“Yesterday Hell paid us a visit . . .”
-- Sheriff Randy Thorp
KIRKERSVILLE, OHIO MAY 12, 2017

Moderator: Sean Grady: LCEMA

Panel:

LCSO: Dan Loper

LC 911: Rob Terrill and Meredith Lamb

WLJFD: Joe Krause and Jack Treinish
On May 12, 2017 at 7:49 on a beautiful Friday morning everything changed in Kirkersville Ohio.

While on a routine traffic stop a 911 call came through dispatch and Chief DiSario was told there was a man with a shotgun in his town.

Chief Steven Eric DiSario (421) was gunned down and two others were also shot and killed. The gunman then killed himself.

The following audio is actual audio from that morning.

This is the initial dispatch to 421.
MAP OF AREA
The first call to come in that morning was from an individual being held by the gunman behind a nursing home. He hid his cell phone in his hat after calling 911. By whispering, he communicated information about the gunman. Eventually Chief DiSario arrives at the scene and is shot almost immediately. The gunman then moves toward the front of the nursing home leaving his two hostages with the wounded Chief.
Dispatcher Lamb . . . . calmly gave instructions to employees hiding in a room in the basement of the nursing home. At this point unknown to the dispatchers and the employees hiding the suspect had killed a nurse’s aid, his former girlfriend and then himself.
KIRKERSVILLE: FACTS AND FIGURES

Summary for this event

- 535 People: Population of Kirkersville, Ohio
- 21 – 911 Calls
- Over 100 officers from over 20 Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement agencies.
- Over 32 Fire and Emergency units.
- Four Medical Helicopters
ACTIVE SHOOTER: MASS CASUALTY CHECKLIST

Law Enforcement Dispatcher Task:

- Notify local schools if in the area
- Ask to see if officers are in plain clothes
- Find numbers of shooters
- Door Codes, information for entry team
- One (1) Dispatcher assigned to radio, NO phone calls.
- Plan to backfill department involved with mutual aid
ACTIVE SHOOTER: MASS CAUSALITY CHECKLIST

Fire/Medical Dispatcher Task:

- Assign two (2) OPS Radio Channels (Operations channel, Ambulance Evac Channel)
- One (1) Dispatcher assigned to those channel, NO Phones
- Notify Air Medical Service with pre-determined LZ (contact owner/Company)
- Request Air Space restrictions through FAA
- Notify area hospitals
- Backfill Fire Departments as needed with mutual aid units
- Place Licking County Transit on standby
- Put Red Cross on standby
FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKE AWAYS

• Identification between RTF/TEMS trained personnel and non trained personnel.
  • Identifying Mutual aid companies vs jurisdictional personnel
• Fire Control established EOC but did not make IC aware, this would of reduced repeated work

• Comms were an issue due to intermittent MARCS service in area.
FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKE AWAYS

- Difficulty relocating patients due to sexual predator status
- Lack of ability to identify unmarked officers
- Establish transport/staging channel

- Adjust Critical Incident Stress Management times
  - Crews felt they were too long
  - Fire personnel utilized Columbus Fire CISM team
  - We need to recognize the victims need to be debriefed
FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKE AWAYS

- Transport/staging need to be moved.
  - Staging needed to be moved away from command post
    - Personnel began leaving their vehicles due to close proximity of incident

- Difficulty getting medic units to the incident due to high police presence
FIRE DEPARTMENT STRENGTHS

• Fire Control provided responding crews precise and beneficial information
• Deployment of RTF was quick and followed training guidelines
• Incident command was established quickly
  • Branches and sectors were set accordingly
FIRE DEPARTMENT STRENGTHS

• Mutual Aid companies functioned well together

• Neighboring department recognized our needs and back filled our stations with out request.
  • 1 Chief, 2 Engine Companies, and 4 medics handled 4 runs until off duty personnel reported in to stations
15 off duty personnel reported in

- Off duty battalion established Battalion 402 and activated the necessary disaster plan.
- District Administrator notified the fire board president and approvals were made for any means necessary to mitigate the incident.
- CISM was established at the incident and at head quarters
  - The medic that treated the police chief was taken out of service immediately following their return from the hospital. They were met by the CISM team.
FIRE DEPARTMENT STRENGTHS

• PAR and demobilization was completed at station 402 in Kirkersville before companies reported to station 401 for rehab and debriefing

• Recalled personnel remained on station, to ensure on duty personnel were debriefed and fit for duty.
  • Additional manning was left in place for the remainder of the shift.
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

• Support of Incident Command
• Possible shelter for displaced residents to clear scene for BCI
• Logistics for continued extended operations…. 
• Improve Communications between Law and Fire on scene
PHOTOS

Bravo side stairway
PHOTOS

Delta side
In Memory of
Chief Steven Eric DiSario
May 12, 2017