrahamson was possibly setting him up because they now have plans to go out together on Friday night.

I contacted the company who is contracted with BallenIsles Country Club to retrieve golf balls from the many water hazards on their courses. I spoke with Dale Updike, and he advised he would make his divers aware and be on alert if they come across any type of tanks that might have been dumped in the water. If any are located, Updike advised he would contact me immediately.

This investigation was considered a homicide from the beginning. A grid search was conducted, evidence was secured from the scene, medical, financial, life insurance records were obtained. Video surveillance from surrounding businesses were obtained and reviewed. Friends and family were interviewed, dumpsters searched, BOLO's issued, recent robberies were researched, storm drains searched, phone records were reviewed, and surveillance was conducted. Vehicles and pedestrians traveling along PGA Blvd. were stopped in the early morning hours and interviewed. Homeless camps were investigated, BallenIsles shuttle bus driver was interviewed, contractors who worked at the residence were interviewed, Abrahamson's house keeper was interviewed, follow ups were conducted with agencies involving the use of .380 caliber firearms, gun stores were checked, the canal was searched with the Jupiter dive team, storage facilities were researched, the field was searched multiple times, and a Crime Stoppers bulletin was issued with a reward. Several of Abraham's friends pooled together money to increase the reward for information on the case; however, no tips were received.

The following is a summary of the facts, circumstances, and evidence that changed the case from a homicide to a suicide.

¢ Flies home on 01/21/2018, while his wife stays in Boston

¢ The change in Abrahamson's normal walking routine within BallenIsles to walk along PGA Blvd. to the Starbucks

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at Garden Square Shoppes

¢ No signs of a struggle

¢ The pair of small scissors left at the scene

¢ 37 minute 31 seconds of unaccounted for time from when he exited the BallenIsles north gate until the sound of the gunshot

¢ No sounds of a struggle, screeching tires, other persons, were picked up on the BallenIsles surveillance audio from the north gate

¢ His vehicle was stopped in the area of PGA Concourse, the business complex directly east of the open field for approximately 55 minutes the night before, on 01/24/2018

¢ Purchased a 350-gram weather balloon and balloon inflator on October 5, 2017

¢ Purchased a 2nd weather balloon, 600-gram, on Christmas day, 2017

¢ The purchase of a 40-cubic tank of helium, paid in cash on Tuesday, 01/23/2018 from Airgas

¢ The purchase of a second 40-cubic tank of helium, paid in cash on Wednesday, 01/24/2018 from Nex Air

¢ No family or friends knew of any interest in weather balloons, aerial photography or weather

¢ The linear blood transfer pattern on Abrahamson's sweatshirt from the entry wound towards the upper left shoulder indication of something with the approximate width of a string passed through the blood on the outside of the shirt

¢ The open field was optimal for a weather balloon launch

¢ Weather conditions on 01/25/2018 were extremely windy

¢ No Crime Stoppers tips were received

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¢ No leads were developed

¢ The emails to High Altitude Science inquiring about deflation rate of helium if he does not launch the balloon for 12-14 hours

¢ The other emails to High Altitude Science about how much helium will a balloon accept without the balloon bursting and if he can empty an 80-cubic foot tank without the balloon bursting and what would the burst altitude be if he had a 800 gram load, which is approximately 1 ¾ pounds

¢ Final email to High Altitude Science and inquired about being able to lift 8 pounds on the evening he arrived back in Palm Beach Gardens

¢ The discovery of the string and rubber bands in the field, consistent with the string and rubber bands found in his desk drawers at his residence

¢ The discovery of the empty box from High Altitude Science dated Oct. 2017

¢ The discovery of the multiple Google searches beginning in 2009 for suicide, ways to kill yourself, .380 ammo, kill shot .380 caliber, gunshot suicide, carbon monoxide poisoning, hanging suicide, lethal dosages of Nembutal, antifreeze poisoning, undetectable suicide methods, undetectable poisons, lifting capacities of helium balloons, how quickly do you die when shot in the heart, what happens when you get shot in the head, law enforcement investigation of suicides, can you have a suicide with no weapon present, do life insurance policies pay for suicides, what is the weight of a Walther PPKs, the week he returned to Palm Beach Gardens, Abrahamson searched sunrise/sunset times, and traffic counts Palm Beach County. The evening of 01/24/2018 his final search was dawn / dusk times.

I met with Linda Abrahamson on Wednesday, 05/02/2018, and she wanted me to include a personal letter regarding Alan in the case file, which I did.

Several items are still awaiting forensic processing and there are some documents that have been requested that are still outstanding. I will supplement this report when they are received. The weapon has not been located, nor has the empty helium tanks at this point This case is closed/cleared.

Investigator Signature

Supervisor Signature