

Oro Valley Police Department  
Chief Daniel Sharp  
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Chief Sharp,

I had heard about a shooting situation that occurred in Oro Valley at a shopping center involving a male suspect and a female victim. After I read more about it in the paper it reminded me of a case that I had while I was a Detective with traffic homicide with Tucson P.D. I couldn't remember the person's name that I dealt with but I remembered where he lived in O.V. I had TPD do a search to find my old cases and went to the old suspect's address which was vacant.

I called your dept and was given the name of Sgt. Dean Nesbitt, the investigator assigned the case. I left a message and he called me back first thing the next day. I told him the information I remembered which was that my suspect was mentally unbalanced and picked women who were in cars with children to point a gun at and that he was involved in several incidents in OV, one at Fry's and another. I also related that when I went to interview the suspect I asked for backup from OVPD and since the suspect hated women, especially those who wore perfume I was sent several backup officers, including a female officer. After the guy reacted to the female officer in an aggressive manner I ended up doing an involuntary committal to SAMAC on him. This was just about all the information I remembered. This occurred somewhere in 2000 to 2002.

Sgt. Nesbitt listened to all this sketchy information with genuine interest and told me he would follow up on it.

I had contact with Sgt. Nesbitt a few days later and he informed me that he not only found all the old OVPD records but found and spoke to the officer's that backed me up that day! He also told me that he tracked the subject to somewhere in the east eliminating him as a suspect.

I know this did not help in solving this case but I was very impressed with the diligent effort that Sgt. Nesbitt put forth in following up on an "old cops" memory. He not only listened but did exactly what he said he was going to do.

This is what I call good old fashioned police work!

Since you and I worked together at TPD and we know how important it is to not take our jobs as "just a job" In today's world it is refreshing to have contact with a police officer that really cares about his work, it is apparent that to Sgt. Nesbitt this is not "just a job".

I would like to commend him not only as a citizen but as a fellow police officer that makes me proud to have people of his caliber wearing a badge!

Sincerely,

  
Jim Nierenberg

Received by

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