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SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOOTING

INCIDENT SUMMARY

NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT

INFORMATION CURRENT AS OF DECEMBER 20, 2012

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Incident Summary

- (U//LES) On 12/14/2012 at approximately 0935 hours, a single gunman identified as Adam Lanza (04/22/1992) pictured and hereafter referred to as “Lanza”, entered the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT and began shooting faculty and students. A total of 20 juveniles and 6 adults were shot and killed. Two additional persons were wounded in the incident. Lanza committed suicide at the conclusion of the incident.
- (U//LES) The initial investigation found that Lanza shot and killed his mother, Nancy Lanza, at their home in Sandy Hook before proceeding to the elementary school. He utilized Nancy Lanza’s vehicle, a black Honda Civic, to drive to the elementary school. Lanza exited the vehicle and walked up to the front of the school while shooting out the glass next to the main door at the front entrance. Lanza entered the building through the broken windows and continued to fire at faculty and students. He proceeded to walk through classrooms firing at students and faculty using a .223 caliber rifle. It is believed that Lanza used one of the pistols to take his own life .
- (U//LES) A total of six (6) firearms were recovered. Recovered from Lanza’s person was a .223 caliber rifle and two (2) pistols. A shotgun was recovered from Lanza’s vehicle, which was not used in the incident. Two additional weapons were recovered at the secondary scene (Nancy Lanza’s residence). All of the firearms were determined to have been purchased and owned legally by Nancy Lanza. Lanza had access to the firearms within the household.
- (U//LES) Every occupant and potential occupant of the school was accounted for in the initial action of the incident. The twenty six (26) victims were all identified as quickly as possible, along with the identification of the shooter.



Adam Lanza (04/22/1992)

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Incident Summary

- (U//LES) Initial open source reporting identified Lanza's brother, Ryan Lanza, as a possible suspect and/or conspirator. Currently, the investigation has found that Ryan Lanza was not involved in the incident as a suspect or conspirator. Ryan Lanza and other persons have been cooperative with investigators. Nancy Lanza was determined to have no connection with the school, however, Adam did attend the school.
- (U//LES) Subsequent to the investigation, numerous leads have been developed regarding this incident and other potential incidents. Investigators are continuing to examine every lead and route information accordingly with appropriate agencies.
- (U//LES) During the response and initial investigation of this incident, information was reported by open sources that was confirmed inaccurate. The only information regarding this investigation that should be considered reliable should be information provided by the Connecticut State Police or the CTIC.
- (U//LES) The lead investigating agency is the Connecticut State Police, with assistance from multiple Federal, State, and Local Agencies. An information line has been established at (203) 270-4326.



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Motivation

- (U//LES) Information has been developed that Lanza was interested in firearms and had gone shooting at firing ranges several times with Nancy Lanza. There is no indication if Lanza engaged in preoperational surveillance and/or training, however, Lanza had attended the school several years prior and had extensive experience with video game shooting from playing “Call of Duty.”
- (U//LES) Lanza was known to have been dis-associative with his family and peers. Lanza had been diagnosed with Asperger’s and prior psychological evaluations revealed that Lanza had a history of mental disorders and aggression.
- (U//LES) It should be noted that this information is subsequent to the investigation and may not solely or fully represent or explain the nature of Lanza’s motivation to engage in such an attack, general indicators for such behavior or detract from a citizen’s right to engage in constitutionally protected activity.
- (U//LES) The nature of Lanza’s motivation for the attack is continuing to be investigated.



Secondary Concerns

- (U//LES) Following the incident, there have been several reports of other shooters, bomb threats and other threatening subjects in and around the town of Newtown. To date all of these reports have been determined to be erroneous, however, each is being investigated as a separate incident. Any social media posts are being quickly followed up with and removed.
- (U//LES) After the incident it was learned that eight (8) different residents of Newtown received phone calls from a person who identified himself as “Adam Lanza” and made disturbingly inappropriate threats and statements towards them. Further investigation revealed that the calls originated from Venezuela and charges are currently pending.
- (U//LES) CTIC had become aware of a protest group making statements that praised the shooting at the school. This group had publicly announced their plan to protest the funerals of the students and faculty. Several additional individuals, perhaps associated with other groups, have publicly announced their support for the shooting, but have not crossed the threshold of a criminal action.
- (U//LES) In response to the protest group, several counter-protest groups have been formed by a variety of persons. Some of these groups have threatened violence against the protest group and are actively seeking a protest presence in the town of Newtown and towns throughout the State. Multiple Law Enforcement agencies are providing resources to ensure public safety, protect the privacy of the victims’ families and protect first amendment rights. CTIC has been unable to confirm the presence of the protest group.



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Secondary Concerns

- (U//LES) Multiple Law Enforcement agencies have received notification of threats against funerals and activities pertaining to the shooting. These threats have been and are continuing to be investigated. In one such incident a suspect made threats to attack a protest group with Molotov Cocktails. Multiple arrests have been made in connection with these threats.
- (U//LES) CTIC and the Connecticut State Police are receiving numerous leads from sources across the nation regarding subjects making statements regarding past, current or potential school shootings on a variety of types of electronic media. These leads are being investigated by Federal, State and Local agencies regardless of their connection to the Newtown shooting.
- (U//LES) CTIC is continuing to monitor and support the incident as well as the primary and secondary investigations. Any agency with information regarding this incident can contact CSP CP at (203) 270-4326 and CTIC at (860) 706-5500, or at ctic@ct.gov.

Sources:

Connecticut Federal, State and Local Partners
 State Fusion Centers
 Open Source
 Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) and HLS Tips Reporting



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