



Office of State Fire Marshal

Incident Report 19F049458

Nature: Explosive Invst
Explosives investigation
Location: 04

Address: 313 FARMINGTON FALLS RD;
Farmington
Farmington ME 04938

Offense Codes:

Received By: Corson, T **How Received:** T **Agency:** FMO
Responding Officers: Jeremy Damren, MACMASTER, MA, MORRILL, LA, THOMAS, JE, PEPPARD, IC, Tabor, KC,
STANFORD, CB, MACMASTER, KG, GRIMES, KL, DAVIS, JU
Responsible Officer: Jeremy Damren **Disposition:** INA 04/09/20
When Reported: 08:29:34 09/16/19 **Occurred Between:** 08:06:00 09/16/19 and **:**:** **/**/**

Assigned To:

Status:

Detail:

Status Date: **/**/**

Date Assigned: **/**/**

Due Date: **/**/**

Complainant:

Last:

DOB: **/**/**

Race:

Sex:

First:

Dr Lic:

Phone:

Mid:

Address:

City: ,

Offense Codes

Reported:

Observed:

Circumstances

FMO Fire Marshal Office Central

Responding Officers:

Jeremy Damren
MACMASTER, MA
MORRILL, LA
THOMAS, JE
PEPPARD, IC
Tabor, KC
STANFORD, CB
MACMASTER, KG
GRIMES, KL
DAVIS, JU

Unit :

FM1316
FM1313
FM1307
FM1300
FM1314
FM1309
FM1306
FM1311
FM1302

Responsible Officer: Jeremy Damren

Agency: FMO

Received By: Corson, T
How Received: T Telephone

Last Radio Log: 21:02:46 09/19/19 CMPLT
Clearance: COM Report Complete and
 Approved

When Reported: 08:29:34 09/16/19

Disposition: INA **Date:** 04/09/20

Judicial Status:

Occurred between: 08:06:00 09/16/19

Misc Entry:

and: **:**:** **/**:**

Modus Operandi:

Description :

Method :

Involvements

Date	Type	Description	Relationship
04/06/20	Name	[REDACTED] W	Victim
03/11/20	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
11/20/19	Name	BAXTER, SCOTT R	Victim
11/20/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/23/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/23/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/23/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/23/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/15/19	Name	BELL, TERRY S	Victim
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/15/19	Name	BAXTER, THEODORE B	Victim
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/15/19	Name	HARDY, TIMOTHY D	Victim
10/15/19	Name	BELL, MICHAEL A	Victim
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness

10/15/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
10/13/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/13/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/13/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/13/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/02/19	Name	ROSS, SAYWARD C	Victim
10/01/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/01/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/01/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/01/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
10/01/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/28/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/28/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/28/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/28/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/28/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/28/19	Name	HARDY, TIMOTHY A	Witness
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/27/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Other Contact
09/25/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/25/19	Name	HASTINGS, JOSEPH A	Victim
09/25/19	Name	[REDACTED]	Witness
09/16/19	Cad Call	08:29:34 09/16/19 Explosive Invst	Initiating Call

Narrative

Case # 19F049458

Cross File

INVESTIGATION REPORT

City/Town

Farmington County

Franklin

Officer's Code/Signature

#8430, Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

September 16, 2019

On Monday, September 16, 2019, I was assigned to respond to 313 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington for a report of an explosion. Upon arrival, I parked and exited my vehicle. Upon my arrival, a law enforcement officer pointed out a male who was identified as living in back of the building in the mobile home park who had reported smelling propane.

I briefly met and introduced myself to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] told me that he lived in the first mobile home on the left, directly behind the LEAP building which had blown up. [REDACTED] said that the building had just been built around the beginning of summer. [REDACTED] said that he had reported smelling an odor of propane coming from the area of the building since it had been built. [REDACTED] said that he had reported it to various people in the parking lot of LEAP, but had not made any official complaints to Farmington Police or Fire Department. [REDACTED] said that had the time of the explosion, he was not home. I took [REDACTED] contact information and told him someone would be in touch.

I made contact with Deputy Fire Chief Tim Hardy. Chief Hardy told me that he was not present with the explosion occurred. Chief Hardy told me that he was in Strong and heard the fire department get dispatched out to an odor investigation. Chief Hardy told me that shortly after the tone, he heard who he believed to be Chief Bell calling on the radio, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Chief Hardy said that he left the meeting and came directly to the scene. Chief Hardy told me the following:

Michael Bell [REDACTED].
Chief Bell, TD Hardy, Joe Hastings, Clyde Ross, Theodore Baxter, and Scott Baxter were all on scene, [REDACTED] in the explosion, [REDACTED]

Chief Hardy said that it was his understanding that there was a maintenance person also inside named [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Chief Hardy said that [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Throughout this, I made contact several times with Sergeant Grimes to keep him advised.

A law enforcement officer approached and told me that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were both at Shiretown Tire next door when the explosion occurred. I took [REDACTED] number of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] number of [REDACTED] and told them someone would be in contact with them.

I spoke with Industry Fire Chief Anthony Howard. Chief Howard approached me and wanted to speak with me about a recent occurrence at the LEAP building. Chief Howard told me that there had been a recent installation of pylons next to the building to protect some air conditioning units. Chief Howard told me that he works for Cornerstone Plumbing and Heating and had installed the gas boiler in the basement. Chief Howard said that one or two weeks ago, [REDACTED] had called him asking where the propane line was. Chief Howard told me that he did not install the propane line, just the propane boiler in the basement. Chief Howard said that he can see the pylons, which are new, and suspect maybe one of them damaged the gas line. Chief Howard said he's also hearing that the propane may have been filled in the tank on Friday, 9/13/2019.

This information was relayed to Sgt. Grimes. Sgt. Grimes had requested the assistance of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Explosives (ATF).

Sgt. Grimes assigned me to the command truck checking off and coordinating interviews. This is where I remained the majority of the day.

I assisted in the [REDACTED]

Sgt. Grimes asked me to meet up with and conduct a recorded interview with Industry Fire Chief Anthony Howard. I made telephone contact with Chief Howard and he agreed to return to the scene. ATF Agents Andy Cox and Tyler Leighton agreed to assist me with the interview. See summary of interview with Chief Howard for further details.

Sgt. Grimes, ATF Agent Cox, Supervisory Agent Doug Kirk and I spoke about the insurance company representatives who were on scene and wanted to enter the scene for photographs. We agreed that on 09/17/2019, during our work, would frequently take breaks and allow them to come into the scene and photograph our progress.

September 17, 2019

Tuesday, September 17, 2019, I arrived back on scene during the morning hours. I met with [REDACTED] (DOB [REDACTED]) at 0843hrs who asked that I escort her to the mobile home park behind LEAP to retrieve her dogs. I assisted where one of the two dogs were located.

Sgt. Grimes assigned me to find out details about Dig Safe and their history at LEAP.

Sgt. Grimes had requested [REDACTED] and his excavator to the scene to assist us through the week. It was advised from Dig Safe to call and create an "emergency ticket" for the digging we were going to do. Sgt. Grimes advised [REDACTED] to do that.

I made contact with Dig Safe in Massachusetts. They told me that in order to get information from them, I would need a subpoena. They suggested I make contact with the Maine Public Utilities Commission and suggested I speak with Rick LeClair as I may be able to get more information from him without a subpoena.

I made contact with Rick LeClair from the Maine PUC. Rick told me that in 2019, the only Dig Safe ticket was from Consolidated Communications sometime around May 2019 in order for them to set a new telephone pole. Rick said that he would forward me some rules and regulations on Dig Safe requirements.

Sgt. Grimes asked that ATF Agent Kevin Connelly and I to interview [REDACTED] the building contractor. I called [REDACTED] and he agreed to meet me at the scene. Upon arrival, we conducted a recorded interview with [REDACTED]. See summary of interview for further details.

Investigators had cleaned away some of the dirt close to the building where the propane went into the building. In doing so, we could smell an odor of ethyl mercaptain. A sample of dirt was collected for analysis at the Maine Health Environmental Testing Lab.

It was discussed as a group to conduct a pressure check on the line prior to disrupting any dirt. [REDACTED] from GAI Engineering agreed to get the parts to run the pressure test.

While waiting for [REDACTED] we called Farmington Water District to inquire if they could come and mark out the propane line from the tank to the building. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] both arrived and using a marker device, called a "mark-out split box" and marked out the line.

[REDACTED] was not able to get all of the parts necessary to complete the pressure test and it was agreed that we would wait until Wednesday morning, September 18, 2019.

September 18, 2019

On September 18, 2019, I assisted in taking video of the pressure test. Several photographs were taken. Some of the video did not actually record.

I assisted in escorting [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] out back to their mobile home, which was lot 101 to retrieve belongings.

I met with Rick LeClair and Barry Truman from Maine Public Utilities Commission. Both came to the scene to take photographs.

The pressure check was performed on the propane line. See a separate report on the pressure test.

I assisted in excavated of the propane lane from the building to the pylon. While digging out the line, I could smell a strong odor of ethyl mercaptain coming from the dirt.

We located the damaged line in close proximity to the pylon that had been dug into the ground. It also should be noted that the markings from the Farmington Water District were in close proximity to the actual propane line.

I called Deputy District Attorney Jim Andrews and he came to meet me at the scene. DDA Andrews and I discussed the events and I brought him around the scene.

Sgt. Grimes and I went to Captain Bell's family and informed them on what we had found thus far.

September 19, 2019

On Thursday, September 19, 2019, we met back at the scene. Our focus was retrieving the pylon from the ground that damaged the propane line. With the use of the excavator, we retrieved the pylon from the ground and took it into evidence.

With the use of the excavator, we created some of the debris off from the cement floor in the basement of the LEAP building. We located two holes in the door, on the east side of the building. I made contact with [REDACTED] and asked him to come back to the scene to assist us in identifying the holes in the basement. [REDACTED] did so, advising that the hole closest to the side of the building was a hole for a sump-pump, which had a 5-gallon bucket cemented in the hole. The hole further away (westerly) was a radon vent hole.

Assistant Attorney General Robert Ellis came to the scene with Deputy District Attorney Jim Andrews. Both were briefed on the situation.

Mike LaPlante from Maine Department of Labor arrived and took what gear we had collected from the injured firefighters.

We used the excavator to locate the electrical panel. The panel was found in the debris pile on top of the "old section" of the LEAP building. The main breaker appeared to be in the "off" position. Also located in the debris pile close to the panel was what was believed to be Captain Tim D Hardy's fire helmet. This item was collected for Maine Department of Labor.

[REDACTED]

The scene was turned over to the insurance representatives who were on scene.

September 20, 2019

On Friday, September 20, 2019, I went to the Health and Environmental Testing Lab. I brought the soil that I had collected to them.

Investigator Ken MacMaster and I conducted a recorded interview with Tim D Hardy at his residence. The interview was recorded and [REDACTED]. See summary of interview for further details.

September 23, 2019

On Monday, September 23, 2019, I went to [REDACTED] Hospital and spoke with the [REDACTED].

September 24, 2019

On Tuesday, September 24, 2019, I met and conducted a recorded interview with Theodore Baxter at the Farmington Fire Department. Investigator Ken MacMaster and Sgt. Joel Davis also participated in the interview. See summary of interview with Baxter for further details.

[REDACTED]

Next, Investigator Ken MacMaster and I made contact with [REDACTED] the executive director of LEAP. We agreed to meet at Wilton Police Department. See summary of interview with [REDACTED] for further details. [REDACTED] agreed to e-mail me forms from [REDACTED] as well as the alarm system documents.

September 25, 2019

On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, I received the above referenced documents by e-mail from [REDACTED]

September 26, 2019

On Thursday, September 26, 2019, Sgt. Joel Davis and I met with the Farmington Fire Department and briefed them of the results of the propane leak thus far.

Sgt. Davis and I also briefed Captain Michael Bell's family with the details.

September 30, 2019

On Monday, September 30, 2019, I conducted interviews with Dayne Robinson and Tyler Richards, the two dispatchers on duty at the Franklin County Regional Communications Center the day of the incident. See summary of interviews for further details.

October 1, 2019

On Tuesday, October 1, 2019, I met with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] as well as [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I briefed them both of the investigation.

October 10, 2019

On Thursday, October 10, 2019, Investigator Ken McMaster and I met and interviewed Chief Terry Bell. See summary of interview with Chief Bell for further details.

October 15, 2019

On Tuesday, October 15, 2019, I spoke with [REDACTED] who is the Office Manager at Fine Line Paving. [REDACTED] told me that Fine Line was onsite June 28, July 1, and completed their paving on July 2nd. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] is the owner.

On October 15, 2019, Sgt. Davis received reports from ATF on the LEAP employees who they interviewed. These will be included in this case.

October 23, 2019

On Wednesday, October 23, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED] an employee of LEAP. See summary of interview for further details.

October 25, 2019

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted interviews with several employee of LEAP. Also present was [REDACTED], an attorney who was hired by [REDACTED] Insurance to represent the LEAP employees. See summary of interviews for further details of the following individuals:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] had printed me off some e-mails indicating that CN Brown was supposed to be on a two week fill cycle. The e-mails were given to [REDACTED] for review and [REDACTED] was going to give to me after reviewing the documents.

November 15, 2019

On Friday, November 15, 2019, Sgt. Joel Davis and I met and spoke with Farmington Code Enforcement Officer J. Stevens Kaiser. Kaiser told us that the LEAP Building had not been inspected by a 3rd party inspector prior to them moving into the building. As a result, the Town of Farmington had not issued a Certificate of Occupancy for the building. Kaiser said he would send me a packet via e-mail of the documents with LEAP. They have been uploaded to Spillman.

Sgt. Davis and I conducted a recorded interview with Scott Baxter. See summary of interview for further details.

November 20, 2019

On Wednesday, November 20, 2019, Investigator Ken MacMaster gave me documents provided by [REDACTED] a 3rd Party Inspector for LEAP. These documents have been uploaded to Spillman.

December 9, 2019

On December 9, 2019, Sgt. Davis and I met with Bruce Bristow from the Maine Fuel Board. This meeting was to go over the details with regards to the technician failing to conduct a pressure test. We also asked Bristow if he would feel comfortable ruling out the propane burner as a possible ignition source. Bristow said that he could not rule out the burner as attempting to ignite.

January 13, 2020

On Monday, January 13, 2020, I traveled to [REDACTED] to meet with [REDACTED] I attempted to speak with [REDACTED] but was advised that [REDACTED].

January 24, 2020

On Friday, January 24, 2020, I spoke with [REDACTED]. This was after the press release came out on the event. [REDACTED] said that she believed that the explosion may have occurred around 8:05AM. [REDACTED] said that a friend of hers had called at 8:10AM asking about losing power and the same friend called at 8:13AM after learning about the explosion. I told [REDACTED] I would look into the time difference and try to narrow down a time that [REDACTED] actually called the fire department.

March 2, 2020

On Monday, March 2, 2020, Attorney [REDACTED] had forwarded me a US Cellular Call Search document from [REDACTED] cellular telephone. Earlier, I had requested the time that [REDACTED] called the Farmington Fire Department in an effort to get as close of a timeline as I could.

Records indicate that [REDACTED] had a 1-minute call to 207-778-3235, which was made on 09/16/2019 at 8:03:32AM. A call was made to [REDACTED] which is [REDACTED] at 8:01:41AM.

In summary, below is a timeline of documented times from records:

0801hrs	[REDACTED] calls [REDACTED] to report a possible leak
0803hrs	[REDACTED] calls the Farmington Fire Station direct
0806hrs	Franklin RCC starts a call
0813hrs	Franklin RCC is dispatching a tech after Chief Bell requested

One can draw the conclusion based on [REDACTED] recall and from the CAD sheet that the explosion may have occurred sometime close to 0810hrs.

April 6, 2020

On Monday, April 6, 2020, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED] See summary of [REDACTED] for further details.

As of April 6, 2020, this case can be closed.

Supplement

CAD Call info/comments

=====

leaf house multi people down.

08:36:18 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

unit sp 60 is aware and has been attached

08:41:57 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

advised sp06 of the call.

08:42:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

06 will be advising the higher ups

08:47:29 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

drone and k9 units en

08:47:59 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 asking for the imat units

08:48:23 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

1203 is aware

08:49:50 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

4010// in augusta with plane if needed.

08:50:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

303 they are going to be on the mtblue tower check with oit

08:50:44 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

ws2141 in the airplane they are going to fly over

08:50:55 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

311 os

08:52:04 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

called franklin - fire dept was os when it happened. dont have a numebr yet

08:52:31 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

319 and 1316 os

08:55:09 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

303 and 309 os

08:56:10 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

25 advised that they are in the augusta and they have a plain if needed

08:57:22 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 find out where the ct zone is, command post is twitchells on farmington falls road

08:58:02 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

coke factory parking lot.

08:58:07 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

per sp311

08:58:21 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

all units have been advised

08:58:35 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

60 have all units take high st.

08:59:32 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

60 have unit 25 come with a plain to check the area

09:00:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 advised call dot for a detor through farmington falls

09:01:21 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

dot advised.

09:03:11 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

1302// have sp ic all me once os

09:04:08 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

sp301 have sp319 contact feranklin 407 to get road shut down on northdide of the scene

09:04:42 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

25 will be en and will give 1102 a call to get everything lined up.
09:04:54 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
1105 and 1106 os
09:05:22 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp319 copies i will call direct
09:06:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
301 advised they maybe moving the command post to a diff location
09:07:07 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
ws2141 i am warden pilot heading to farmington.
09:07:39 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
303 will be advising the IC of the air units that are headed that way
09:07:57 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp301 on my cell portable is not working
09:09:05 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
command post will be in the area of 259 farmington falls rd
09:09:50 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
spl209 is going to be the cadaver dog
09:09:56 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
310 is advising that the CP is going to be prob moved to the parking lot high st
09:09:56 09/16/2019 - Barrett, P
2213 looking for type of chemicals involved for dog purposes (advised none reported; google maps show propane tank outside business)
09:13:42 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
25 is going to be en in the air craft in 20 min eta
09:14:39 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
303// have the 1303 call me
09:15:01 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
ws2203 in the air picking up ws2141 sp25 copies
09:18:12 09/16/2019 - Bishop, C
301// the command post is going to be at the coca cola plant. Call dot and advise them that the detour is to shut down from farmington falls and go to rte 156. would like a unit to go to rte 156 to maintain that. The Farmington sheiff department is at coca cola plant
09:19:49 09/16/2019 - Bishop, C
DOT advised.
09:20:58 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
301// advised give 802 a call and have one of his units maintain at 156
09:25:25 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
traf division for mapping crew - per fm 1302
09:25:31 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp827 they area already there
09:26:14 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp60 high st access to the new CP the old coca cola factory
09:31:22 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
rl spl100 os
09:45:42 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
unit 25 is going to be up in the air over farmington and he is in contact with the warden units that are in the air
09:50:09 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D
313- enroute to farmington with colors. 410 has been made aware
09:52:37 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D
302 has been made aware that 313 is enroute
09:56:13 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
spl102 let sp25 know that we are all set with the people in the air. we are going to be flying the drones
10:06:56 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

SP16 called in, he is trying to make contact with 219. They need someone from the member assistance team to go over to Farmington and standby at the scehe

10:07:04 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 219 via cell no answer

10:07:06 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

sp25 will be clear of the scene en back to augusta air port

10:07:56 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 219 via home with no answer

10:09:31 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

300 en to farmington

10:16:22 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301// get contact with 1102 and have him come down to the scene

10:17:20 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 has 1105 with him and he will talk with him

10:18:10 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

1314 is with 1102 and he will let him know the request

10:19:48 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301// marshall wants bomb dog run over the scene first

10:21:17 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

left vm for 48 for 301

10:26:21 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Per 16 he is requesting we try to make contact with 1211

10:27:31 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 1211 via cell no answer

10:28:27 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 1211 via "home" no answer

10:29:40 09/16/2019 - Sirois, K

per sp301 the 1105 will be starting to map and the k-9 is ready to track

10:29:55 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Administrative Assistant Colleen Nason advised 1211 is in ERT training

10:30:53 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Per 16 725 is going to be en route

10:41:33 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

1211 will call Unit 16

11:01:57 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

300//os

11:21:59 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

828//clear from farmington

13:11:42 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

1400hrs transport to the medical examiners office

13:15:55 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

cmp eta unknown eta

13:58:21 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

precession is leaving farmington now

13:58:31 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

augusta pd has been advised

14:13:50 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering New Sharon

14:28:33 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering rome on 27

14:40:07 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering Belgrade

14:58:59 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering sidney on 27

15:22:52 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

sp313 out at mes office

16:31:35 09/16/2019 - Bishop, C

██████████ called in and wanted to speak with someone in reference to when his vehicle can be towed from the scene. You can contact him at

██████████

19:16:10 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

1302- clear. leave open for tomorrrpw

19:16:13 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

*tomorrow

19:03:38 09/17/2019 - Poulin, S

1316// close this call for the night, we can reopen it in the morning, well be off at home

19:16:00 09/17/2019 - Poulin, S

(when all units clear ill close it out)

Supplement

STANFORD SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

1102 Hours

Investigator [REDACTED] Morrill contacted me, Senior Investigator Chris Stanford, over the phone and assigned me to locating victims of an explosion incident in Farmington at [REDACTED]. He informed me that Firefighters Timothy Hardy, Scott Baxter, Theodore Baxter, and Fire Chief Terry Bell were [REDACTED].

1150 Hours

I arrived at [REDACTED] and made contact with the Chief of the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised me that Timothy Hardy [REDACTED] that Scott Baxter [REDACTED] and that Terry Bell [REDACTED]. He stated that Theodore Baxter and Joseph Hastings [REDACTED].

1228 Hours

I met with Timothy Hardy in a room in the [REDACTED] and recorded an interview with him. In summary, Hardy told me that he was home when the call came in and responded to the fire station in his personal vehicle. He said that he went to the scene in the Tower truck along with Joseph Hastings and Theodore Baxter. He stated that they arrived on scene, and he went into the basement of the new two story addition side of the building along with the maintenance man and Hastings. He explained that Chief Bell was at the back door when he entered and that it was only the three of them in the room with the furnace and a bank of electrical panels. He said that Hastings began to get readings of LEL on the gas meter, so he went to the panels to shut off the power. He stated that he opened the door to one of the panels and the maintenance man told him it was the wrong one.

Hardy told me that the last thing he remembered was looking at the panels and the maintenance man telling him he was in the wrong panel. He said that he [REDACTED]. He stated that he could [REDACTED]. He said that he located Hastings, who was [REDACTED] and they were able to escape the basement. He stated that he grabbed a hose line and began to put water on a small fire that started in the scene. He informed me that he was told by [REDACTED].

Hardy stated that he was wearing his turnout boots, pants, coat, and helmet. He said that he was not wearing his SCBA or gloves, which is why he [REDACTED]. He told me that he was on scene for 5 minutes, did not smell any Propane gas odor, and was not experiencing any symptoms prior to the explosion.

SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

0900 Hours

I assisted with the processing of the scene at 313 Farmington Falls Road as part of the Investigation team.

My involvement in this case concluded following my assistance with the scene on September 18, 2019. My interview with Timothy Hardy was uploaded to the Manage Files section of Spillman.

Supplement

CAD Call info/comments

=====

leaf house multi people down.

08:36:18 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

unit sp 60 is aware and has been attached

08:41:57 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

advised sp06 of the call.

08:42:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

06 will be advising the higher ups

08:47:29 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

drone and k9 units en

08:47:59 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 asking for the imat units

08:48:23 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

1203 is aware

08:49:50 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

4010// in augusta with plane if needed.

08:50:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

303 they are going to be on the mtblue tower check with oit

08:50:44 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

ws2141 in the airplane they are going to fly over

08:50:55 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

311 os

08:52:04 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

called franklin - fire dept was os when it happened. dont have a numebr yet

08:52:31 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

319 and 1316 os

08:55:09 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

303 and 309 os

08:56:10 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

25 advised that they are in the augusta and they have a plain if needed

08:57:22 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 find out where the ct zone is, command post is twitchells on farmington falls road

08:58:02 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

coke factory parking lot.

08:58:07 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

per sp311

08:58:21 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

all units have been advised

08:58:35 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

60 have all units take high st.

08:59:32 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

60 have unit 25 come with a plain to check the area

09:00:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 advised call dot for a detor through farmington falls

09:01:21 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

dot advised.

09:03:11 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

1302// have sp ic all me once os

09:04:08 09/16/2019 - Burns, C

sp301 have sp319 contact feranklin 407 to get road shut down on northdide of the scene

09:04:42 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

25 will be en and will give 1102 a call to get everything lined up.
09:04:54 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
1105 and 1106 os
09:05:22 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp319 copies i will call direct
09:06:38 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
301 advised they maybe moving the command post to a diff location
09:07:07 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
ws2141 i am warden pilot heading to farmington.
09:07:39 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
303 will be advising the IC of the air units that are headed that way
09:07:57 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp301 on my cell portable is not working
09:09:05 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
command post will be in the area of 259 farmington falls rd
09:09:50 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
spl209 is going to be the cadaver dog
09:09:56 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
310 is advising that the CP is going to be prob moved to the parking lot high st
09:09:56 09/16/2019 - Barrett, P
2213 looking for type of chemicals involved for dog purposes (advised none reported; google maps show propane tank outside business)
09:13:42 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
25 is going to be en in the air craft in 20 min eta
09:14:39 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
303// have the 1303 call me
09:15:01 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
ws2203 in the air picking up ws2141 sp25 copies
09:18:12 09/16/2019 - Bishop, C
301// the command post is going to be at the coca cola plant. Call dot and advise them that the detour is to shut down from farmington falls and go to rte 156. would like a unit to go to rte 156 to maintain that. The Farmington sheiff department is at coca cola plant
09:19:49 09/16/2019 - Bishop, C
DOT advised.
09:20:58 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
301// advised give 802 a call and have one of his units maintain at 156
09:25:25 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
traf division for mapping crew - per fm 1302
09:25:31 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp827 they area already there
09:26:14 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
sp60 high st access to the new CP the old coca cola factory
09:31:22 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
rl spl100 os
09:45:42 09/16/2019 - Corson, T
unit 25 is going to be up in the air over farmington and he is in contact with the warden units that are in the air
09:50:09 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D
313- enroute to farmington with colors. 410 has been made aware
09:52:37 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D
302 has been made aware that 313 is enroute
09:56:13 09/16/2019 - Burns, C
spl102 let sp25 know that we are all set with the people in the air. we are going to be flying the drones
10:06:56 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

SP16 called in, he is trying to make contact with 219. They need someone from the member assistance team to go over to Farmington and standby at the scehe

10:07:04 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 219 via cell no answer

10:07:06 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

sp25 will be clear of the scene en back to augusta air port

10:07:56 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 219 via home with no answer

10:09:31 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

300 en to farmington

10:16:22 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301// get contact with 1102 and have him come down to the scene

10:17:20 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301 has 1105 with him and he will talk with him

10:18:10 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

1314 is with 1102 and he will let him know the request

10:19:48 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

301// marshall wants bomb dog run over the scene first

10:21:17 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

left vm for 48 for 301

10:26:21 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Per 16 he is requesting we try to make contact with 1211

10:27:31 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 1211 via cell no answer

10:28:27 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Tried to reach 1211 via "home" no answer

10:29:40 09/16/2019 - Sirois, K

per sp301 the 1105 will be starting to map and the k-9 is ready to track

10:29:55 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Administrative Assistant Colleen Nason advised 1211 is in ERT training

10:30:53 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

Per 16 725 is going to be en route

10:41:33 09/16/2019 - Clark, J

1211 will call Unit 16

11:01:57 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

300//os

11:21:59 09/16/2019 - Corson, T

828//clear from farmington

13:11:42 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

1400hrs transport to the medical examiners office

13:15:55 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

cmp eta unknown eta

13:58:21 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

precession is leaving farmington now

13:58:31 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

augusta pd has been advised

14:13:50 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering New Sharon

14:28:33 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering rome on 27

14:40:07 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering Belgrade

14:58:59 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

313- entering sidney on 27

15:22:52 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

sp313 out at mes office

16:31:35 09/16/2019 - Bishop, C

[REDACTED] called in and wanted to speak with someone in reference to when his vehicle can be towed from the scene. You can contact him at [REDACTED]

19:16:10 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

1302- clear. leave open for tomorrrpw

19:16:13 09/16/2019 - Pesce, D

*tomorrow

19:03:38 09/17/2019 - Poulin, S

1316// close this call for the night, we can reopen it in the morning, well be off at home

19:16:00 09/17/2019 - Poulin, S

(when all units clear ill close it out)

Sep 18 19:10:49 EDT 2019 - Leave open units will return in the morning for 0900.

21:12:24 09/18/2019 - Tabor, KC

[REDACTED]

Officer Sholan added that there were additional people outside at the time of the explosion: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]). Officer Sholan also stated that [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], ([REDACTED], [REDACTED] lives in the mobile home behind the LEAP building.

While at the Mobile Command Center, I was approached by [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised me that he is the Executive Director of LEAP. He stated that he arrived after the explosion. He also stated that he had been in the building several times over the weekend and did not smell propane gas.

I was then assigned to speak to residents of High Street within the damage range of the explosion. Special Agent Paul McNeil, ATF&E assisted me with this assignment.

414 High Street, no one was home, there were two vehicles in the yard Me Co: [REDACTED] and Me PC [REDACTED]

406 High Street, no one was home, Me PC [REDACTED]

402 High Street, [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], said that there was nothing unusual prior to the explosion. She said that she heard a big bang and that it blew out a window in her garage. She stated that her whole mobile home moved. Also spoke to [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED]. She stated that she heard a "poof", and felt the wind push the home. She stated that some pictures fell off the walls. Also present at the time of the explosion were: [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED]

401 High Street, [REDACTED] of Apt. 1, DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], stated that a couple of pictures fell off the wall. [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] said that she thought something had hit the house.

398 High Street, Apartment 2: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], reported that they thought it was an earthquake. [REDACTED] does not live at the residence but was there that morning. [REDACTED] denied smelling any propane over the weekend. Two apartments in the building had broken windows.

398 High Street, Apartment 1: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED] stated that they were awakened by the explosion. They stated that they felt the house shake and they thought that a truck hit the house. A window broke and things fell off the walls.

398 High Street, Apartment 2: [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED] was sleeping and the blast woke him up. He looked outside and saw debris flying around. He stated that no one was hurt in his apartment and that things fell off the walls. He also stated that he was biking during the weekend on the street by the LEAP building and never smelled anything unusual. He stated that he could smell propane this morning.

394 High Street, Apartment 1: [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]. They said that they felt and heard a big bang. They thought a truck hit the house. They stated that there was no damage to their unit and they didn't notice any smells.

394 High Street, Apartment 2: [REDACTED] was in class at the time of the explosion. [REDACTED] was at work at the time of the explosion.

392 High Street, Apartment 12: [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that her apartment building was not damaged by the blast. She also stated that she works at Shiretown Tire (next door to LEAP). She stated that [REDACTED] owns Shiretown ([REDACTED] [REDACTED]). She stated that [REDACTED] and another employee; [REDACTED], may have been in and out of the shop over the weekend. She stated that she had not been there since Friday.

395 High Street, Apartment 2: [REDACTED] (DOB: [REDACTED]),
2 [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] stated that they were home at the time of the explosion. They stated that they felt the whole building shake, things fell off the walls. Stuff was coming out of the ceiling and it sounded like something hit the building. They stated that they did not smell any propane.

401 High Street has two apartments. No one was home in the building. Me PC [REDACTED]

401 High Street, apartment 3: [REDACTED] (DOB: [REDACTED]) and [REDACTED]. They do not live in this apartment but are house sitting. They were not there at the time of the explosion. [REDACTED] stated that the steam radiator is ripped off the wall and otherwise she does not see any damage.

405 High Street: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] stated that he was standing at his sink at the time of the explosion. He stated that it blew the doors off his shed. He said that he saw the LEAP building in the air and a fire ball quickly followed. He stated that he walks in that area every day and he has not noticed any propane smells during his walks.

[REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED] stopped us on High Street. She owns a food truck; [REDACTED] Little Taste of Heaven. She stated that she was at the fair at the time of the explosion and heard it.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

I arrived at the scene and was assigned to conduct interviews:

At 0926 hours, I interviewed: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] See attached Summary of Interview.

At 1134 hours, myself and Bruce Bristow, Maine Oil and Solid Fuels, interviewed [REDACTED] of CN Brown. See attached Summary of Interview

Bruce Bristow and I then interviewed [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] an employee of CN Brown. See attached Summary of Interview.

At 1405 hours, Bruce Bristow and I returned to CN Brown to interview [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. Also present at the interview was: [REDACTED], counsel for CN Brown, [REDACTED] Manager of CN Brown and Nancy Keune, OSHA, 207-620-4885. This interview was recorded and transcribed. Please see attached transcription.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

At approximately 11:21 hours, I assisted [REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED] [REDACTED], to her mobile home behind the LEAP building. She stated that her cats were still in the home and she wanted to retrieve them. She did locate the cats and retrieved them and I escorted her off the scene.

[REDACTED]: [REDACTED] ELECTRIC, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], DOB: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

I was assigned to contact the electricians that did the work in the LEAP building. I contacted [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Electric.

At approximately 1150 hours, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] came to the scene and provided a diagram of the basement of the building. (See attached diagram.) [REDACTED] did most of the work in the building and showed me where the circuit panel was and informed me that there was no outside disconnect for the electrical system.

█████ stated that the original service was a 200 Amp system in the original building. He stated that he ran a 200 Amp and a 90 Amp sub panel from that system. He stated that he completed the installation on 07/09/2019.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

At approximately 1005 hours, myself and Senior Investigator Ken MacMaster responded to the Farmington Fire Department. We interviewed Firefighter Joseph Hastings, the interview was recorded and transcribed; the transcription is attached.

JOSEPH A. HASTINGS, DOB: █████ █████ █████ █████

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

At approximately 1050 hours, Bruce Bristow and I met at the CN Brown office to conduct more interviews.

█████, DOB: █████, █████, █████, █████ was interviewed at 1051 hours. The interview was recorded and transcribed. See attached transcription.

At 1120 hours, Bruce Bristow and I re-interviewed █████ DOB: █████. The interview was recorded and transcribed. See attached transcription.

Prior to leaving CN Brown, I asked █████ and █████ if anyone had called CN Brown to inquire about where the gas line was to the LEAP building. They both replied that no one ever asked them that question.

Bruce Bristow and I went to Cornerstone Plumbing and Heating to interview █████ █████ politely informed us that he is represented by █████ in Lewiston and that we should make an appointment through █████. █████ did inform us that the boiler at LEAP went into service on March 22, 2019 and was fueled by exterior tanks. (Not the 500 gallon tank that is there now.)

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend that this Supplement Report be incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report, 19F-049458.

Supplement

Summary of Interview [REDACTED]

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

8979, Senior Investigator Mary MacMaster

Date of Report

Monday, September 16, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 17, 2019

Time Start/Stop

0926

Place of Interview

In my assigned state vehicle on Rt. 2, Farmington

I met with and introduced myself to [REDACTED]. I advised him that I had been assigned to assist in the explosion investigation at LEAP. As part of the investigation, I had learned that he is an employee of LEAP. For that reason, and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview him. He understood and consented to an interview.

In Summary, [REDACTED] stated that he works for LEAP as a maintenance assistant, under [REDACTED]. He stated that he works Monday through Friday. On Monday, September 16, 2019, [REDACTED] came to work at 0730 hours. He was loading tables into a vehicle from a LEAP building "up the road". He stated that he and [REDACTED] were transporting the tables back to the LEAP building at 313 Farmington Falls Road. He stated that they arrived at 313 around 0800 hours and began unloading tables and taking them into the basement. He stated that he noted that he became lightheaded while in the basement but didn't know why. He stated that he did not smell any propane in the basement. He stated that he and [REDACTED] came out of the basement and stepped outside and that is when they both smelled propane. He stated that they checked the LP gas tank and it was empty. He also described seeing ice on the tank and on the ground around the tank. (The tank had been filled with 391.9 gallons on Friday, September 13, 2019). [REDACTED] stated that he and [REDACTED] evacuated the building. He stated that [REDACTED] was going around the building opening doors. He stated that Fire Chief Terry Bell arrived on scene. [REDACTED] stated that he picked up a table that they had just unloaded and he took it back to the vehicle it came out of. The vehicle was across the street in the area where other employees had been evacuated to. [REDACTED] said as he got to the vehicle he heard the explosion behind him. He also heard a transformer blow. After the explosion, [REDACTED] helped get a Firefighter and [REDACTED] out of the building.

██████ said that he thought that CN Brown was supposed to come every two (2) weeks to check the tank, until they got scheduled deliveries established. He stated that the tank was filled on Friday, September 13, 2019. He stated that he had not smelled gas around the building and did not hear anyone else complain about the smell of gas.

Supplement

Summary of Interview [REDACTED]

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

8979, Senior Investigator Mary MacMaster

Date of Report

Monday, September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

C

W

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 17, 2019

Time Start/Stop

1134

Place of Interview

CN Brown, 115 Farmer's Lane, Farmington

Bruce Bristow and I met with and introduced ourselves to [REDACTED]. We advised her that I had been assigned to assist in the explosion investigation at LEAP. As part of the investigation, We had learned that CN Brown delivers fuel to that building. For that reason, and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview her. She understood and consented to an interview.

In Summary, [REDACTED] stated that CN Brown "set the tank" at LEAP and ran the gas line to the second stage regulator. She stated that they also filled the tank with fuel. [REDACTED] provided documents to me regarding the service that CN Brown provided to LEAP. (See attached documents.) [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] set the tank and laid the line. She stated that the tank was then filled with 125 gallons of fuel on 6/20/2019. She stated on 7/25/2019 the tank was filled and it took 257.3 gallons. She stated that they were notified on 9/13/2019 that the tank was empty and [REDACTED] filled it with 391.9 gallons.

[REDACTED] stated that CN Brown did not install the line into the building. She stated that they also did not install the boiler, nor have they done any service on the boiler. She believed that Cornerstone Plumbing & Heating installed and serviced the boiler.

[REDACTED] stated that her understanding about the last fuel delivery (9/13/19) was that there was 10 percent in the tank and that the tank had pressure, therefore a leak check was not done. She stated that company policy is that if the tank is empty employees must perform a

leak test. She continued that if an owner/occupant was not present for them to conduct a leak test; the tank would be locked until the test could be performed.

██████ reviewed company documents and stated that LEAP called at 11:36 a.m. (Friday, September 13th) and the delivery was made the same day at 11:51 a.m.

Supplement

Summary of Interview [REDACTED]

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

8979, Senior Investigator Mary MacMaster

Date of Report

Monday, September 16, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

CN Brown Date

September 17, 2019 Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

CN Brown, Farmington

Bruce Bristow and I met with and introduced ourselves to [REDACTED]. We advised her that we had been assigned to assist in the explosion investigation at LEAP. As part of the investigation, we learned that she is an employee of CN Brown. For that reason, and to assist with the investigation, we wished to interview her. She understood and consented to an interview.

In Summary, [REDACTED] stated that she answered the phone on Friday, September 13, 2019.

She stated that [REDACTED] called and stated that LEAP was out of propane, she stated that he sounded aggravated because LEAP was on a scheduled delivery and felt that they shouldn't be out of propane. She stated that he told her that the building has "no heat, air conditioning, or hot water. She told [REDACTED] that she would get in touch with [REDACTED] for the delivery.

[REDACTED] stated that she texted [REDACTED] and told him that LEAP was out of propane. She stated that [REDACTED] came in and grabbed the truck to make the delivery. She stated that [REDACTED] made the delivery and came back to the office. She asked him if they were out of fuel and he told her that the tank still had ten (10) percent. She stated that this information was relevant to her because if they were completely out of fuel she would assign a callout fee to the account.

[REDACTED] also stated that she thought they were an automatic customer. She stated that they would be checked every "so many" days until October 1, 2019 when they would receive a delivery every two (2) weeks.

On 09/24/2019, I asked [REDACTED] [REDACTED] if anyone called CN Brown and spoke to her about where the gas line to LEAP was placed. She said that no one ever asked her that.

Supplement

Details of Investigation:

On September 16, 2019 at approximately 0830 hrs, I had just arrived at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and heard radio traffic of an explosion that had occurred in Farmington. I had been advised that there had been a line of duty death of a firefighter and that there were possibly more casualties and several others injured. A short time later, I was requested to respond by Sgt. Ken Grimes.

At approximately 0937 hrs, I arrived at 313 Farmington, Falls Road in Farmington. U.S. Route 2 was totally shut down due to the amount of debris blocking the road from the explosion. I had been told that there was a building being used as a Command Center on High Street. The building was the old Coca Cola building. I arrived at the Command Center and parked my cruiser. I checked in with Sgt. Grimes. He asked if I would be able to go to [REDACTED] and see who had been transported there and get an update on status and interview them if possible.

A short time later, I arrived at [REDACTED]. I spoke to the [REDACTED] and advised her who I was and she inquired if I could find out who had been transported there and their status. She advised that everyone that had been transported here have already been transported to other hospitals except for one. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I asked if I could be told who and what hospitals the patients had been taken to. She pointed out a male subject about ten feet away and stated that he had a list of who was transported to where.

I contacted the male subject, whom I did not get a name for. I advised him who I was and asked if I could get a list of names that had been transported to this hospital and then where each of them had been transported to. He advised me the following:

[illegible]

1052 hrs - I arrived back on scene and was advised that the Mobile Command Center was parked at the corner of High Street and Route 2 in front of the scene. I went to the Mobile Command Center and located S/I Jeremy Damren and Sgt. Grimes. I advised them of the information that I had just obtained from the hospital. Sgt. Grimes asked if I could contact S/I Chris Stanford and ask if he was available to go to Maine Medical Center in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] interview them if possible. Sgt. Grimes also asked for me to contact Investigator Ken Tabor to see if he could go to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and do the same.

1058 hrs - I contacted Inv. Ken Tabor and asked if he was available to go to

1102 hrs - I contacted S/I Christ Stanford and asked if he was available to go to [REDACTED]

1107 hrs - I notified Sgt. Grimes that both S/I Stanford and Inv. Tabor were notified and they were headed to the hospitals to acquire the information that he had requested. Sgt. Grimes asked if I would begin taking overall photos of the scene, including the area where [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. He advised that he does not believe any photos had been taken yet. I advised him that I will get overall photos of the scene and the [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. He also asked if I could get photos of any property that had been damaged, including the trailer park and the surrounding buildings and vehicles.

1115 hrs - I began taking overall photos of the scene. I was able to cover the entire property located at 313 Farmington Falls Road. I took photos of the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I continued around the property and the immediate area documenting every trailer in the Evergreen Trailer Park and any vehicles that were parked in the trailer park. I also photographed each vehicle that was parked in the parking lot of 313 Farmington Falls Road. I continued to the Shiretown Tire business located next door to the LEAP building. I took photos of the damage to that building as well as vehicles parked on that property.

I was advised to take photos of a building located on High Street right at the intersection with Farmington Falls Road (Route 2). That building has sustained structural damage as well as several broken windows.

1209 hrs - The [REDACTED]

1323 hrs - Overall photos were finished and I advised Sgt. Grimes. He assigned Inv. Ike Peppard and I to try to locate and/or speak to anyone who lives in the Evergreen Trailer Park.

1343 hrs - I located the [REDACTED] Family at the Command Center in the old Coca Cola building. I asked if I could speak to them about what had happened. We went into an office so we could speak uninterrupted. There were five people that lived in their residence. They were all present during this interview but only three of them were home at the time of the explosion. [REDACTED] advised that he had called his mother right after the explosion and stated that the time of that call was 0818 hrs. [REDACTED] said that he went outside and took a short video of the aftermath. [REDACTED] emailed the video to me and I had attached it to the case file in Spillman. None of the [REDACTED] saw or noticed anything out of the ordinary over the weekend or in the moments just prior to the explosion. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that he had been smelling propane since early summer off and on and had made comments to the people while the building was under construction. [REDACTED] also stated that he smelled propane last Friday and stated that he saw that they filled the tank last Friday as well. He said that he did not notice anything different over the weekend. The [REDACTED] family lives at [REDACTED]. They are as follows:

- [REDACTED] (Father), DOB [REDACTED] Cell [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] (Mother), DOB [REDACTED] Cell [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] (Son), DOB [REDACTED] Cell [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] (Son), DOB [REDACTED], Cell [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] Girlfriend), DOB [REDACTED], Cell [REDACTED]

1408 hrs - Spoke to two members of the Red Cross. They were able to provide me with a list of names that they received from the owner of the Evergreen Trailer Park. I advised them that I had just spoken to the [REDACTED] family and they advised me that they would like to speak to them as well. I pointed out the family to them and they were able to meet. The list of names provided to me are as follows:

- [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Cell [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] stated that he was home at the time of the explosion and that he did not see anything out of the ordinary in the days leading up to the explosion. He also stated that he did not smell the odor of any gas or propane.
- [REDACTED], negative contact, phone number provided was no good.
- [REDACTED], was interviewed by Inv. Ike Peppard.
- [REDACTED], DOB [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED], Cell [REDACTED], both were home at the time of the explosion. They did not smell any odor of gas or propane or see anything out of the ordinary.
- [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED], [REDACTED],
[REDACTED] Neither one of them smelled any odor of gas or propane and they did not see anything out of the ordinary before the explosion. She needs to get her dogs and some of her husband's medication.
- [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], states that he was home when the explosion occurred. He did not smell any odor of gas or propane prior to explosion. He would like to have someone retrieve his wallet from pants pocket if possible.
- [REDACTED] DOB [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] reports that she was out of town all weekend for a wedding. Prior to leaving she did not smell any odors of gas or propane. She returned home late Sunday and was not home at the time of the explosion.
- [REDACTED], negative contact, left message.
- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], called several times and received a busy signal. Not sure if phone number is good or not.
- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that they were home at the time of the explosion. They did not see anything out of the ordinary over the weekend and did not smell any odors of gas or propane. They are currently staying with family.

When I spoke to the people from Evergreen Trailer Park, I advised them that it may be a couple of days before they are able to get back into their homes for anything. [REDACTED] asked if I could get his wallet for him and [REDACTED] asked to come down to get her husband's medication.

1522 hrs - [REDACTED] arrived at the Mobile Command Truck and asked for me. I advised her that I would escort her up to her trailer to get her husband's medication. I

escorted Ms. [REDACTED] to her trailer. While she was in her trailer, I advised her that I had to go to the trailer next to hers to retrieve a wallet and that I would be right back.

1532 hrs - I located [REDACTED] wallet inside of his tan shorts close to the front door where he told me it would be. I returned to [REDACTED] who was just finishing up getting some things out of her trailer. I escorted her back out to the Mobile Command Truck and she was informed that her two dogs were at the local shelter and was told how she could get there to get her dogs.

1754 hrs - ATF Agent Andy Cox and I were looking around the debris trying to see if we could locate the Phase 2 regulator that was next to the building. We had learned that the regulator was connected to a riser that came out of the ground on the Southwest corner of the new addition that was no longer standing. We looked through the debris and did not locate the regulator. We looked at the Shiretown Tire business next door and could see that some debris had been blown through the wall and into the business. It was at that point we

discovered the Phase 2 regulator stuck in the side of that building. I photographed the regulator as it was found. It was decided that we would not collect it until the next day.

1918 hrs - The scene was secured with crime scene tape [REDACTED]. I cleared the scene.

September 17, 2019
Day 2

0806 hrs - I arrived on scene and was informed that the Mobile Command Truck would be here soon. A short time later the Mobile Command Truck arrived on scene and was set up.

1058 hrs - A large procession with the body of Cpt. Michael Bell drove past scene to take his body to the funeral home.

1105 hrs - A briefing was held and it was decided that we would be looking for the propane gas line coming out of the ground near the southwest corner of the remaining concrete basement. I was also tasked with taking photos for the day.

1120 hrs - I located the gas line coming up from the ground. I could not see the riser because it was beneath grade. I located a copper gas line wrapped in a yellow outer shell. I photographed the gas line as it was found and advised ATF Agent Andy Cox.

1147 hrs - Everyone was standing by while we coordinated a pressure test of the gas line. The riser was exposed and I photographed the riser as it was found.

1252 hrs - Sgt. Grimes notified me that he had located a white firefighter helmet near a trailer located at 101 Evergreen Lane. I went over and marked the helmet with Placard A

and photographed it where it was found. The helmet had "C 4" on the back of it and that was identified as Cpt. Michael Bell's helmet. Sgt. Grimes called for the members from the Farmington Fire Department to come to the scene to retrieve the helmet. A short time

later, I carried the helmet to an area where a group of Farmington firefighters were gathered outside of the crime scene tape. I turned the helmet over to them per request of Sgt. Grimes.

Item #14	Soil Sample	Ground by riser next to LEAP Building	1453 hrs
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1453 hrs - Clearing away the soil around the riser next to the building was being done at this time. S/I Jeremy Damren advised that he could smell a strong odor of Mercaptan, a flammable, colorless gas mixed with propane to give propane an odor that some say smell like rotten eggs or cabbage. S/I Damren wanted to collect a soil sample of the soil to see if a lab could detect Mercaptan in the soil which would indicate that there may be a leak somewhere between the tank and the building. The soil sample was collected by S/I Damren and secured in the Mobile Command Truck.

1750 hrs - After conversations about how to properly do the pressure test, it was decided that additional equipment will be needed. It was decided that the pressure test would be done the next day so the needed equipment could be obtained. The scene was secured [REDACTED]. I cleared the scene at that time.

September 18, 2019
Day 3

0915 hrs - I arrived back on scene at 313 Farmington Falls Road. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

0922 hrs - I went to the area where the gas line was going to be pressure tested. I took photos of each end of the gas line that had been exposed the day before to show that they had not been tampered with. The gas line appeared to have not been disturbed.

There had been some more firefighter gear located in the building debris. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Item #3/Placard B FF Glove Debris by foundation
1011 hrs

A firefighter glove had been located just outside of the foundation wall near the "L" of the foundation wall. Photos of this area was taken with Placard B in place. The glove was collected and secured in a box to be turned over to the Bureau of Labor Standards.

Item #3/Placard C FF Portable Radio Debris by foundation 1012 hrs
w/Shoulder Strap

A portable radio in a shoulder strap was located in the same general area as the firefighter's glove. Photos of this area was taken with Placard C in place. The portable radio and shoulder strap was collected and place in the same box as the glove and secured.

Item #3/Placard D FF Helmet Debris by foundation 1014
hrs

A firefighter helmet was located just outside of the foundation wall near the "L" of the foundation wall in the same general area of the glove and the portable radio. Photos were taken of the helmet with Placard D in place. The helmet was collected and secured in the same box as the glove and portable radio.

1051 hrs - The equipment needed for the pressure test was now on scene and ready to be set up. Equipment was set up and photos were taken of the equipment being used. I photographed the calibration certification stickers on the equipment being used as well.

1058 hrs - The pressure test begins. A video camera was set up to record the pressure test and its results. I also took photos of the test and the readings on the pressure gauges to document the test.

1117 hrs - The pressure test was done and now a Flow Test was going to be conducted to determine the flow rate of the leak that was detected in the line between the tank and the LEAP building. The instrument being used for the Flow Test had to be level. I took photos of the instrument showing that it was level.

NOTE: For details of the Pressure Test and the Flow test, see ATF Agent
Andy Cox's report

Item #5/Placard E Phase 2 Regulator Embedded in Shiretown Tire Wall 1201
hrs

I placed Placard E on the regulator that was identified as the Phase 2 regulator that was connected to the riser next to the LEAP building. That regulator had been blown from its original location and embedded in the exterior wall of Shiretown Tire. The regulator was

photographed and collected. I placed it in an evidence box and secured it on the Mobile Command Truck and labeled it as Item #5.

The Farmington water company was asked to come by to see if they could locate the gas line underground before we started to excavate the area to expose the gas line. A couple of guys arrived on scene from the water company. They used an instrument to search for the gas line and was able to mark the pavement as to where the gas line ran from the tank to the LEAP building.

I had previously marked the four metal poles in the ground with numbers. I photographed each pole's height as they were that day with the pole number I had marked it with. It appeared that if the water company's line was accurate that Pole #2 is very close to the gas line and may have damaged the gas line when it was installed.

The pavement was cut around Pole #2 as to not disturb the pole while the rest of the pavement was removed so the ground could be dug by hand to expose the gas line. Eventually, all of the pavement that was around Pole #2 was removed without disturbing Pole #2 at all. I documented this process with photos.

The gas line was exposed from the riser next to the LEAP building gradually towards the tank.

As soon as they approached Pole #2 exposing the gas line, it was apparent that the gas line had been compromised and the tracer wire that ran along the outside of the gas line had also been severed. The severed tracer line and the breach to the gas line was right next to Pole #2. See photos. The poles that were installed are Techno Metal Posts. These posts have an approximate 12-inch augur on the bottom of the pole and the pole is installed by drilling it into the ground. It appears that the augur part of the pole had damaged the gas line. This area was well documented with photos.

It was decided that another pressure test should be done below the damaged part of the gas line back to the propane tank to see if there are any other leaks detected. If there were no other leaks, it was agreed that there would be no need to dig the rest of the line to expose it.

Item #11	Section of Gas Line	Building riser to damaged area	1540 hrs
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The section of gas line and tracer wire was removed from the trench. The tracer wire was taped to the gas line as it was found. I took photos of the breach in the gas line. The gas line and tracer wire was marked as Item #11 and secured on the Mobile Command Truck.

NOTE: The ground had a very strong odor of Mercaptan

1550 hrs - The pressure test was conducted between the tank to an area just below the damaged gas line and there were no leaks detected. The pressure test was run for 15 minutes at 10 psi. Photos of the pressure test were taken.

Item #8/Placard F	~8-inch piece of black iron pipe	Driveway to Evergreen Trailer Park	1628 hrs
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While walking through the debris in the driveway that leads to the Evergreen Trailer Park, a small piece of black iron pipe with threads on each end was located. I was advised that this may be a piece of pipe that went with the regulator that was embedded in the side of

Shiretown Tire. The piece of pipe was photographed where it was found with Placard F and then collected. The pipe was secured in an evidence envelope and labeled as Item #8.

Item #7	Propane tank regulator w/pigtail and gas line to riser	From propane tank	1640 hrs
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I was asked to collect the propane tank regulator and gas line that connected to the riser. I photographed the tank with the regulator and gas line connected. It was then removed and placed into a box and secured on the Mobile Command Truck. It was labeled as Item #7.

1800 hrs - The debris that had been blown across Route 2 making the road impassable was search by several people for anything of evidentiary value. Nothing was located. Farmington Public Works was called in to clear the roadway of debris so it could be reopened.

[REDACTED]

September 19, 2019
Day 4

0800 hrs - Arrived back on scene. The Mobile Command Truck was not on scene yet. A short time later the truck arrived.

0912 hrs - Sgt. Grimes holds a briefing with Fire Marshal Investigators and ATF agents.

0920 hrs - The parking lot was being cleared by excavator so access to the basement and the "old" section of the Leap office could be accessed by the excavator to dig through the debris looking for the sump hole and floor drain hole in the new foundation floor and electric service panels.

1118 hrs - The Techno Metal Pole #2 was removed from the ground using a mini excavator to pull it out. The pole was set on the ground until the next day so it could be transported and secured as evidence. The pole was photographed showing how long it was and the auger on the bottom of the pole.

1245 hrs - The basement floor was being cleared away. Fire Investigators Ike Peppard and Ken Tabor and ATF Agent Kevin Connely were in the basement while the excavator reached down to move debris. I was notified that a 4-inch diameter hole in the floor was located. I had them mark the hole with Placard #1. I photographed the hole from outside of the basement. A short time later, a five-gallon bucket was located. We had been told that there was a five-gallon bucket in the sump hole because there was no sump pump installed. I gave them Placard #2 and placed it next to the bucket. I photographed the bucket as it was found. A piece of another five-gallon bucket was located and Placard #3 was assigned to it and it was photographed where it was located.

A short time later, ATF Agent Connely stated that they had located a larger hole with a red five-gallon bucket in it. I provided him with Placard #4 and the area was photographed to document its location.

Item #13	White FF Helmet	Debris Pile of Older Building	1410 hrs
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A white firefighter helmet was located under the large debris pile of the older section of the LEAP office building. The helmet was photographed, collected and secured in an evidence box and labeled Item #13.

1415 hrs - The two circuit breaker panels were located under the large debris pile of the older part of the LEAP office building. I photographed the area that they were located in. I got right up to the circuit panels and could clearly see that the Main Breaker of the service panel was in the "Off" position. The sub-panel next to it did not have a main breaker. It ran off from the Main Panel.

1435 hrs - Sgt. Grimes called me over to the side of the older building. He advised that they had located the Service Entrance where the power lines run from the pole to the building. I photographed the Service Entrance as it was found.

1600 hrs - The processing and search of the scene was determined to be completed at this time. All the evidence was accounted for and secured. NOTE: All firefighter equipment that had been collected was turned over to the Mike Laplante of Bureau of Labor Standards. See Evidence List.

Larry A. Morrill
Fire Investigator
State of Maine Fire Marshal's Office - Central Division
September 27, 2019

Supplement

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Senior Investigator Kenneth G. MacMaster

Date of Report

October 01, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 16, 2019

Time Start/Stop

1051-1105 hours

Place of Interview

residence,

I met with and introduced myself to [REDACTED]. I advised [REDACTED] that I had been assigned to assist with the explosion investigation at the L.E.A.P. building on Farmington Falls Road in Farmington; which had occurred earlier this morning. As part of the investigation; I learned that his property sustained property damage from the explosion. For that reason; and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview him. [It should be noted the [REDACTED] property is physically located across Farmington Falls Road and High Street to the north of the explosion scene]. [REDACTED] understood and consented to an interview.

[REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] confirmed he is the owner of the property addressed as 420 High Street in Farmington. [REDACTED] explained that he utilizes the property as a work studio, repairing stringed instruments, as a business. [REDACTED] said his structure is insured through [REDACTED] Insurance and the business is insured through [REDACTED] Insurance Company.

[REDACTED] said he was outside stacking wood this morning when he noticed a firetruck arrive at the L.E.A.P. building. [REDACTED] said he also observed people pacing around outside of the building. [REDACTED] said there was a massive explosion; with debris from the explosion raining down. When asked; [REDACTED] said he does not believe he was [REDACTED]. When asked; [REDACTED] said he did not smell any propane odor outside of his property prior to the explosion.

I documented the visible structural damage to the exterior and interior damage of the [REDACTED] property with photographs. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE FIRE MARSHAL DIGITAL STORAGE SYSTEM.

Supplement

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Senior Investigator Kenneth G. MacMaster

Date of Report

October 01, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Owner/Operator ([REDACTED])

Employer/Address

Shiretown Tire, 323 Farmington Falls Road, Farmington, Maine

Date

September 16, 2019

Time Start/Stop

1431-1445 hours

Place of Interview

High Street, Farmington, Maine

I met with and introduced myself to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I advised [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that I had been assigned to assist with the explosion investigation at the L. E. A. P. building on Farmington Falls Road in Farmington; which had occurred earlier this morning. As part of the investigation; I learned that he ([REDACTED]) is the owner of Shiretown Tire and that he ([REDACTED]) along with [REDACTED], were in the Shiretown Tire building at the time of the explosion. For that reason; and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview them. [It should be noted that the Shiretown Tire building is adjacent to the explosion scene, to the east]. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] understood and consented to an interview. Present and participating in this interview was Agent Steve Hickey of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] confirmed he is the owner/operator of Shiretown Tire, addressed as 323 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington. When asked; [REDACTED] advised that his company is insured by [REDACTED] Insurance, who has been notified of the damage.

[REDACTED] advised he was at his business yesterday (Sunday) between 6:30 and 8:00 a.m. When asked; [REDACTED] said when on location yesterday, he did not smell propane. [REDACTED] stated he arrived today at his business around 6:45 a.m. When asked; [REDACTED] again said he did not smell propane when he arrived today, and had no propane odor between the time he arrived and the time of the explosion. [REDACTED] said he arrived at Shiretown Tire this

morning around 7:20 a.m. When asked; [REDACTED] said he did not smell propane in the air between the time he arrived this morning and the time of the explosion.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said they were in the general area within the building and had just moved to the office area when the explosion occurred. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said they were blown backwards in the blast. [REDACTED] said he thinks he is [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said after the explosion, he went to the explosion site and assisted others in removing the injured. When

asked; [REDACTED] said the damaged bus (broken windows) parked in the Shiretown Tire driveway belongs to a customer, name unknown. When asked; [REDACTED] said the damaged van (broken windshield) parked to the rear of the Shiretown Tire building belongs to him.

I documented the visible exterior damage to Shiretown Tire with photographs. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE FIRE MARSHAL DIGITAL STORAGE SYSTEM.

Supplement

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Senior Investigator Kenneth G. MacMaster

Date of Report

October 01, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 16, 2019

Time Start/Stop

1810-1825 hours

Place of Interview

residence,

I met with and introduced myself to [REDACTED]. I advised [REDACTED] that I had been assigned to assist with the explosion investigation at the L.E.A.P. building on Farmington Falls Road in Farmington; which had occurred earlier this morning. As part of the investigation; I learned that he is the owner of the residential structure somewhat adjacent to the L.E.A.P. building, and that his residence sustained damage. For that reason; and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview him. [It should be noted that the [REDACTED] residence is somewhat adjacent to the explosion scene, to the east, beyond the Shiretown Tire building]. [REDACTED] understood and consented to an interview.

[REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] confirmed he is the owner of the residential structure addressed as [REDACTED]. When asked; [REDACTED] advised his home is insured through [REDACTED] Insurance Company. When asked; [REDACTED] stated he was not at home at the time of the explosion. [REDACTED] elaborated that he had left on Friday (September 13, 2019) and was in Vermont over the weekend, traveling back today's date.

I documented the visible structural damage to the exterior and interior damage of the [REDACTED] home with photographs. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE FIRE MARSHAL DIGITAL STORAGE SYSTEM.

Supplement

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Senior Investigator Kenneth G. MacMaster Date of Report

October 01, 2019

Last

Ross First

Sayward "Clyde" Middle

Age

[REDACTED] Date of Birth

Address

[REDACTED] Phone

(home)

(cellular)

Social Security Number

Occupation

Deputy Fire Chief

Employer/Address

Farmington Fire Department Date

September 17, 2019 Time Start/Stop

1445-1520 hours

Place of Interview

Explosion scene, L.E.A.P. building, Farmington Falls Road, Farmington, Maine

I met with Sayward "Clyde" Ross. I advised Ross that I had been assigned to assist with the explosion investigation at the L.E.A.P. building on Farmington Falls Road in Farmington; which had occurred yesterday morning. As part of the investigation; I learned that he was on scene at the time of the explosion and [REDACTED]. For that reason; and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview him. Ross understood and consented to an interview.

Sayward "Clyde" Ross provided the following information: Ross advised he has been a firefighter with the Farmington Fire Department for 48 years, currently serving as Deputy Fire Chief, a position he has held since 1993.

Sayward "Clyde" Ross said at 8:07 a.m., he received a tone at the request of Fire Chief Terry Bell to 313 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington for a propane smell. Ross said he responded to the Farmington Fire Department to obtain his firefighting gear and respond in fire apparatus. Ross said Farmington's Tower truck had already left the station to the call.

Ross said he responded to the scene in the back seat of Farmington's Engine 2, with Firefighter Scott Baxter as the driver and Captain Mike Bell in the front officer's seat. When asked; Ross advised it is his understanding that Firefighters Joe Hastings and Ted Baxter, along with Captain T.D. Hardy, were aboard Farmington Tower. When asked; Ross said the gas meters are stored on the Tower. Ross added that Fire Chief Bell had responded in the Fire Chief's vehicle. Ross said once on scene; Firefighter Scott Baxter parked Engine 2 to the right rear of the Farmington Tower.

Sayward "Clyde" Ross said he, along with Captain Mike Bell and Firefighter Scott Baxter walked from the front of the L.E.A.P. building to the west and south side of the building. In that area; Ross said he observed Chief Terry Bell; Captain T.D. Hardy; and Firefighter Joe Hastings. When asked; Ross advised that occupants of the L.E.A.P. building had evacuated and were in the parking area to the west of the building. Ross said he went around to the

Supplement

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Senior Investigator Kenneth G. MacMaster

Date of Report

October 01, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Provider

Employer/Address

L. E. A. P., 313 Farmington Falls Road, Farmington, Maine

Date

September 18, 2019

Time Start/Stop

1100-1115 hours

Place of Interview

residence, 127 North Street, Farmington, Maine

I met with and introduced myself to [REDACTED]. I advised [REDACTED] that I had been assigned to assist with the explosion investigation at the L. E. A. P. building at 313 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington; which had occurred Monday (September 16, 2019) morning. As part of the investigation; I learned that she was in the immediate area at the time of the explosion. For that reason; and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview her. [REDACTED] understood and consented to an interview.

[REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] confirmed she is an employee for L. E. A. P., assigned to a group home on Barlen Street in Farmington. [REDACTED] said she had just got off shift, 8:00 a.m., and drove to the L. E. A. P. general office to drop off L. E. A. P. documents, which is procedure. [REDACTED] said while traveling, she actually followed a firetruck on Farmington Falls Road from the fire department to the L. E. A. P. general office. [REDACTED] said the firetruck pulled into the regular entrance to L. E. A. P. building, parked, thus blocking her entrance. [REDACTED] said she continued on and parked in the parking area of the newer part of the general office building. [REDACTED] said she got out of her vehicle, not knowing that there was an emergency at the L. E. A. P. office and the office had been evacuated. [REDACTED] said she walked to the porch area of the older part of the L. E. A. P. office with the documents, and was about to turn the door handle to go inside, when a L. E. A. P. employee, identified as [REDACTED] stopped her, said the building had been evacuated, instructing her not to go inside, give her the documents, and to leave the area. [REDACTED] said she handed [REDACTED] the documents, and [REDACTED] ran across the yard to the area where the firetrucks were parked. When asked; [REDACTED] said while walking to and from the L. E. A. P. building, she did not smell any propane odor, but elaborating that she has sinus problems. When asked; while on the L. E. A. P. property, [REDACTED] said she did not see any firefighters or [REDACTED].

██████████ said she returned to her vehicle, started her vehicle, fastened seatbelt, and drove out of the parking area, stopping at the edge of Farmington Falls Road, to wait for traffic to clear. ██████████ said at this time, the explosion occurred, blowing her vehicle across Farmington Falls Road, to where her vehicle came to rest on the curve to Farmington Falls Road from High Street. ██████████ said all of the airbags in her vehicle deployed, and window glass shattered. ██████████ said when her vehicle came to rest, she was

[REDACTED] advised her vehicle is insured by [REDACTED] Insurance Company, and the insurance company has been notified of the damage to her vehicle. When asked; [REDACTED] granted permission for her damaged vehicle [REDACTED]

Supplement

[REDACTED] Transcript

OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL
STATE HOUSE STATION #52
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

Case Number: 19F049458

Officer's Code/Signature
(1313) Mary MacMaster Date of Report

Last

[REDACTED] First

[REDACTED] Middle

Age
Date of Birth

[REDACTED]
Address

[REDACTED] Phone

(Cell) [REDACTED]
Employer/Address

Social Security Number

Occupation

Place of Interview

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Date
10/10/2019 Time Start/Stop
1345 - 1424

KEY

MM Mary MacMaster, Investigator, State Fire Marshal's Office
LM [REDACTED] Morrill, Investigator, State Fire Marshal's Office
[REDACTED]

INTERVIEW

MM We are at 482 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington. It is Thursday, October 10th at 1345 or 1:45 PM.

[REDACTED] Morrill and I are with [REDACTED]

(MM gathers address/phone number)

MM So [REDACTED] I'm going to get right into it. You work for LEAP.

[REDACTED] Yes ma'am.

MM And how long have you worked for them?

■ Since the end of June.

MM June 30th, or?

■ Ahhh, like the, ahhh, 27th.

MM 27th, plus or minus?

■ 25th or 27th, somewhere in there.

MM Okay. And what is your role with them - - and are you comfortable in here is it too hot, too cold?

■ Oh I'm good.

MM Good. Okay.

What do you do for them?

■ Maintenance assistant.

MM And were you hired to work for or with ■ ■

■ Yes.

MM And that assistant title, is that to assist ■

■ Yeah, yeah. He's the maintenance director.

MM Okay. So ■ is the director.

■ Yeah.

MM And from the time that you started in June to the time of the explosion did you have training, did you have training time?

■ Not really.

MM Not really. What is your background?

■ I've just, I've done a lot of carpentry, ahm, home improvement stuff on a lot of stuff in Rangeley, yard maintenance, ahm, little bit a plumbing, little bit electrical. I've done quite a bit of the carpentry type thing, so.

MM So you're handy.

■ Yes. Kind of a handyman type a thing.

MM What type of work were you hired to do at LEAP, what was your assignment?

■ Ahh, to assist ■ but mostly a lot of painting, painting the decks, painting the buildings that needed to be painted. When I wasn't painting I was helping ■

MM Did you know ■ before you took the job?

■ No.

MM Okay, so you and ■ met in June.

■ Yeah. I-I, I knew of him ahm, when I lived - - because the house that they tore down I lived there when they put the addition on the old, the new building and I met him a couple times there but other than that -

MM You weren't friends or anything?

■ No. No.

MM So when you started working there - - or actually, let's skip ahead to some of the events prior to the explosion.

■ Okay.

MM Were you aware that they were putting the five-hundred (500) gallon tank and the line in for the boiler?

■ That was after I, that was before I started.

MM Before you started that was put in.

■ Yeah. Yeah, yeah. The building, my first week we started loading things into the building: furniture, desks, we started doing, moving all the furniture and filing cabinets into the building my first week.

MM And so the heating system was already up and running.

■ Yeah, everything was already in, everything was already installed and up and running.

MM Okay. At some point they decided to put the generators - - is that for a cooling system?

■ The ones that were outside?

MM Yes.

■ Yes. Yes, they were for the AC unit.

MM Were you there when they put those units in?

■ No. No.

MM Those were already in?

■ Those were in too.

MM And the concrete pad that those set on?

■ That was already there.

MM How about the paved parking lot?

■ No. They were ahm, they was, the first (1st) Friday that I started we did two (2) days of moving furniture then the next day, that Friday, I ah, they were putting the filler in for the gravel and all that stuff for the, for the, for the tar.

MM Okay. Do you remember who was doing that?

■ First Line?

MM Okay.

■ I believe.

LM First Line or Fine Line?

■ Fine Line, sorry.

MM Fine Line?

■ Yeah.

MM And did they also do the paving?

■ Yes.

MM And were you aware of that?

■ Yes. Yeah.

MM Were you involved in any of that?

■ No.

MM Was ■ involved in any of that?

■ ■ did all, pretty much any of the contractors we had hired. He was in charge of all that.

MM Okay, so he facilitated anything that had to do with contractors.

■ Yeah. Between him and ■ they, ■ gave the final say but ■ was the one that got the contractor bids and all that stuff.

MM Were you privy to any of that, were you with ■ or privy to any of those conversations?

■ No. No.

MM So the paving happened after you came.

■ Yeah.

MM The bollards, or the pilons, that went into the ground -

■ Those were after I started too.

MM . . . were you there that day?

■ No. I wasn't there when they installed 'em.

MM You weren't there when they were installed.

■ No. I, ah, I, I was sure that they got put in on like a Thursday, it was either a Thursday or a Friday. I wasn't a hun, I'm not a hundred percent (100%) sure I'm pretty sure it was one of those two (2) days and it was - - because I remember that Monday ■ talking about we had to paint 'em and fix the tar and all that stuff.

MM Paint what?

■ The bollards.

MM You were going have to paint them and fix the tar?

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM So that was after they were in.

■ Yeah. But we hadn't got to it yet.

MM Okay. So, so you and ■ had a conversation about painting them and fixing the tar after they were put in.

■ Yes.

MM Because there was one (1) that was kind of like the pavement was kind of messed up.

■ Yeah. When they drilled it, it raised the pavement and stuff.

MM Right. So you and ■ had a conversation about making repairs out there painting them.

■ Yeah.

MM And that was after they were put in.

■ Yes.

MM And before the explosion.

■ Yeah.

MM Did you ever have any conversation with ■ about the gas line that went from the tank to the building?

■ No.

MM Nothing?

■ No. Not, ahm, not until the Friday before when we realized that we ran out of propane.

MM And that was Friday the 13th.

■ Yes.

MM Tell me about that.

■ We got a call from one of the ladies at the office and they had no hot water. So we went down he checked the boiler, the little flame thing that says if it's igniting or not on the boiler.

MM And, did you go with him?

■ Yes. Yeah he showed me how to restart it and all that.

MM And so, so tell me - - can you give me details about what you looked at, what you saw and anything that you said?

■ Yeah. Ahm, he just showed me there was a little flame, like I said, that shows whether it's ignited. He told me to shut it off. Turn it back on. If the flame comes back on it's not getting fuel.

MM Meaning the boiler?

■ The boiler. Yeah.

MM And how did he tell you to shut the boiler off?

■ Ah, just push the button, there was a button there just to push.

MM Yeah. So, push the button.

■ Push the button. Shut it off. Wait a couple seconds and then turn it back, push the button to turn it back on.

MM And while he's explaining that to you is he doing it?

■ Yes.

MM And tell me what you saw.

■ Just saw him pushing the button (chuckles).

MM Okay. So the flame, was there a flame there?

■ Yes. He showed me the little flame on it and before he pushed the button he showed me that little flame.

MM Okay. And then the flame went out.

■ Yeah.

MM And then he turned it back on.

■ Yeah.

MM Did the flame come back on?

■ It came back on but it, it was, ahm, it was lit up when it, he explained it that when it was lit up that it was, wasn't igniting. Ahm, so, then we just -- he goes I'm pretty sure I know what the problem is, we're out of propane. So, we walked out and checked the propane tank. Ahm, ahm, he sent, actually sent me up to look at the tank to see if it was empty, and I flipped the cover up off the tank and looked at the, there's a little round dial and it was empty.

MM Okay. So where was ■ when you went up to check the tank?

■ He was still down in the basement.

MM Okay. And so he sent you up.

■ Yeah.

MM Check the tank.

■ Yeah.

MM And it was empty.

■ Yeah.

MM And I think from our last interview, you noticed something else about the tank.

■ Not that day.

MM Okay. So this was Friday.

■ Yes. That was Friday.

MM Okay. Sorry I'm jumping ahead.

■ (Chuckles)

MM Okay. So, the tank was empty.

■ Yeah.

MM And so then what?

■ He called CN Brown, very, very upset because.

MM You went back and told him -

■ Yes.

MM . . . it's empty.

■ He, he actually met me halfway out and he come back over and he, he looked at it too as well just to make, you know, make sure I did it right. Then he called CN Brown while we were standing right next to the tank because it was supposed to be on a two (2) week fill-up. And they hadn't, they hadn't, ahm, filled it. So, he went inside, well we both did, we went back inside, went up to the finance department.

MM Inside on the first (1st) floor, not in the basement?

■ Second (2nd) floor, yeah, up on the top floor of the building. And talked to the finance and found out when the last delivery was and it was July, July 17th, 19th, something like that.

MM And did you know what the delivery was for, how much it was?

■ I-I, I don't. They didn't say.

MM Did ■ have any concerns about the fact that the tank was empty?

■ Not at that point, no, because it'd been so long since it was filled.

MM Last filled?

■ Right.

MM So, so he didn't really have kind of an idea of how much fuel the building was using.

■ Right. Right. That's why we had him do the two (2) week thing so we could figure out how much we was using. And it didn't, we didn't have no idea because it had been so long.

MM Okay. Then what?

■ Then he just told 'em to call, call him when they came to fill it and he'd come back and restart the boiler.

MM And he made the call to CN Brown.

■ Yes.

MM And you were standing there.

■ Yes.

MM So you witnessed that.

■ Yes.

MM So was CN Brown supposed to start the boiler?

■ No.

MM So CN Brown was going to deliver fuel.

■ Yeah.

MM And then ■ -

■ He called 'em they said we'll be over this afternoon, we don't have anybody here right now to deliver it but we'll be there this afternoon.

MM Were you there when they delivered the fuel?

■ No. No I, I left at noontime that day.

MM Okay. So you weren't there -

■ When they filled it.

MM . . . when they filled it or when ■ restarted the boiler.

■ Right. Right.

MM Did he walk through with you, at any point, the restart of that boiler once the fuel is there?

■ No.

MM So that you could see the difference between no fuel.

■ No, I was already gone.

MM Okay. But there was no other time that he might have gone through that with you?

■ No. No, no, no.

MM So you left at noon and when did you go back?

■ Monday morning.

MM And that's Monday the sixteenth (16th).

■ Yes.

MM Okay. And I remember you said you work 7:30 to 3:30?

■ Yes ma'am.

MM Monday through Friday.

■ Yeah.

MM And that day you arrived at 7:30.

■ Yeah. We arrived here at 7:30.

MM So you came here.

■ We came here first (1st) yeah.

MM And this is where the tables were that you were -

■ Yeah. We had 'em right inside the shop.

MM So you guys came here right at 7:30.

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM And then walk me through your morning, we're only talking about an hour, maybe, right?

■ Right.

MM Less than.

■ Right. Right. Yeah. We came here, I punched in. We talk for a minute, started loading the tables, put 'em in our little white truck that we use.

MM How many tables, do you remember?

■ I believe there was eight (8) of 'em.

MM Okay.

■ Got 'em all loaded at, I don't know, we left here at ten minutes of eight (7:50).

MM And did you and ■ travel together in that white truck?

■ No. No, he brought the ah, the Jeep down, the loaner Jeep that we had because our other truck was getting fixed.

MM And so you took the white truck?

■ Yes.

MM Is that a company truck?

■ Yes.

MM And where did you take it to?

■ I took it to the backside of the building where we was gonna unload the tables.

MM Is there a bulkhead there?

■ No.

MM Was there a bulk - - there was an entryway.

■ Yeah. There was two (2) entryways on the backside. One (1) went into that little corner nook and then you had to go through there, go through another doorway and then down the stairs.

MM Could you access the basement from outdoors?

No.

MM You only could access it from inside.

■ Yeah. You have to have a key to the basement and nobody el, me and ■ were the,
 me, ■ and ■ I believe, ah, no. That is not correct. ■

MM Okay. But the basement door was kept locked.

Yeah, it was kept locked at all times, yeah.

MM So you and [REDACTED] go, start taking tables into the basement.

Yeah.

MM How many trips do you think you made?

Well I made, I lugged the first (1st) one down by myself. He was, he was talking to one of the women that was there and I lugged the first (1st) one down and then he'd come in with the second (2nd) one as I was coming up over the stairs and he told me to just stay down in the basement and we just, he lugged the tables in and I lugged 'em against the wall. I met him about halfway down the stairs and he handed me the table and I'd go put 'em against the wall and go to the next one.

MM And did you get them all in?

Yes. But I told him when I was down there a bit, well, after we got 'em all down there I come back out and I said I got a [REDACTED] down there I said, but I didn't think nothin' of it. You know, just.

MM So, did you relate that to anything, I mean I know you probably do now but did you -

Yeah. At the time no. No.

MM ... so you [REDACTED] [REDACTED]?

[illegible]

MM [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Right.

MM Yeah. So you [REDACTED] moving those tables.

Yeah.

MM Did you smell anything?

■ No. I never smelled anything.

MM So did [REDACTED] come down in the basement at all?

No. [REDACTED] never came in to the basement.

MM Okay.

■ He stayed right up on the first (1st) floor.

MM And passed them to you.

■ Yeah.

MM I'm thinking about ten (10) questions at once and I'm trying to think about which one I want to ask next.

■ (Laughs)

MM So, you got the tables in, you came up you actually mentioned it to ■ that you were dizzy, a little bit dizzy.

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM Then what, what did you guys do?

■ We walked outside and I went to grab one of the other tables that went in to one of the women's vehicles and I told ■ I said, do you smell that propane? He goes, he goes, yes, it's very strong.

MM And do you know where it was coming from?

■ No, we just happened to, I just happened to smell it I couldn't tell where it was coming from I just smelled it in the air.

MM Where were you standing when you smelled it?

■ Right beside the pick up that was backed up to the back door where we were lugging the tables in.

MM Okay, so right in that area?

■ Yeah.

MM And then what?

■ Ahm, no. (Laughs) ahm, she ah, yeah she, let's see . . . after he said he smelled it he went over and checked the tank and come back and says oh, we're out of propane. And then, so, he said we got to evacuate the building. Called ■.

MM He did?

■ Yes. I lugged, there was actually another table it was a round table, so I lugged that round table down while he was checking the tank. Then when he came back he's like, he called ■ said we, ■ told him to evacuate the building, call the fire department. So, he went to evacuate the building and one of the women had pulled in and parked beside the propane tank. And I told her to just shut her vehicle off get out of her vehicle, go over to the meeting area. And by the time I come back inside ■ had already got everybody else here just had to get one (1) lady out of the basement and everybody else was outside at that point.

MM You said ■ went over and checked the tank and it was empty.

■ Yes.

MM Did you go over and check the tank that morning?

■ Yes, a, aft, afterwards yes. I went over and looked, well, after I had ■ go out front I looked at the tank, saw that it was empty because he left the cover up on it and notice there was ice all around the, all around the tank.

MM The tank itself?

■ Yes.

MM And what about the ground?

■ Yeah it was, well it wasn't on the tank it was on the ground.

MM It was on the ground.

■ It was all on the ground but there was moisture all over the side of the tank.

MM What did you make of that?

■ I, I knew at that point we had a leak somewhere.

MM Yeah. Did you have any suspicions about where that leak was?

■ No.

MM No?

■ No. I didn't know if one of the, I thought it was more around the tank, I thought well maybe one of the valves was leaking on the tank, or they didn't, you know, screw something down tight when they filled it or whatever.

MM And so then the building is evacuated.

■ Yeah.

MM The fire department is called after ■ was called.

■ Yeah.

MM The fire department and CN Brown were called. Is that what you said?

■ No. CN Brown, I don't know when CN Brown, I don't even know if they ever got called.

MM If they got called, okay. Who did you say got called, you said the fire department.

■ ■ and the fire department.

MM That's it.

■ Yeah.

MM All right. And, can you remember who was in the building during this time and I'm sure that you'll probably remember some people but who was the lady that came up in the parking lot by the tank that you ushered.

■ ■ I don't know her last name.

MM That's okay we can figure that out. And, do you remember -

■ She was parked over by the tank. ■ was in the building when, she was just getting there, most of the women were just getting there. ■ was there. ■, ahm, and, ahm, ■ and ■ I think that was, I

think that's her name (chuckles) I know it's [REDACTED] but I can't - - I'm trying to think. I don't think there was anybody else at the building.

MM And then you and [REDACTED] -

[REDACTED] Oh ah, ah, [REDACTED] was the other one that was there.

MM Okay. So, you got everybody out. And then at some point you grab the table to take?

[REDACTED] Yeah. I-I, I ah, well I, I went out front met everybody at the meeting area and then Chief BELL showed up so I took him around showed him where [REDACTED] was and him and [REDACTED] were talking, standing beside the building. [REDACTED] was opening up doors, the two (2), the other doors down on that end, on that backside I should say. We already had one open but he opened the other one that was there. I didn't see any windows open but, ahm, and then I walk back out front, got back out front and of, the fire trucks showed up, two (2) of 'em. So I took one (1) group of guys around the backside, showed 'em where Chief BELL was. One (1) went around front. [REDACTED] was actually on the end of the building at this point smelling those bollards that were there, he was trying to see if he could smell any propane there. And then he had called to one (1) of the firefighters and said, ahm, try your little wand thing here. And he come over went all the way around the pipe, stuck it down in the pipe. He's like, clear.

And then from that point I ah, I walk back over, they all, after [REDACTED] and that firefighter checked that bollard we walk back around the side and I told [REDACTED] I says, he was standing inside the doorway I said, well I'm going to take this table out and put it in [REDACTED] vehicle. So I took it out, stuck it in [REDACTED] vehicle and that's when it exploded.

MM When Chief BELL arrived was he alone?

[REDACTED] Yes. He had his own, well the, the first response pick up.

(Drawing of diagram begins)

MM I'm going to do a rough drawing because I'm not an artist, okay.

[REDACTED] Okay.

MM And we all know what that foundation looked like. Like this and then like this, right?

[REDACTED] Yeah.

MM How am I doing?

[REDACTED] Yeah well, pretty good.

MM And there was a big part of the house here.

[REDACTED] Yeah. The old building, yeah.

MM So, I know that there was a stairway here on this wall.

[REDACTED] Yeah.

MM Going down into the basement, right?

[REDACTED] Yeah.

MM Can you show me where the back door is, where you would've -

■ Yeah it was, this is the back door that we were lugging.

MM Okay. So you're -

■ . . . that actually opens in.

MM So your truck would have been parked in here?

■ It was parked right here. Yeah.

MM Okay.

■ And then there's another door here but to get to this you had to go in around this way to get to the stairway or go this way.

MM Okay. So you could go in a door here?

■ Yeah.

MM Or a door over here?

■ Yeah.

MM And which one were you guys using?

■ This one.

MM All right. And that door is on the first (1st) floor, you're walking in on the first (1st) floor.

■ Yes. Yes.

MM So, are there employees in the first (1st) floor in that area?

■ Yes.

MM Working?

■ Yes. There, there was -

MM Or just arriving.

■ There was actually a lady in this office right here. There was two (2) offices on this wall and there was actually one (1) of 'em, one of the lady's was in an office and she, ■ she was, I don't know her, yeah, she was there because her purse was in the building.

MM ■

■ ■, ahh, I don't know if it's ■

MM All right. ■ (somebody).

■ Yeah. I don't know if it's ■ or ■ It's something like that.

MM And there's access over here to the building, right?

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM And, can you access -

■ Well, this old part, this old building, there was a deck here and there was a doorway here.

MM Okay.

■ That's the only way to get in to the old part. And then there was a stairway here that went down to the basement, well, it was on this wall and it was kind a like here, it jetted out, and went down into the basement where there was two (2) offices underneath it.

MM But you guys were using this one.

■ Yeah.

MM And did you drive in this way?

■ No I came around that way.

MM Or, came around this way.

■ Yeah.

MM Okay. I know there was another question I had about that.

Do you have anything that's popping up right now for you ■ if you want to jump in?

LM I have a question on the morning, on Monday morning.

■ Yeah.

LM Before the explosion - - you said that ■ had gone out and looked at the tank and said it was empty and you said you had gone out and looked at the tank and said it was empty.

■ Yeah. Yeah.

LM Do you know if ■ or, or if you, if it was you, that turned the tank off at that time?

■ Ahh, nobody touched, I don't believe either one of us touched the tank.

LM You didn't. So you don't know if ■ did when he went out and looked at it first?

■ No. I don't think he turned, touched anything on the tank. He left it right alone.

LM So when Chief BELL got there did he go over and turn the tank on?

■ No. Not that I know of.

LM That you know of?

■ Not that I know of, no.

LM Okay.

■ He went right to the entrance of the building and him and ■ talked right there by where the truck was for a second then he went in the building and ■ followed him and I think he unlocked the basement door and then came back out when the other firefighters showed up.

LM I'm just trying to figure out because I know it was off when we looked at it but I don't know who turned it off. I don't know if it was the other firefighters who had the meters or, I don't know. I'm just curious.

■ Yeah. I don't know if they shut it off afterwards, or.

LM Yeah.

■ I never saw, I know I didn't shut it off and I'm, I'm pretty sure ■ didn't shut it off.

LM Right. And on the Friday before when, before it was filled up, you said you looked at it and you know for a fact that you saw that it was empty.

■ Yes. Yeah the needle was way down below empty.

MM On Friday?

■ On Friday. Yeah.

LM Okay.

MM And what about on Monday, did you look at the tank again on Monday?

■ Not, not till after the, ah, not till after we smelled the propane.

MM And it was empty?

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM Same scenario?

■ Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

MM The needle was -

■ Needle was below empty.

MM . . . below empty.

And you saw that on Friday?

■ Yes.

MM Do you know what the propane ran in that building?

■ [Inaudible]

MM The boiler?

■ Ahh, yeah, the boiler and the heating system.

MM The heating system and hot water?

■ Yeah. Well the boiler, the hot water system was on one (1) wall and the boiler was on the other end of the building towards the old building.

MM And both were run by propane?

■ Yes.

MM So, okay. I don't want to miss anything.

■ And I know we hadn't turned the heat on to the building yet so the boiler, that big boiler, wasn't even running yet.

MM So the heat wasn't even turned on?

■ No. No.

LM And the air conditioning units you know were electric?

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM We missing anything?

LM The tank, the heat, I'm just going - - I think I remember - - that tank that there's now was installed before you started working there.

■ Yes.

LM And the same with the gas line?

■ Yes.

LM All that was all done.

MM All that was. Okay.

■ Yeah. The only thing that was installed after I started was the driveway and those bollards.

LM Yeah. Okay. Yeah.

■ And I, I have, we found the number for the guy that installed 'em. I don't know if that, I don't know if it's his number but it says, I have it on a sticky note in there that says, the post and the number for the guy.

MM The guy that did the posts?

■ Yeah.

MM Yeah. We've spoken to him. Yeah.

■ Okay.

LM I, I do have a question for you. Did ■ ever have a discussion with you, as far as placement of those posts prior to the contractors coming, or where the gas line was or concerns?

■ No. He just told me, he told me about the posts coming but, ahm, he didn't really show me where they were gonna, he just said they're gonna go on the outside of those, those AC units.

LM Did you or him, or did you ever, either one of you set cones out to show where those posts would be going?

■ No. No.

LM Okay.

■ I know I-I, I think ■ showed the guy, but I'm not a hundred percent (100%) positive on it. I think the guy showed up to check it out beforehand and ■ just showed him where they were and I think he told him, you know, I'm pretty sure the line, the gas line, goes through here.

LM But you weren't right there for that conversation?

■ No I, I weren't, I weren't right there for that conversation. I knew he said that he told the guy that the line, he was pretty sure the line went here.

MM So ■ said that to you?

■ Yes.

MM What exactly did he say to you?

■ Ahm, it was just, I think, I don't know if it was, it was that Monday. He said I'm, because he's like, I don't know why that would a run out.

MM The Monday, the day of the explosion?

■ Yeah. We were talking about it outside. If it was that Monday or that Friday I can't remember.

MM Either way you're looking at an empty tank both times.

■ Yeah, right. So he goes, he goes, I don't think he hit it with those posts because I'm pretty sure the line went right through here.

MM So, there must have been something, he must have been thinking that there was a possibility.

■ Right.

MM Because he brought it up.

■ Yeah. Yeah. It could a been, you know, he thought of it yeah.

MM And then he has the firefighter come over with his wand to check.

■ To check to see if there was any smell around it, yeah. And like I said, the firefighter was like, it's all clear. And that was the post that they took out, the first (1st) post they took out was that one there, so.

MM That's the one the firefighter checked?

■ Yeah. Yeah. That, well, one (1), two (2), three (3), coming from the roadway it would a been the third one.

MM The one we took?

■ Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

MM Since I last talked to you did anything come to your mind that you kind a wish you would a told me? I'm sure that you've played this through your head a thousand times.

■ I've played it through a thousand times yeah.

MM Yeah. I'm sure you have.

Other than, you know, just timeframes when I called my, because I called my [REDACTED] and told her not to come down to the central office because there was a propane leak. And then the time she was trying to call me after it exploded.

MM So, your [REDACTED] does she work there?

[REDACTED] Yes. She works at one of the other houses that's right down the road.

MM So, from the time that you and [REDACTED] figured out that there was a propane leak to the time of the explosion, how much time do you think transpired?

[REDACTED] Ten (10) minutes? I don't even know if, yeah, it was ahh-mm.

MM I mean it seemed like you accomplished a lot but was there any sense of urgency on your part or his part?

[REDACTED] No. Not really because we just figured it was just another routine thing and didn't really think of much urgency you know, he called [REDACTED] we went back inside and grabbed donuts for the girls that they left in there and, you know, wasn't really a lot of urgency. And then it just, yeah, it was probably ten (10) minutes.

MM Okay.

[REDACTED] And that would a been, yeah it was, because I called, like I said, I called my [REDACTED] at 8:14 and, well we actually have a clock in there that got knocked off the wall that the battery came out of, the explosion was at 8:17 and a half.

MM Really.

[REDACTED] Yeah.

LM That's interesting because I had a kid that made a phone call to his mom right after the explosion from the trailer park and it was 8:18.

MM Really?

LM Yeah. And he said he made it about thirty (30) seconds after.

MM That's funny.

LM Yeah it's right there.

MM Yeah.

[REDACTED] Yeah.

MM And so you called your [REDACTED] at 8:14?

[REDACTED] Yeah. And she was trying to call me back at 8:19.

MM Too late.

[REDACTED] Yeah. (Laughs) After she heard the explosion.

MM Oh, I'm sure.

LM Wow.

MM Boy oh boy. Did you take my advice and buy a lottery ticket?

■ No.

MM (Laughs) No?

■ No, I didn't. (Laughs)

MM All right, well I think we got everything.

LM Yeah.

MM I mean, answer your phone and if I have anything else I'll call.

■ Okay.

MM I can't think of anything right now. I think we got everything that, you know, that we were hoping to get. Just iron out all those questions.

Have you heard anything about ■

■ We actually went down, me and ■ went down Monday, ahm, ■.

MM You went down to ■

■ Yeah.

MM Yeah.

MM Mm-hmm.

MM

MM

MM

MM

MM

■ [REDACTED].

MM I don't think they know.

■ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

MM [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

MM [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

MM [REDACTED]

■ (Chuckles)

MM [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

MM [REDACTED]

■ No. No.

MM That's good.

Did I give you my card the last time we met?

■ I don't think so.

MM Well, I can give you one and I'll grab that.

Can you think of anything LARRY, are we good?

LM I can't think of anything as long as, you know, unless he remembers any conversation that he may have had with [REDACTED] about the gas line or where it's location was or anything like that.

■ No just, just that he said, I'm pretty sure it goes right by here. And it was right, he thought it was more in between the two (2).

MM In between the two (2) what?

■ The two (2) bollards.

MM Oh yeah. When the bollards were there you were discussing it.

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM Okay.

■ Like I said I don't remember if it was that Friday or that Monday before it happened. I can't remember for sure but I remember talking to him about it.

MM So he, I mean, and that's where his mind was.

■ Right.

MM Okay. Just wondering.

■ I almost think it was that Monday before the firefighters showed up.

MM That he was discussing that?

■ Yeah. Yeah.

(MM retrieving business card)

MM There it is. I'll give you my cell phone number.

■ Okay.

MM If you have any questions give me a call. If you have any answers give me a call. Anything you want to share with me.

■ Like I said, that's pretty much.

MM I think we've gone over it pretty well.

■ I talked to the insurance guys and OSHA and explained everything a hundred times. Nothin's -

MM Nothing's changed.

■ Yeah. Other than I remembered the times, I went through my phone and saw the times.

MM Yeah.

■ But other than that.

MM That's pretty interesting about the clock that fell off the wall too.

■ Yeah. Yeah.

MM All right, thank you very much ■ I appreciate your time.

■ All right. Thank you.

Shut this off at 1424 (2:24 PM).

End of Interview

*** NOTICE ***

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Supplement

Case # 19F049458

Cross File

SCENE EXAMINATION REPORT

City/Town

Farmington County

Franklin

Officer's Code/Signature

#8430, Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Assignment:

On Monday, September 16, 2019, Sgt. Grimes assigned me to an explosion at the LEAP Building located at 313 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington.

Property:

The property involved in this explosion is an approximate 32' x 81' newly constructed two-story building with a full basement attached to a previous original one-story building with a basement. There was electricity at the time of the explosion.

The driveway consisted of what appeared to be asphalt pavement.

Exterior Examination:

It should be noted that the debris field was extensive and crossed many roads/driveways and properties. Several vehicles were parked in the vicinity/driveway and they sustained heavy blast/mechanically fractured damage. See photograph below.

Examination of this explosion scene began at the front of the building, which is the side closest to Route 2. Examination revealed no standing walls in the newly constructed building. A large debris field was noted on top of the original building. Power lines were noted on the front/right side corner of the building. Also noted on the front/right side in the driveway were Farmington Fire apparatus with debris on top of them.

Examination of the right side of the building revealed a large debris field and collapsed walls. Some of the debris from the newly constructed building was noted on top of the original building. It was evident that the seat of the blast did not occur on this side of the structure.

Examination of the rear of the building revealed no standing walls in the newly constructed building. A large debris pile was noted on top of the original building. One bollard (in-ground post) was noted on the right side of the building drilled into the ground, close to the left side corner. Also noted was a 500-gallon CN Brown propane tank. Examination of that tank's fuel gauge revealed "0" fuel in the tank.

Examination of the left side of the building revealed no standing walls in the newly constructed building. Noted were three bollards adjacent to this side of the building, in front of a concrete pad placed into the ground. Also noted was a propane regulator embedded in the sidewall of the adjacent tire garage. The tire garage was a wood framed building adjacent to the LEAP building.

Interior Examination:

Captain Michael Bell's [REDACTED]
Captain Bell [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]
Captain Bell [REDACTED].

Upon the initial examination, fire suppression was in progress in the large debris pile on the back side where the original and newly constructed building join. See photo below.

The interior examination consisted of delayering debris inside the basement. Debris removal revealed the propane burner system on the floor, an opening through the basement floor used as a radon hole, and an opening through the basement floor used as a sump hole. According to witness statements, the radon hole was capped and the sump hole had a five-gallon bucket inside the opening.

Examination revealed extensive blast damage to the concrete walls and floor of the foundation, which prevents a determination of any previously existing cracks or foundation damage.

In examining the area of fire damage where the newly constructed building connects to the original building, excavation and examination of the debris in this area revealed the electrical panel. The main breaker was found to be in the "off" position.

LP System Pressure Testing:

An LP system pressure test was conducted on the line. See Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives report for pressure test result and conclusion. Also, note the State of Maine Fuel Board reports as well.

Additional Examinations:

Damage to several surrounding offsite properties were documented by photographs.

Conclusion:

Based on the explosion scene examination, which consists of witness statements and damage pattern analysis, the explosion scene is classified as "ACCIDENTAL". The conclusion is outlined by the timeline below:

- * On June 20, 2019, 125 gallons of propane was delivered by CN Brown after the line was installed.
- * On July 25, 2019, the tank was filled with 257.3 gallons of propane by CN Brown.
- * Tuesday, September 10, 2019- four bollards were drilled into the ground in the area of the propane supply line to the LEAP building

- * Thursday, September 12, 2019-Leap employees report no hot water in the building, which the hot water is supplied by the propane boiler
- * Friday, September 13, 2019-The 500-gallon propane tank is confirmed to be empty. CN Brown was notified at 11:36AM and 391.9 gallons of propane is delivered at 11:51 AM.
- * Saturday/Sunday September 14-15, 2019-LEAP Building is empty with the exception of Wood possibly coming in
- * Monday, September 16, 2019-The 500-gallon propane tank is confirmed by a LEAP employee to be empty and evacuation of the building begins

Excavation of the propane line from the tank to the building revealed that bollard #2, as documented by photographs, damaged the propane line upon insertion. This allowed for the propane to leak into the gravel. See photograph below.

Excavation of the propane line revealed a strong odor of mercaptan (an induced odorant into the propane) coming from the dirt.

Between September 10, 2019 and September 16, 2019, the propane seeps into the basement. Some ways of travel identified are the sump hole, through the radon hole, by following the propane line, or through the concrete.

On September 16, 2019, optimum explosion conditions were reached as oxygen is introduced by maintenance going in and out of the basement on that morning through normal course of business. At the time LEAP maintenance identified a possible propane leak, an evacuation occurred as well as opening of doors and additional windows.

A definitive ignition source will never be established, however there are several potential ignition sources. Some of these potential ignition sources are any electrical component, static electricity, or ignition of the boiler. There was electricity at the time of the explosion.

This scene examination has been peer reviewed by:

Sgt. Joel Davis, CFI

Sgt. Ken Grimes, CFI

Senior Investigator Chris Stanford, CFI

Senior Investigator Ken MacMaster, CFI

Investigator Isaiah Peppard

Investigator Ken Tabor, CFI

Investigator Larry Morrill

This scene examination report was peer reviewed by Senior Investigator Ed Archer, CFI.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 16, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Scene

On Monday, September 16, 2019, ATF Agents Andy Cox, Tyler Leighton, and I conducted a recorded interview with Industry Fire [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is also an employee of Cornerstone Plumbing and Heating who installed the propane boiler in the new addition of the LEAP Building.

[REDACTED] told us that he has worked for Cornerstone for approximately 2 years and is licensed in propane and natural gas. [REDACTED] said that he is also a master plumber.

[REDACTED] told me that the LEAP Building started in 2018 and ended somewhere in June or July of 2019. [REDACTED] said that he had installed the propane boiler somewhere around March 22, 2019. [REDACTED] said that he could send me photographs of the completed boiler, but believe it was a NTI TI150 propane boiler.

[REDACTED] said that a week or two ago, he received a call from [REDACTED] asking if he knew where the propane line ran from the tank to the building. [REDACTED] said that he did not run the line and thought that CN Brown may have. [REDACTED] said that he observed while at the scene four pylons drilled into the ground to protect some ground air conditioning units.

[REDACTED] said that he had spoken with [REDACTED] the executive director for LEAP who told him that they had run out of propane on Friday, September 13 and were delivered more propane.

[REDACTED] explained how the propane got into the building and to the boiler unit.

For more, see transcript.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 17, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Scene

On Tuesday, September 17, 2019, ATF Agent Kevin Connelly and I conducted a recorded interview with [REDACTED] the building contractor for the LEAP building. [REDACTED] knew the interview was recorded.

[REDACTED] told us that he is the owner of [REDACTED] Builder and has owned the company since 1991. [REDACTED] described himself as having the "building contract" for the LEAP building. [REDACTED] said that he was called and asked to bid on the building around June or July of 2018. [REDACTED] said that he won the bid and did the building for around \$160,000.00.

[REDACTED] told me that they broke ground on or around October 29, 2018. [REDACTED] told me that although he did the building work, LEAP had their own electrical and plumber.

[REDACTED] said that he did do the concrete work on the building and explained the procedure in doing such.

[REDACTED] explained that there were a couple of holes in the basement flooring. [REDACTED] said that there was a radon vent and a sump-pump hole, which had a 5 gallon bucket around it and concrete around it. [REDACTED] said that after pouring concrete, once cured, it can shrink approximately 1/8".

For more, see transcript.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

Hardy First

Timothy Middle

D Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 20, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Residence

On Friday, September 20, 2019, Investigator Ken MacMaster and I conducted a recorded interview with Timothy D. Hardy at his residence. Hardy knew it was being recorded. Acting Chief Tim Hardy was also present during the interview.

Hardy told us that he has been a firefighter for approximately 21 years and has had several trainings to include Firefighter 1&2, Fire Investigations, and other courses.

Hardy told us that due to the Farmington Fair being in town, he was off duty and home when the call came out. Hardy said that he responded to the station after Chief Bell had asked for a tone to respond to the LEAP building for an odor investigation. Hardy said that he and FF Joe Hastings met with FF Ted Baxter at the fire department and responded with the tower to the scene. Hardy said that he believed that Chief Bell had signed off on scene when they had arrived at the station.

Hardy said that Engine 2 came after they had arrived with the tower. Hardy said that Engine 2 had Scott Baxter, Mike Bell, and Clyde Ross.

Hardy said that Chief Bell asked for the gas meter to be brought out. Hardy said that when they got there, he remembered seeing Chief Bell and [REDACTED] near some air conditioning units on the ground. Hardy said that he remembered looking at the propane tank and observing chunks of ice that had fallen on the ground from the tank. Hardy said that he remembered a conversation about the pylons being installed near the air conditioning units within the week.

Hardy said that Joe Hastings had the gas meter and did not get any readings outside of the building. Hardy said that Hastings, Scott Baxter, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and himself entered the basement area. Hardy said that Hastings told him he was picking up some "LEL" on the meter.

Hardy said that he saw some LED lights on the wall and knew it was a propane burner as Hardy said he has one at his house. Hardy said that he thought that he should stop the power to the burner. Hardy said that he remembers talking with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] about the electrical panel and the next think he remembers is [REDACTED].

Hardy [REDACTED] Hastings. Hardy said that once he could [REDACTED] Hastings [REDACTED] Hardy said that he got Hastings up and observed fire and observed [REDACTED] [REDACTED] near the fire. Hardy said that he yelled for a line from the truck and started putting water on the fire to protect [REDACTED] Hardy said that he also remembered hearing Chief Bell making a call for help on the radio.

Hardy said that he remembered seeing Brett Osgood, who is a Wilton firefighter on scene assisting.

For more, see transcript.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

Baxter First

Theodore Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 24, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Farmington Fire Department

On Tuesday, September 24, 2019, Investigator Ken MacMaster, Sgt. Joel Davis, and I conducted a recorded interview with Theodore Baxter at the Farmington Fire Station.

Baxter told us he has been in the fire service for over 46 years and has Firefighter 1&2 training, Hazmat training, and other fire service trainings. Baxter said that he has been with Wilton and Farmington Fire Department.

Baxter said that he was at the Farmington Fair booth when Chief Bell asked for a tone so he responded to the station. Baxter said that Tim D Hardy, Joe Hastings, and himself took the ladder truck with him driving the truck. Baxter said that Mike Bell, Scott Baxter, and Clyde Ross arrived shortly after in Engine 2.

Baxter said that upon his arrival, he saw Chief Bell out front with someone else.

Baxter said that he was outside with Clyde when the explosion occurred. Baxter said that he remembered [REDACTED] with Clyde [REDACTED].

Baxter [REDACTED]

For more, see transcript.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 24, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Wilton Police Department

On Tuesday, September 24, 2019, Investigator Ken MacMaster and I conducted a recorded interview with [REDACTED] at the Wilton Police Department. [REDACTED] is the executive director of LEAP.

[REDACTED] said that he has worked for LEAP for approximately 22 years. [REDACTED] said that 2018, LEAP purchased the property next door with the intentions of expanding their building, which they did. LEAP secured the bid from [REDACTED] to do the new addition/building. [REDACTED] thought it may have been an addition of 2200 square feet with both upstairs and downstairs.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] did the groundwork. Foampro did the insulation. [REDACTED] said that around July 1st, the building was complete and people were allowed to move in around August 1st. [REDACTED] said that they only had a slight problem with the air conditioning units, which he believes is run by propane. [REDACTED] said that something clogged up and had to melt, which fixed the problem. [REDACTED] said that he though the boiler also ran on propane.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has worked for LEAP for 6 years. [REDACTED] said that his experience is invaluable. LEAP owns 12 properties which [REDACTED] is in charge of maintaining.

[REDACTED] said that in mid-June, they fired up their propane boiler. [REDACTED] said that he thought that the bulk tank may have been delivered in May. [REDACTED] said that he though the propane line as dug shortly after that. [REDACTED] said that he remembered [REDACTED] showing up to dig the line and CN Brown didn't show up. [REDACTED] said that despite the glitch, the propane line was installed.

█████ said that it was his understanding that Dig Safe would be called by the contractor doing the work.

█████ said that with regards to running out of propane on September 13, 2019, he was at an even when █████ called him and told them they were out of propane. █████ said that he thought it was odd as he thought they were on some sort of automatic fill and shouldn't have run out. █████ told █████ that he had asked █████ to follow up and see when they were last filled and Wendy revealed it was July 25th when the tank was filled.

█████ said that he was in the building on Saturday and possible Sunday and everything seemed to be working with no odors in the building.

█████ said that █████ did the grading in the parking lot and Fine Line Paving did the hot top.

█████ said that he and █████ had discussed the bollards being put in to protect the air conditioning units from snow plowing. █████ said that he originally suggested some jersey barriers but █████ had come to him with an idea of bollards being installed. █████ told █████ to get an estimate and get back to him.

█████ said that the estimates worked out, which in turn he asked █████ to ask the contractor installing the bollards to e-mail him an insurance certificate and his W-9. █████ said that it was his policy to get that from any contractor. █████ said that he received them vial e-mail.

█████ said that he had concerns of the propane line up to the day they were installing the bollards. █████ said that he and █████ had put out some cones to mark out the general area as to where to put the bollards. █████ said that they day of the drilling, he saw █████ and Mike present. █████ said that when he arrived, 2 posts were in and he observed the 3rd post going in. █████ said the asked if they were clear of the propane lines and all agreed they were clear of the lines.

█████ said that he received the call from █████ on Monday, the day of the explosion, advising that he had smelled propane at the office. █████ told █████ to get everyone out and to call the fire department. █████ said that he immediately got in his vehicle and headed to the scene. █████ said upon getting closer, he saw a plume in the air, which ended up being the building which had already exploded.

For more, see transcript.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

Robinson First

Dayne Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 30, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Franklin RCC

On Monday, September 30, 2019, I conducted an interview with Dayne Robinson, a dispatcher for Franklin County. Dayne said that he was on duty 6A-6P on the day of the explosion.

Dayne said that Chief Bell had called into the RCC and asked for a tone to be struck for a propane issue at LEAP. Dayne said that they had done so. Dayne said it wasn't long and Chief Bell asked for a propane person from CN Brown. Dayne said that shortly thereafter, the 911 lines were going with calls of an explosion.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

Richards First

Tyler Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 30, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Franklin RCC

On Monday, September 30, 2019, I conducted an interview with Tyler Richards, a dispatcher for Franklin County. Tyler said that he was on duty 6A-6P on the day of the explosion.

Tyler said that Chief Bell had called in on the business line asking for a tone for a propane problem at the LEAP Building on Farmington Falls Road. Tyler said that Dayne sent the tones. Tyler said that shortly thereafter, Farmington Fire left with apparatus heading to the scene.

Tyler said that Chief Bell called in again and asked for a CN Brown tech to respond to the scene. Tyler said that he called CN Brown, who agreed to send a tech. Tyler said that no more than 4 minutes later, their light in the RCC flickered. Sgt. Hastings called in and asked for a status check with the fire department. Tyler said the 911 lines began ringing that there was an explosion.

Tyler said that during the incident, Clyde Ross' [REDACTED] called in and said that [REDACTED] was at [REDACTED] Lake and that Clyde had caller her indicating that no one had found [REDACTED] yet. Tyler said that was when he put the call out asking for all units to get eyes on Clyde.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

Bell First

Terry Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 10, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Farmington Fire Department

On Thursday, October 10, 2019, Investigator Ken MacMaster conducted a recorded interview with Chief Terry Bell.

Chief Bell told us that he was unaware on how he got the call for the LEAP building, but it would not be uncommon for people to call the fire station to request their assistance. Chief Bell said that he remembered being on scene and meeting with someone, who he now knows was [REDACTED] Chief Bell said that he remembers some of the crew getting to the scene but doesn't remember much after that.

Chief Bell remembers a conversation about some posts that were recently drilled.

For more, see transcript.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 23, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Telephone

On Wednesday, October 23, 2019, I conducted a telephone interview with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP for 27 years and was working on Friday, September 13, 2019 and Monday, September 16, 2019.

[REDACTED] told me that she had left around noon on Friday, September 13, 2019. [REDACTED] said that she was not aware that hot water was out and said that she probably wouldn't notice as she uses cold water to wash her hands.

[REDACTED] said that she arrived at work around 7:20AM on September 16, 2019. [REDACTED] said that she had parked on the right side of the building and entered through the front. [REDACTED] said that shortly after 8, they were alerted to evacuate the building.

[REDACTED] said that she didn't smell any propane on Friday or Monday.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

[REDACTED]

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since for 7 years. [REDACTED] said that she is currently a finance assistant.

[REDACTED] said she was working on Friday September 13, 2019, 9AM to 3PM. [REDACTED] said that she did not notice any propane smell on Friday and added that she has a sensitive smell. [REDACTED] said that the weeks leading up, she had parked outback near the tanks and had not smelled any propane. [REDACTED] said that on Friday, she heard [REDACTED] saying that she didn't have any hot water. [REDACTED] said that she went to the bathroom and checked and there was no hot water. [REDACTED] said that she called [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to report the water issue.

[REDACTED] said it her understanding that CN Brown was going to be on a 2 week propane schedule.

[REDACTED] said that he had already called CN Brown to come and fill the tank. [REDACTED] said that the tank was only filled to 80% and was slightly irritated. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that he had re-set everything.

[REDACTED] said that on the morning of explosion, she arrived after the fact. [REDACTED] said that she heard the explosion from her house. [REDACTED] said that she did go to the site and provided peer support for your co-workers.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since for 3 years. [REDACTED] said that she is currently a staff accountant.

[REDACTED] said she was not working on Friday September 13, 2019. [REDACTED] said that she was working on September 12, 2019 (Thursday), she noticed the central air conditioning was not working. [REDACTED] said that on Thursday, she also noticed no hot water when she went to wash her hands. [REDACTED] said that she did discuss with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] about there being no hot water.

[REDACTED] said that she was working on the day of the explosion and came in at 8:05AM. [REDACTED] said that she parked in front of the newer building. [REDACTED] said that she came in the morning and went upstairs. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] had met them and was very serious, telling them to get out of the building. [REDACTED] said that she went out the back door and went right to the shed. [REDACTED] told everyone not to turn anything on.

[REDACTED] said that when they were all outside, [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] [REDACTED] then called the fire department. [REDACTED] said that she saw [REDACTED] and the fire chief headed towards the back. [REDACTED] went over to the exit as people were trying to come in when the building blew up. [REDACTED] said that she ended up running and was on Route 2 after. [REDACTED] said that she was sore on the left side.

[REDACTED] said that she ran over to help get a ladder off the fire truck. [REDACTED] said she then went over to assist getting [REDACTED] out of the basement and to triage.

[REDACTED] said that she has a super sensitive nose and did not smell any propane.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since January 2014. [REDACTED] is currently a Human Resources Director for LEAP.

[REDACTED] said she was working on Friday September 13, 2019, 8AM to 4PM. [REDACTED] said that she did not notice any propane smell on Friday. [REDACTED] had no idea that LEAP had run out of hot water.

[REDACTED] said that she came in at 7:40AM on the morning of the explosion. [REDACTED] said that she didn't smell anything on Monday. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] said that she thinks [REDACTED] evacuated the people upstairs in the new building first because when he came down, [REDACTED] said in a serious manner that she needed get out and it wasn't a drill. [REDACTED] said that she exited out the front door stood by the shed.

[REDACTED] said while outside by the shed, [REDACTED] came out and said that the tank was filled on Friday and it's empty and no one was to re-enter the building. [REDACTED] said that while thinking about it, Monday morning [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said she [REDACTED] as she was sitting in a vehicle when the explosion occurred.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since for 20 years. [REDACTED] said that she is currently a payroll specialist.

[REDACTED] said she was working on Friday September 13, 2019, 9AM to 5PM. [REDACTED] said that she did not notice any propane smell on Friday. [REDACTED] said that on Thursday, [REDACTED] was trying to wash dishes upstairs in the new section and had no hot water.

[REDACTED] said that she came in at 7:50AM on the morning of the explosion. [REDACTED] said that she didn't smell anything on Monday. [REDACTED] said that she had parked out back which was unusual but they were holding a birthday party for [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that she was thrown 3' from the building when it blew up. [REDACTED] said that when she realized what happened, she looked and saw the ceiling coming at her. [REDACTED] said that she scurried and ran behind the shed.

[REDACTED] said that she is having [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since October of 1982. [REDACTED] said that she is an office assistant.

[REDACTED] said that she worked on the Friday prior to the explosion. [REDACTED] said that she didn't notice anything odd with the hot water. [REDACTED] said that she did notice a truck leave, but can't be sure that it was a CN Brown truck and could not for sure say it was leaving the LEAP lot or the trailer park lot. [REDACTED] said that she did not notice any odor of propane.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since July 9, 2019. [REDACTED] said that she is the executive assistant.

[REDACTED] told me that she was working on Friday, September 13, 2019. [REDACTED] said that she came in before 8AM and left sick around 10:30. [REDACTED] said that she [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said that she didn't notice any hot water issues and doesn't think she would have noticed.

[REDACTED] said that she arrived Monday morning a little after 8AM. [REDACTED] said that she didn't notice any odors of propane. [REDACTED] added that she walked through the entire building, noticing the basement door open. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] came up and said to get out. [REDACTED] said that she exited the back door and went to the shed.

[REDACTED] said that the fire chief arrived first. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] and the fire chief walked around the rear of the building. [REDACTED] said 2-4 minutes later, the fire trucks arrived. [REDACTED] said that they asked where everyone was and they pointed towards the back.

[REDACTED] said that when the building exploded, she was next to the shed. [REDACTED] said that she went in back of the shed and [REDACTED].

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since for 19 years. [REDACTED] said that she is currently a finance director.

[REDACTED] said she was working on Friday September 13, 2019, 9AM to 2:30PM. [REDACTED] said that she did not notice any propane smell on Friday. [REDACTED] said that on Thursday or Friday, she was doing dishes in the upstairs kitchen when she noticed no hot water. [REDACTED] said that she verbally mentioned about the hot water and her assistant, [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] said that she was not at the facility on Monday.

[REDACTED] added that on Friday, she parked on the back side between the propane tank and the building and did not smell or notice anything.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

October 25, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

LEAP

On Friday, October 25, 2019, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told me that she has worked for LEAP since February 4, 2008. [REDACTED] is currently a media relations specialist for LEAP.

[REDACTED] said she was working on Friday September 13, 2019, 7AM to 11AM. [REDACTED] said that she has a very sensitive smell and did not smell anything on Friday. [REDACTED] had no idea that LEAP had run out of hot water.

[REDACTED] said that she came in at 7AM on the morning of the explosion. [REDACTED] said that she was first on site and unlocked the door and shut off the alarm. [REDACTED] said that when she went inside, she did not smell any propane. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] notified her to get out. [REDACTED] said that when she started walking upstairs, she started smelling a slight odor of propane. [REDACTED] said she exited the building through the front door to the designated safety spot near the shed.

[REDACTED] said that two firetrucks came and blocked the entrance. [REDACTED] said that the firefighters went to the back side with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said that she observed the emergency exit closest to her office open up (the door) and a half of second later, the building blew up. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED].

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

Baxter First

Scott Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

November 15, 2019

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Residence

On Friday, November 15, 2019, Sgt. Joel Davis and I conducted a recorded interview with Scott Baxter. Scott knew the interview was being recorded.

Scott told us that he had been a firefighter for several years, but full time for 3 years. Scott said that he had training in Firefighter 1 & 2, he was an EMT, Hazmat Technician, and had other certifications.

Scott told us that he did not remember anything of the incident.

Scott said that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

For more, see transcript.

Supplement

Case #: 19F-049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Senior Investigator Kenneth G. MacMaster

Date of Report

October 01, 2019

Last

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

Address

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

September 19, 2019

Time Start/Stop

1315-1338 hours

Place of Interview

residence, 36 Box Mill Road, Fayette, Maine

I met and introduced myself to [REDACTED]. I advised [REDACTED] that I had been assigned to assist with the explosion investigation at the L.E.A.P. building, 313 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington; which had occurred Monday (September 16, 2019) morning. As part of the investigation; I learned that he [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] For that reason; and to assist with the investigation, I wished to interview him. [REDACTED] understood and consented to an interview.

[REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] confirmed that he is the [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED]. When asked; [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] is married to a woman named [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] telephone number is [REDACTED]. When asked; [REDACTED] provided the following address information for [REDACTED]. When asked; [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] has been employed by L.E.A.P. for 3-5 years. When asked; [REDACTED] advised he has regular contact with [REDACTED] and from time to time, [REDACTED] would ask him questions or ask advice about construction projects at the L.E.A.P. facilities. Specifically asked; [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] never provided information or asked any questions in reference to the propane at the L.E.A.P. general office in Farmington.

Supplement

ASSIGNMENT:

On Monday, September 16, 2019, at 0833 hours, this Investigator received a request to assist with a multiple personal injury explosion investigation from Sergeant Kenneth Grimes. I was advised to respond to 313 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington; the scene of the explosion. Sergeant Grimes advised that he, along with several other investigators, will be responding, and Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren has been designated as the primary investigator.

NARRATIVE:

September 16, 2019

0833 hours:

Sergeant Kenneth Grimes assigned me to assist with this explosion investigation.

0906 hours:

I arrived on scene; meeting with Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren, who provided the following information: Captain/Firefighter [REDACTED]. Fire Chief Terry Bell; Deputy Fire Chief Clyde Ross; Captain T.D. Hardy; Firefighter Joseph Hastings; Firefighter Ted Baxter; and Firefighter Scott Baxter, all of the Farmington Fire Department, have been [REDACTED]. The building involved with the explosion is the L.E.A.P. general office building. L.E.A.P. maintenance man, identified as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Deputy Fire Chief Tim Hardy of the Farmington Fire Department is on scene, in the role of Incident Command.

1051-1105 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED], at [REDACTED] residence, [REDACTED]. I prepared a Summary of Interview; which is incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report. [It should be noted the [REDACTED] property is physically located across Farmington Falls Road and High Street to the north of the explosion scene]. In summary; [REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] is the owner of the property addressed as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was outside of his property stacking firewood when the explosion occurred. When asked; [REDACTED] said he did not smell a propane odor while outside stacking wood. [REDACTED] advised the blast caused damage to both the exterior and interior of his property, which he utilizes as a work studio, repairing stringed instruments. When asked; [REDACTED] advised the property is insured through [REDACTED] Insurance and his business is insured through [REDACTED] Insurance Company. When asked; [REDACTED] said [REDACTED].

I documented the visible structural damage to the exterior and interior damage of the [REDACTED] property with photographs. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE FIRE MARSHAL DIGITAL STORAGE SYSTEM.

I coordinated and participated in [REDACTED]

1431-1445 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] date of birth: November 19, 1975, on [REDACTED]. I prepared a Summary of Interview; which is incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report. Present and participating in this interview was Agent Steve Hickey of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. In summary; [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] is the owner/operator of Shiretown Tire, 323 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington. [It should be noted that the Shiretown Tire building is adjacent to the explosion scene, to the east]. When asked; [REDACTED] said Shiretown Tire is insured through [REDACTED] Insurance Company. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] provided information in reference to them being at the Shiretown Tire building this date. When asked; [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said they did not smell any propane odors prior to the explosion. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said they were in the office area of Shiretown Tire when the explosion occurred. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said the blast knocked them backwards. When asked; [REDACTED] said he believes [REDACTED]. When asked; [REDACTED]

believes the he [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] said after the explosion, he went to the explosion scene and assisted others in removing the injured.

I documented the visible exterior damage to Shiretown Tire with photographs. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE FIRE MARSHAL DIGITAL STORAGE SYSTEM.

With other Investigators; I assisted in collecting firefighter gear from the explosion site, boxing the gear for future examination.

1810-1825 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED] [REDACTED], at [REDACTED] home, [REDACTED]. I prepared a Summary of Interview; which is incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report. [It should be noted the [REDACTED] residence is somewhat adjacent to the explosion scene, to the east, beyond the Shiretown Tire building]. In summary; [REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] is the owner of a single-family farm styled home addressed as 325 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington. When asked; [REDACTED] advised his property is insured by [REDACTED] Insurance Company. When asked; [REDACTED] was not at home at the time of the explosion, stating he had left on Friday (September 13, 2019) and was in Vermont over the weekend.

I documented the visible structural damage to the exterior and interior damage of the [REDACTED] home with photographs. PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE FIRE MARSHAL DIGITAL STORAGE SYSTEM.

1930 hours:

I cleared the scene.

September 17, 2019

0810 hours:

I arrived back at the explosion scene.

I was assigned to make contact with and interview [REDACTED] [REDACTED] D/B/A Techno Metal Post, who had drilled and installed bollards to protect air conditioning units on the new construction at L.E.A.P. I called [REDACTED] who agreed to come to the scene to be interviewed.

1020-1048 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED] [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at the scene. Inspector Dale Hersey, representing the State of Maine, Oil and Solid Fuel Board, was present and participated in this interview. The interview was digitally recorded, with transcript prepared. The transcript is incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report. In summary; [REDACTED] owns Techno Metal Posts of Maine. On September 10, 2019, [REDACTED] along with his son [REDACTED] installed four 10' long and 6" around posts in the parking area. Per my request; [REDACTED] provided me with a copy of the invoice, as well as a Techno Metal Post advertising flyer, with the drilling rig used circled. When asked; [REDACTED] advised his company is insured by [REDACTED] Insurance.

1445-1520 hours:

I interviewed Sayward "Clyde" Ross, date of birth: [REDACTED] [REDACTED], at the scene. I prepared a Summary of Interview; which is incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report. In summary; Sayward "Clyde" Ross provided the following information: Ross advised he has been a firefighter with the Farmington Fire Department for 48 years, currently serving as Deputy Fire Chief, a position he has held since 1993. Ross advised yesterday at 0807 hours, he received a tone at the request of Fire Chief Terry Bell to 313 Farmington Falls Road in Farmington for a propane smell. Ross responded to the Farmington Fire Department, obtained his firefighter gear, and responded, with Captain Michael Bell and Firefighter Scott Baxter, to the scene aboard Farmington Engine 2. Ross provided information in reference to his observations and actions at the scene. When asked; Ross said he did not smell propane on scene, was told by Captain T.D. Hardy that due to the ice formation on the exterior propane tank, it was apparent there had been a rapid leak. Ross said he and Firefighter Ted Baxter were standing in the parking area to the south and east of the L.E.A.P. when the explosion occurred. Ross said he and Firefighter Baxter [REDACTED] Ross said he [REDACTED] Firefighter Baxter, [REDACTED] Ross said first responders ultimately came to [REDACTED] Ross [REDACTED] Ross advised he was examined, [REDACTED]

1740 hours:

I cleared the scene for this date.

September 18, 2019

0800 hours:

I arrived at the scene.

1100-1115 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] residence, [REDACTED]. I prepared a Summary of Interview; which is incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report. In summary; [REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] is an employee of L.E.A.P., assigned to a Group home on Barlen Street in Farmington. [REDACTED] said she concluded her shift and drove to the L.E.A.P. general office to drive off documents. [REDACTED] said she parked her vehicle in the new parking area and on foot, approached the building, unaware there was an emergency. [REDACTED] said another employee, identified as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], met her, stated there was an emergency. [REDACTED] retrieved the documents, with [REDACTED] instructing [REDACTED] to leave the area. When asked; [REDACTED] said she did not smell a propane odor while on scene. [REDACTED] said she got in her vehicle, and started out of the area, stopping at the edge of the parking area, at the intersection of Farmington Falls Road, to await traffic to clear. [REDACTED] said the explosion occurred, blowing her vehicle across Farmington Falls Road to where the vehicle came to rest at the intersection of High Street. [REDACTED] said all of the airbags in her vehicle activated and vehicle windows shattered. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] When asked; [REDACTED] said her vehicle is insured through [REDACTED] Insurance, with the vehicle towed to Dutch Gap towing in Chesterville.

I cleared the scene for this date.

September 19, 2019

0800 hours:

I arrived at the scene.

1005 hours:

With Senior Investigator Mary MacMaster, interviewed Firefighter Joseph Hastings at Farmington Fire Department. The interview was digitally recorded and has been transcribed. In summary; Firefighter Hastings provided information as to his observations and actions at L. E. A. P.

I made arrangements made for second interview with

1350 hours:

I cleared the scene.

1507-1555 hours:

I re-interviewed [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] home, [REDACTED]. The interview was digitally recorded and has been transcribed.

1630 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] residence, 157 Granite Hill Road in Manchester. The interview was digitally recored and has been transcribed.

September 20, 2019

Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren and I interviewed Captain/Firefighter T.D.

Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren and I interviewed Firefighter Ted Baxter.

Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren and I interviewed [REDACTED], the L. E. A. P. Administrator.

[The above interviews were documented by Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren].

1315-1338 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED] date of birth: [REDACTED], at [REDACTED] residence, [REDACTED]. I prepared a Summary of Interview; which is incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report. In summary; [REDACTED] provided the following information: [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] provided information in reference to [REDACTED]

October 03, 2019

I met with Sergeant Edward Hastings IV at the Farmington Police Department. Sergeant Hastings was the first police officer on scene. We reviewed his body camera footage and documented derivative information for further investigation.

Download of the body camera, as well as the derivative information was obtained and subsequently turned over to Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren. Additionally; the body camera footage of University of Maine police officer Mark Bowering was obtained.

October 10, 2019

Sergeant Joel Davis, Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren, and I interviewed Fire Chief Terry Bell at [REDACTED]. Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren documented this interview.

1652-1716 hours:

I interviewed [REDACTED], date of birth: [REDACTED] and wife, [REDACTED], date of birth: [REDACTED], at the [REDACTED] home, [REDACTED]. The interview was digitally recorded and will be transcribed. Transcript will be incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend this Supplement Report be incorporated in Senior Investigator Jeremy Damren's Investigation Report, 19F-049458.

Supplement

Case #: 19F049458

Cross File:

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Officer's Code/Signature

Investigator Jeremy Damren

Date of Report

September 16, 2019

Last

[REDACTED]

First

Middle

Age

Date of Birth

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

ME

Phone

Social Security Number

Occupation

Employer/Address

Date

April 6, 2020

Time Start/Stop

Place of Interview

Telephone

On Monday, April 6, 2020, I conducted an interview with [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The interview took place over the telephone due to the Covid-19 virus. Also on the call was [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] attorney, [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] told me that on the day of the explosion, about the only thing he remembers is running around the LEAP building on all floors trying to get everyone out of the building. [REDACTED] said that he doesn't remember making a call to the Farmington Fire Department nor does he remember any of the fire department arriving on scene.

[REDACTED] said that he does remember placing traffic cones outside and around the air conditioning units. These cones were for safety reasons and to warn drivers of the air conditioning units until bollards can be placed into the ground. [REDACTED] told me that he did not place the cones down to mark the propane line or to suggest where the bollards were to be drilled.

[REDACTED] said that on the morning that the bollards were drilled, he remembered a young man and his father arriving to place the bollards into the ground. [REDACTED] said that he remembers being outside with [REDACTED] for a short amount of time. [REDACTED] said that he eventually left to do his daily work as he figured the people drilling the bollards knew what they were doing. [REDACTED] said that he did not make any notifications about the drilling being done as he figured that the people drilling knew what they were supposed to do.

[REDACTED] said that he did remember some discussions prior to them drilling pointing out where the propane tank was and where the propane went into the building. [REDACTED] said that he was unaware where the propane line ran. [REDACTED] said that he figured that the people drilling

would have something to mark out where the propane lines would run. [REDACTED] said that he was not asked to contact anyone prior to them drilling.

[REDACTED] said that on the Friday before the explosion, he was notified by LEAP staff that there was no hot water in the building. [REDACTED] said that he knows for sure that he went out and checked the propane tank and observed it being empty. [REDACTED] said that he called CN Brown and told them their tank was empty. [REDACTED] said that he has had to make calls to CN Brown before as LEAP has other properties that have "often run out" of propane or fuel. [REDACTED] said that he thinks he may remember his assistant, [REDACTED] being with him but can not say for sure.

[REDACTED] said that he doesn't quite remember if he re-set the boiler after CN Brown filled the tank, but said that he would have had to reset the boiler.

[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was the contractor when they built the building. [REDACTED] said that occasionally, he would call people like Cornerstone Plumbing and Heating or [REDACTED] to line them up for work or to get estimates. But they would do the work. [REDACTED] added that he did not give any direction as to where/how to place the propane line.

Name Involvements:

Witness : 360510

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: F

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373560

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: F

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :364866

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : N257520

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : N51963

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: F

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 361167

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: E

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: U Sex: F

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Victim : N986718

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Victim : 364849

Last: BAXTER

First: THEODORE

Mid: B

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373557

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 361164

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 366900

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: U Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 366897

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: D
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373565

Last: [REDACTED]
R
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360134

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: **/**/
[REDACTED] Sex: M

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : N988863

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: M

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: N
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373561

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360139

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 360511

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Victim : B3115

Last: BELL First: TERRY Mid: S
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373555

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: F Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 366902

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360135

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]
Race: U Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373558

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: F Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Victim : 373569

Last: BAXTER First: SCOTT Mid: R
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360144

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: F Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373553

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: F Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360137

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: F Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Witness : N986716

Last: HARDY First: TIMOTHY Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M Phone: () - City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360136

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :C1375416

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :364858

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]
Race: U Sex: F Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 260702

Last: [REDACTED] First: [REDACTED] Mid: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M Phone: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED]

Victim : N986737

Last: BELL First: MICHAEL Mid: A
DOB: [REDACTED] Dr Lic: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :398047

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : C1399529

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: U Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :N865706

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360141

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: F

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 360512

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : N829647

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Victim : 359620

Last: HASTINGS

First: JOSEPH

Mid: A

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: U Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Victim : 403377

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: W

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone:

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 364861

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : N19911

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: M

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 364353

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: M

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 359621

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: U Sex: M

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED];
[REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Victim : 361312

Last: ROSS
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: M

First: SAYWARD
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: C
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 373549

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: F

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Witness : C1214243

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: M

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :364860

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]
Race: W Sex: U

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :364854

Last: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]
Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Mid: A
Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: F

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 388963

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : N962201

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : C1333895

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 364851

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Other Contact :360133

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED];

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 359619

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: L

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: U Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : C1180737

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid:

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic:

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 364354

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W Sex: M

Phone:

City: [REDACTED]

Witness : 360513

Last: [REDACTED]

First: [REDACTED]

Mid: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Dr Lic: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Race: W

Sex: F

Phone: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]