

SIRT

Serious Incident Response Team

Investigation Summary:

Incident Type: Officer-Involved Shooting (Fatal)

SIRT File No.: 2024-09

Incident Date: May 19, 2024

Agency Involved: Regina Police Service

Civilian Executive Director: Greg Gudelot

Date of Report: May 21, 2026

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
Timeline	2
The Investigation	2
Summary	3
Analysis	5
Decision.....	6

Introduction

On Sunday, May 19, 2024, at approximately 3:47 p.m., the Saskatchewan Serious Incident Response Team (SIRT) received a notification from the Regina Police Service (RPS) regarding an officer-involved shooting that had just taken place on the 1100 block of Garry Street in Regina. SIRT's Civilian Executive Director accepted the notification as within SIRT's mandate and directed an investigation by SIRT.

During the preceding days, RPS received reports regarding an individual residing on the 1100 block of Garry Street, who was damaging neighbouring property, and commenced an investigation. On May 18, 2024, RPS members attended to the location of the report but did not encounter the subject of the complaint, a 65-year-old man, subsequently referred to as the affected person. On May 19, 2024, RPS again received a report regarding the affected person and at approximately 1:07 p.m., arrived at the location.

RPS patrol members communicated with the affected person and following comments made during that conversation, contained the residence while seeking a judicial authorization to enter the residence. The RPS Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team was engaged and attended to the location. At approximately 3:35 p.m., a confrontation occurred outside the residence between the affected person and members of RPS. During these events, a marked RPS patrol vehicle was struck by several gunshots, and two RPS members discharged their service firearms, striking the affected person.

RPS Tactical EMS was staged nearby and immediately following the incident relocated to the scene to provide care for the affected person. The affected person was assessed by EMS and was subsequently declared deceased on scene at approximately 3:41 p.m.

Timeline

SIRT was notified of the incident on May 19, 2024, at approximately 3:47 p.m. A SIRT team, consisting of the Civilian Executive Director and four SIRT investigators, was immediately deployed to begin the investigation. On February 26, 2026, the completed investigation was submitted to the Civilian Executive Director for review.

The Investigation

SIRT's investigation was comprehensive and thorough, conducted using current investigative protocols, and in accordance with the principles of Major Case Management (MCM). During the course of the investigation, all relevant police and civilian witnesses were interviewed, a scene examination was conducted of the incident location, and all relevant audio, video, and documentary evidence was seized. Numerous physical exhibits were seized, with several of those exhibits subsequently submitted for testing.

Video evidence related to the incident was obtained from nearby residences and civilian witnesses through a neighbourhood canvass and a call for witnesses through social media. Video confirmed the timing and number of shots fired during the incident, as well as the RPS response immediately following the discharge of gunfire. RPS also obtained footage preceding the incident that confirmed the actions of the affected person

and the initial grounds for his arrest. Audio recordings obtained during the investigation captured relevant RPS radio communications during the incident, as well as the initial 911 call that led to RPS attendance at the affected person's residence.

Documentary evidence obtained by SIRT investigators provided information on the affected person's background and confirmed the status of his firearms license and ownership of a handgun fired during the incident.

Eighteen police officers were designated as Witness Officers and were interviewed during the course of SIRT's investigation. Those statements described the actions of police and the affected person during the incident, as well as the RPS investigation that preceded the incident. Ten civilian witnesses were interviewed during the course of SIRT's investigation, including the occupants of nearby residences and the EMS staff that provided care to the affected person following the incident. Civilian evidence confirmed the affected person's verbal threats to police immediately prior to the incident and also described the actions of police during the incident.

Two members of the RPS SWAT team were designated as Subject Officers during the course of SIRT's investigation. While under no legal obligation to do so, both Subject Officers voluntarily provided a statement during the investigation by participating in recorded interviews. Evidence directly from a Subject Officer, when voluntarily provided, is often invaluable as it can assist both with the factual determination of what occurred and provide evidence of the subjective beliefs and perceptions of the Subject Officer.

Numerous physical exhibits were seized during the course of SIRT's investigation, with some submitted for further analysis as the investigation proceeded. These exhibits included the Sig Sauer P320 handgun fired by the affected person during the incident, as well as the spent shell casings from that firearm. Several other firearms, including a shotgun and two rifles, were recovered from the affected person's residence during the scene examination. Those firearms, along with matching ammunition, had been placed at various locations within the affected person's residence. Personal documents belonging to the affected person were also recovered during the scene examination, including a copy of a handwritten will that had been left in an accessible location within the residence.

The handgun recovered from the incident scene was submitted for testing and was confirmed to be an operable firearm within the meaning of the *Criminal Code* and a restricted firearm. The service firearms fired by the two Subject Officers during the incident were also seized and submitted for testing. Those firearms were confirmed to be in proper working condition and passed all function testing and inspection.

Shortly after the incident, an autopsy examination was conducted which determined the affected person's cause of death to be a single gunshot wound to the torso.

Summary

On May 18, 2024, at approximately 11:01 a.m., two members of RPS attended a residence on the 1100 block of Garry Street in Regina in response to several reports of damage to property. The callers advised that their neighbour, the affected person, had intentionally caused damage to their property on several occasions over

the preceding days, and had most recently removed a section of fence in order to enter their yard with a chainsaw. The callers provided statements to RPS regarding the incident as well as a video of the affected person removing a section of the fence separating their properties and entering their yard with a chainsaw. In addition to the events of the preceding days, the callers advised that in the previous year, the affected person had threatened to stab their dogs. The affected person had left the area by the time RPS attended and was no longer at his neighbouring residence.

At approximately 2:22 p.m., the affected person contacted one of the investigating RPS members by phone, but refused to speak with police or provide his location. RPS advised the initial callers to notify police if they saw the affected person return, and a task was created to arrest the affected person for the *Criminal Code* offence of Mischief Under \$5,000. This task was forwarded to the RPS night shift for their action, but the affected person was not located.

During the course of the investigation into the affected person's actions, a number of database queries were conducted, which confirmed the affected person was found guilty of an assault with a weapon in 2007, was the suspect in an assault investigation in 2008, and was the subject of a complaint wherein he had allegedly threatened to shoot someone if they would not leave his property in 2020. In addition to these records, RPS members also confirmed that the affected person held a valid Restricted Purchase and Acquisition License (RPAL) and was the owner of at least one registered firearm, a Sig Sauer P320 handgun.

On May 19, 2024, at approximately 1:07 p.m., several members of RPS attended to the affected person's residence to arrest him following an additional complaint that the affected person had entered the neighbouring yard to cause damage. The members knocked on the affected person's door, and when he answered, he stated words to the effect of "unless you have a search warrant and I am under arrest, you can get the fuck off my property," and slammed the door. The affected person was advised that he was indeed under arrest and was instructed to come outside. In response, the affected person stated words to the effect of "if you do not get off my property, I will come outside and shoot you."

In response to the threat, the RPS members backed away from the residence and requested that a warrant be drafted to enable them to enter the residence and arrest the affected person. As the affected person's threats were believed to be credible, the RPS Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team and crisis negotiators were requested, and the residence was contained while those resources were assembled.

RPS attempted to contact the affected person by phone again, and during that call, the affected person complained about his neighbours, and stated that he was prepared to take matters into his own hands and take drastic measures then hung up the call. A subsequent attempt to engage the affected person by phone concluded when the affected person informed police that he was going to load his guns, and that they could come in and get him.

At approximately 2:45 p.m., several members of the SWAT team arrived in the area to relieve the RPS patrol members who were containing the residence. The members of the SWAT team took up various positions around the affected person's residence and waited for additional members of the SWAT team and the crisis negotiators to attend to the area and attempt to call the affected person out of the residence.

At approximately 3:35 p.m., while the residence was contained, the affected person emerged from the front door of the residence with a handgun, stood on his front step, and began to discharge numerous rounds from his handgun, striking an RPS patrol vehicle that was parked outside of his residence. In response to the affected person's gunfire, two members of the RPS SWAT team each discharged a single round from their service firearms, with one round striking the affected person in the torso. Immediately upon being struck, the affected person fell to the ground at the base of his front step.

At approximately 3:37 p.m., the RPS armored rescue vehicle was driven onto the lawn of the residence and SWAT members pulled the affected person away from the home and behind the vehicle so that EMS, who were staged near the incident scene, could commence first aid. At approximately 3:41 p.m., the affected person was pronounced deceased at the incident scene.

Analysis

Following a comprehensive review of the evidence gathered during the course of SIRT's investigation, a number of critical aspects of the incident are clearly confirmed by the available evidence. The evidence available to members of RPS prior to the incident provided lawful grounds to arrest the affected person, first for the repeated damage to his neighbours' property, and later for the threats directed at police during the early stages of the incident. As noted above, the affected person's actions as regards the neighbouring property were confirmed through both civilian evidence and video evidence, and the threats directed at police were described by both police and civilian witnesses.

Those threats, combined with the details of the affected person's background and possession of firearms, reasonably created a heightened sense of risk on the part of police despite the nature of the initial call for service. That risk was addressed initially through the attendance of multiple police officers during the attempt to arrest the affected person, and later through the attendance of the SWAT team following the affected person's verbal threats to shoot police.

The later actions of the affected person during the incident, namely emerging from a contained residence and rapidly discharging numerous rounds from his firearm, are, in the circumstances during which they occurred, more than capable of giving rise to an objectively reasonable perception of a risk of death or grievous bodily harm to the involved police officers and nearby residents.

Under S. 25 of the *Criminal Code*, a police officer is authorized to use as much force as necessary in the lawful execution of their duties. This can include force that is intended or likely to cause death or grievous bodily harm, when the officer reasonably believes that such force is necessary to defend themselves or someone under their protection from death or grievous bodily harm. Further, under S. 34 of the *Criminal Code*, any person, including a police officer, is entitled to the use of reasonable force in defence of themselves or another. Factors in assessing the reasonableness of force used can include the use or threatened use of a weapon, the imminence of the threat, other options available, and the nature of the force or threat of force itself.

While evidence gathered during the course of SIRT's investigation gives rise to the possibility that the affected person's gunfire may have constituted an attempt to provoke police action rather than an immediate attempt to injure or kill a police officer or civilian, given the totality of the circumstances and the speed at which those actions occurred, there was no reasonable way for police to have determined the affected person's true intentions, or any realistic opportunity to do so. Further, that same evidence, namely a number of additional firearms and a significant quantity of ammunition strategically placed throughout the affected person's residence, is also consistent with an intention by the affected person to provoke a later violent incident with police inside the residence, once RPS members had responded to his initial gunfire. That said, regardless of the affected person's actual intentions, which will never be known, the information available to police, based both on their prior knowledge of the affected person and his discharge of gunshots, sufficiently establish a degree of risk which warranted the immediate and serious response by police. As such, the actions of the Subject Officers in response to this reasonably perceived lethal threat were both proportionate and necessary.

With all factors considered, including the nature of the threat presented by the affected person's actions, the force applied by the Subject Officers during the incident falls within the range protected by law, and provides no reasonable grounds to believe that an offence was committed by any police officer during the incident. As a result of the application of the facts established by the evidence to the standard established by law, no charges will be laid.

Decision

There being no grounds to believe an offence was committed by either of the Subject Officers, SIRT's involvement with this matter is concluded without referral to the Attorney General for Saskatchewan in accordance with S.91.08(10)(a) of *The Police Act, 1990*.

Original Signed

Greg Gudelot
Civilian Executive Director
Serious Incident Response Team (SIRT)

May 21, 2026

Date of Report