

Rice County MCI Review

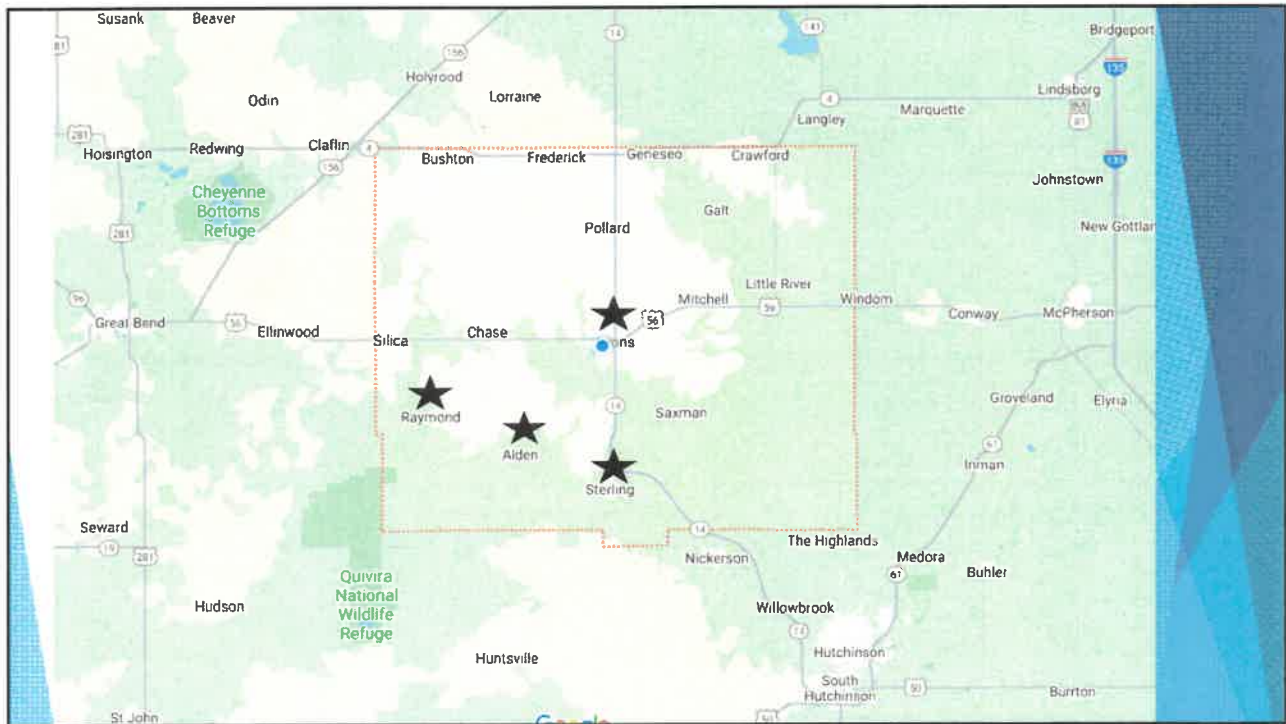
“Our Cherry on Top”

Disclaimer

- ▶ All speakers involved in this presentation are not receiving any financial compensation or endorsements.
- ▶ Consent has been given by the Sheriff and Undersheriff involved to discuss details of case.
- ▶ Social media outlets have provided many accounts of this event on the TV and internet.

A little bit about Rice County

- ▶ County Population: 9,408
- ▶ Square Mileage: 728 sq. miles
- ▶ Lyons is the county seat—which also houses a majority of the county's emergency medical services
- ▶ Serves 9 communities
- ▶ We don't even have a Wal-Mart! (The nearest one is 30 minutes away!)



Rice County Law Enforcement

- ▶ RSCO -7 full time 4 part time (includes Sheriff & UnderSheriff)
- ▶ Lyons PD - 6 full time 2 part time (includes chief)
- ▶ Sterling PD - 5 full time 5 part time (includes chief)
- ▶ KHP - 1 designated for our county
- ▶ Other LEO Chase- 1 chief
- ▶ Little River- 1 chief
- ▶ Geneseo- 1 chief
- ▶ Bushton- 1 chief
- ▶ On a typical day there would be 3 maybe 4 officers on duty to cover county and all cities .
- ▶ There would usually be 1 deputy and usually the sheriff or undersheriff and one officer on duty for both Lyons and Sterling.
 - ▶ That would leave 30 off duty or part time officers to be called in for a major event.

Officer-Involved MCI Event



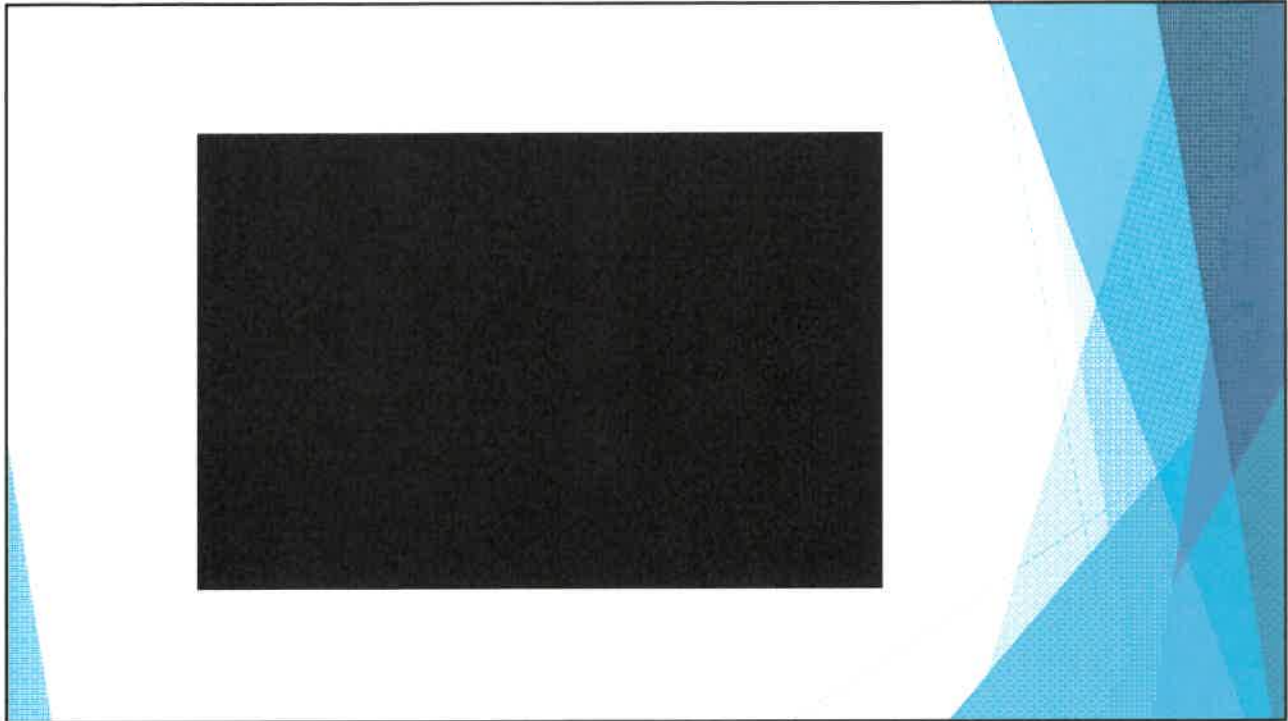
Rice County Law Enforcement

- ▶ Vehicle stop made in Sterling by the Undersheriff for a known wanted suspect. Suspect had himself, significant other and young child in the vehicle.
- ▶ Upon undersheriff making contact with suspect, shots were fired and officer shot.
- ▶ First shot was right side of neck, which paralyzed his right arm, making it almost impossible to reach service weapon.
- ▶ After multiple shots, officer ended up on his left side on the ground and was able to roll over to get his portable radio off of his hip to call for help-- despite screaming it sounded like a whisper—as heard in the opening clip.



- ▶ First on the scene was 3 citizens, which all rendered aid. It was later found out that other community members arrived on scene armed to help protect the officer.
 - ▶ The suspect then fled the scene once bystanders started arriving.
- ▶ Within with a 2 minute time period, Sterling PD and Rice County Sheriff were on scene. Bystander directed Sheriff that suspect had fled north--he then took pursuit in that direction.
- ▶ Off-duty EMS personnel arrived within 5 minutes of shooting. They took over care from bystander. Other off-duty and on-duty EMS personnel begin arriving.
- ▶ Law enforcement is in contact with Reno County Detectives to begin securing crime scene.
- ▶ Many other agencies are also enroute to Rice County to render assistance.

- ▶ Suspect was seen at his home in Alden by the Alden Fire Chief. At this time they were suspecting he was gathering more weapons.
- ▶ Alden Fire Chief keeps in contact with RC Sheriff, who is awaiting outside of town for more assistance from KHP SWAT.
- ▶ Fire Chief then follows suspect west out of Alden to childhood home outside of Raymond.
 - ▶ Female driver and child flee the scene
 - ▶ Suspect opens fire on Alden Fire Chief and approaching officers
- ▶ The next slide is the audio from officer dash cam at original scene depicting what occurred leading up to the second officer being shot.
 - ▶ The location of the audio takes place in Alden and Raymond



- ▶ After the Sheriff was shot, 3 LEO were taking on gunfire and pinned down.
- ▶ Many other agencies arrived on scene as the suspect was barricaded in the home.
- ▶ After a lengthy time, the Barton County Detective finally persuaded the Sheriff in typical cop fashion to receive medical care for his GSW.
 - ▶ He was then transported to Rice County Hospital
- ▶ As the standoff continued, Pawnee and Stafford Counties arrived to assist in other parts of Rice County.
- ▶ A decision was made to fly a drone operator into the home and see where the suspect was located.
 - ▶ The suspect's father was found deceased in the home on the back porch-believed to have been shot by the suspect upon entering the home.
- ▶ The drone operator saw shoes and partial legs by a doorway on the 2nd floor
- ▶ The K-9 was then deployed into the home, found the suspect and began biting and pulling at his legs, eventually pulling him into view of the drone operator. This was when it was discovered the suspect was deceased.

- ▶ 0200: A Rice County Deputy went to Wesley and informed the Undersheriff that the suspect was deceased.
- ▶ The Undersheriff was able to respond with a thumbs up, despite being vented.
 - ▶ The undersheriff commented that he was having nightmares of the working end of the firearm and muzzle flash until he received the news of the suspect's death and then the nightmares stopped.



Rice County Emergency Communications Center

- ▶ The RCECC has six full time Public Safety Telecommunicators, a shift supervisor, and a director.
- ▶ The team works a hybrid of 8 & 12 hour shifts with 1 Public Safety Telecommunicator on duty per shift Sunday-Wednesday and 2 Telecommunicators on duty per shift Thursday-Saturday
- ▶ RCECC is a standalone consolidated Emergency Communications Center deploying 7 law enforcement agencies, 8 volunteer fire departments, a county wide EMS, and Emergency Management Office.

April 29, 2019

- ▶ On Monday April 29, 2019, Shift Supervisor Stephanie Sigler was the only RCECC Team Member on duty.
- ▶ 1712: RCSO officer initiated a traffic stop on the north edge of Sterling, KS
- ▶ 1713: RCSO officer's next transmission was, "Dispatch, I've been shot, I've been shot"
 - ▶ Additional LEO begin responding to the traffic stop location
- ▶ 1714: RCEMS was deployed to an officer involved shooting
- ▶ 1717: Medic 6 arrives on scene with a citizen rendering first aid
- ▶ 1721: 2nd Telecommunicator arrived to assist with influx of calls
- ▶ 1722: Unit 5 on scene
- ▶ 1731: Responding RCSO made visual contact with the suspect & are taking gun fire
- ▶ 1733: Another RCSO officer transmitted, "I'm shot, I'm shot"

- ▶ A stand off then ensued for the next several hours
- ▶ During the first hour, the RCECC Team monitored or answered 431 radio transmissions, 30 inbound or outbound phone calls.
- ▶ There were also a total of:
 - ▶ 14 different local law enforcement agencies
 - ▶ 4 fire departments for scene safety at 3 different locations (all volunteer)
 - ▶ 6 ambulances
 - ▶ 3 EMS agencies (Rice County EMS, Ellinwood EMS, Reno County EMS)
 - ▶ 3 state agencies
 - ▶ 1 federal agency
 - ▶ 2 air ambulance services

- ▶ Shift Supervisor Stephanie Sigler was recognized for her dedication and response on April 29, 2019.
- ▶ She received the Public Safety 911 Professional of the Year from the NG11 Institute



RICE COUNTY
EMS
"Healthcare excellence in motion"



Rice County EMS

- ▶ RCEMS runs approximately 1,000 calls per year. This has doubled in a 30 year period.
- ▶ RCEMS has been an ALS provided service since 1995 and has been a full-time 24 hour, in house service since 2001 out of the new station in Lyons (this is centrally located in the county).
- ▶ In 1997, RCEMS started housing 3 ambulances and increased to 4 ambulances in 2007.

EMS

- ▶ On this particular normal Spring day, RCEMS had 2 staff members in the station running first out calls and 2 on call at home, with first responders in several communities including Sterling.
- ▶ This day seemed to be a normal day for the staff
 - ▶ 0845: unknown medical problem in Alden—no transport
 - ▶ 1440: sick person in Sterling—transported to Hutch Regional
 - ▶ Returned to station at 1653
- ▶ 1714: EMS and Sterling first responders paged for an officer involved shooting across the street in front of Sonic in Sterling (916 N Broadway)
 - ▶ The on-call staff members were in Sterling and first responded with an ambulance
 - ▶ First staff member who arrived was off-duty Paramedic Misha Thompson
 - ▶ Good Samaritans were rendering aid upon arrival
- ▶ 1717: First response ambulance on scene (staff responding from home)
- ▶ 1720: RCEMS first out crew arrives on scene from Lyons Station
- ▶ 1723: First response ambulance went enroute Code Red with the shooting victim to Rice County District Hospital with 6 crew members
- ▶ 1735: Arrived at hospital



- ▶ 1732: Reports of Sheriff being shot over by the City of Raymond
- ▶ Other members of the staff were already on scene on the first shooting and responded to the Raymond area to stage with an ambulance.
- ▶ At this time, the EMS director called Reno County EMS and asked for an ambulance assist and stage in Sterling.
 - ▶ Ellinwood EMS was also contacted to assist and stage at the hospital in Lyons.
 - ▶ Life-Save and Eagle Med were contacted and asked for 2 helicopters as this was an active shooter at large.
 - ▶ We first received 1 helicopter and 1 fixed wing, then transitioned to 2 helicopters, one staging at the hospital and 1 at the airport.

EMS

- ▶ During this time period, the hospital had a cardiac transfer that needed to be transported to Hutch Regional.
- ▶ 1755: The Sheriff was moved to the staging area at the Raymond scene by law enforcement and another RCEMS unit arrived to transport him to the hospital.
- ▶ 1800: Sheriff was transported to Rice County District Hospital
- ▶ 1825: Sheriff arrived at the hospital.
 - ▶ 1 unit remained on scene for standby at the staging area by Raymond, as the original first out crew was transporting the Undersheriff to Wesley.

- ▶ The Sheriff then needed transported to Wesley. This was done by Ellinwood EMS.
- ▶ RCEMS was then able to staff the 2 remaining EMS units to run normal calls, if needed.
- ▶ 0116: The standby and staging EMS units were released, along with the helicopters. The incident was considered all clear.

Rice County Hospital



RCDH Emergency Department



Entering from ambulance bay



Entering ED from floor

ER Room #3



Trauma Room

ER Room #2





Rice County District Hospital

- ▶ 25 bed Critical Access Hospital
- ▶ Located in Lyons, KS
- ▶ Average daily census—16 patients
- ▶ Average dayshift staffing—3 RNs, 2 LPNs, 3 CNAs
- ▶ Average nightshift staffing—2 RNs, 1 LPN, 2 CNAs
 - ▶ Nursing staff is cross-trained to cover med/surg, L&D, ED, intermediate swing bed, outpatient infusion, end of life care.
 - ▶ Deliver approximately 100 babies/year
- ▶ 3 room Emergency Department
 - ▶ 1 designated trauma room
 - ▶ Average monthly ED census—220-240 patients

April 29, 2019--what did our hospital look like?

- ▶ 4 med-surg patients, 11 intermediate swing bed patients
- ▶ Staffing: 3 RNs, 1 LPN, 2 ancillary RNs, 1 PA (on call)—this is for the entire hospital, not just ER.
- ▶ At 1700, 3 ER rooms full with 2 patients in the waiting room
 - ▶ 1 patient waiting to transfer to Hutch
 - ▶ 1 patient was a cardiac rule out
 - ▶ 1 patient being admitted to floor for observation
 - ▶ The 2 in the waiting room were medical in nature; 1 being an allergic reaction with some angioedema.

What happened next???

- ▶ 1712: announcement heard on scanner of “officer involved shooting”
- ▶ At this time, the trauma team was activated—lab, xray, RT all called in from home, night shift nurses (2 RNs & 1LPN) called in early. CEO & CNO called in from home, as well as back up physician.
- ▶ The 3 patients in the ER rooms were taken up to the floor for continued care with very little report given to receiving nurse.
- ▶ With the possible incoming traumas, only 1 RN remained on floor to care for all the patients, as the other RN on the floor stayed to help in ER.
- ▶ 1728: CEO, CNO, and night shift nurses arrive. Hospital is placed on lockdown per CEO due to nature of situation and suspect still at large. The trauma team is intact and awaiting patients.
- ▶ 1732: The hospital is aware a 2nd officer has been shot.

- ▶ 1735: First patient arrives (undersheriff). Patient is awake/alert; GCS 15. Patient known to have 6 GSW-chest, neck, anterior thorax, left shoulder. All vital signs stable. Portable abdomen and chest xrays obtained—FAST exam unavailable (we do not perform these at our facility). All bleeding controlled, pain medications provided.
- ▶ 1750: Wesley accepts patient (call previously made alerting WMC of our incident and potential patients coming their way)
- ▶ 1757: RCEMS transports patient by ground ambulance to WMC.
 - ▶ Flight fixed wing is enroute with an ETA of 40 minutes and flight helicopter enroute with ETA of 50 minutes. These units stayed grounded until situation was all clear.
 - ▶ Patient was in our emergency department for 22 minutes.

- ▶ At this time, the ED provider went and assessed ED patients who had been moved from our ED waiting room to our surgery area—the allergic reaction and a traumatic injury patient.
- ▶ 1830: Sheriff arrives at our facility with GSW to left upper lateral thigh with exit to lower medial thigh—bleeding controlled. GCS 15; vital signs stable. He was shot through patrol car at the scene where suspect was barricading himself inside a home.
 - ▶ Clothes were cut and bullet was preserved for evidence.
 - ▶ X-ray of leg obtained-no acute fracture noted
 - ▶ Pain meds and Tdap given
- ▶ 1916: Ellinwood EMS transported patient to WMC due to other RCEMS crew in Wichita and other RCEMS units on standby at scene where suspect is barricaded. Length of time in our ED is related to LEO collecting evidence and arranging transportation with outside EMS agency.
 - ▶ Patient at our facility for 46 minutes

- ▶ 2020: Hospital remains on lockdown due to ongoing scene circumstances. CEO allows all visitors and non-essential staff to leave.
- ▶ 2130: Day shift nurses released.
- ▶ 0100: Incident is considered all clear. Lockdown released.
- ▶ 0200: County coroner called to the scene at this time
 - ▶ Our county coroner is our family practice physician on call for the emergency room on a given day.

RCDH Lessons Learned

- ▶ The Hospital was not able to go on a true lockdown.
 - ▶ Staff/patients who needed in had to manually be let in
 - ▶ Community members were just let in
 - ▶ We now have a badge system that all doors can be locked at once by IT and every employee can scan their badge to be let in.
- ▶ Communication: we need to find a universal way to communicate we were on lockdown to all staff.
 - ▶ We use Everbridge for our universal communication within the hospital and county-wide.
- ▶ During the event, we had an OB patient present and a staff member turned them away.
 - ▶ Education was provided about EMTALA and how we can not turn patients away, no matter what situation is happening.
- ▶ Fight crews stayed at the hospital in the event of more shooting victims, but we had no communication when the event was neutralized and no longer a threat.
 - ▶ We have the 800 radio/scanner and can now utilize it much better.
- ▶ The patients who went to the floor from the ER didn't have bracelets on and their charts remained in ER
 - ▶ We have a system to provide each patient who is registered a bracelet for identification.
 - ▶ The ED is on paper charting and we are looking to switch to an EMR.

