

Tuesday, April 10, Shooting Incident at 17th and Mariposa

The Shooting :

The incident recorded by private media at 16th and Alabama across the street from El Rincon was probably first called in by someone at that address.

Incident started with bullets flying between two vehicles driving south down Alabama Street from 16th Street.

When the vehicles reached Mariposa one of them appears to have turned left (East) on Mariposa while the other vehicle proceeded south along Alabama street.
(See EXHIBIT 1)

Weapons from the two vehicles continued to blast bullets after they separated.
(See EXHIBIT 2)

Collateral damage:

On Mariposa, a pedestrian leaving Circolo was shot in the leg. A stray bullet went into Suzanne's space window and pierced a staircase and other wooden structures.

On Alabama six cars belonging to residents of Developing Environments were hit by stray bullets. (see EXHIBITS 3-4)

My observations:

I heard at least two rounds of shots that sounded like firecrackers or automatic weapons, went to the window, and observed a black and white crossing Alabama Street headed East on Mariposa, sans alarm and lights., within seconds of the first shots. I noted pedestrians across the street walking north up Alabama Street did not seem overly freaked out by what was going on around them. I heard a commotion and shouting from the sidewalk underneath my third floor window on Alabama, outside my field of vision. Shortly after the weapons were fired a lot of black and whites showed up. The activity lasted for quite a while, but I did not go to investigate further.

Neighborhood Meeting at Developing Environments:

Present from **Project Artaud**: David Lawrence and Mari Eliza. Suzanne walked in a sat down for a while and then left without saying anything.

Present from **Developing Environments**: Debra Walker, Leon Germano, Jennifer Ewing, (please fill in the names here if you like)

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Present from **Circolo**: Owner/manager Jon Mayeda, head of security Kevin Whitfield, (relationship with police department?)

According to Officer Whitfield, one suspect was apprehended and taken into custody the night of the shooting. The victim was sent to General Hospital, treated and released. There is an on-going investigation that has a case number. Everyone who talked to an officer the night of the shooting should have the case number. During an investigation, only certain people with authority to do so may have access to the police records. Attorneys and private investigators are on that list.

Case number is: 110291272.

Officer Buckley.

Investigator in charge is: Jim Garrity

415-553-9002

Call after 7 PM

Discussions at the meeting:

Circolo's security system:

Circolo IDs everyone entering their place and checks for guns, drugs and alcohol. After closing Circolo positions a security personnel at the corner of Mariposa and Florida and another at Mariposa and Alabama streets. They attempt to calm the crowd, escort people as they walk to their vehicles, and call the cops if problems erupt.

At some point Whitfield stated that the problem is caused by the music genre and the DJ's associated with it. Whitfield went through several other security tips unrelated to the incidents of violence around the clubs.

Owner, Jon Mayeda's concerns:

Mayeda has been trying to keep all employees by leasing out the club on Saturdays to make up for lost restaurant revenues. The space is too big. He is having trouble filling it. He has tried different promoters, but they keep changing names so it is difficult to avoid promoters that bring in the wrong crowd.

DE people want to know how he intends to avoid future problems.

Conclusion: Mayeda has called it quits for now. He cancelled all his contracts and is rebranding the restaurant in hopes of becoming a neighborhood eatery. He used to have art shows that were very successful, but that stopped a while ago. He would like to go back to the art shows and other genres of music. He would like to work with neighbors to make this happen.

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DE agreed to continue discussions and work with his staff on new ideas for art shows, benefits, and setting up other programs.

Legal obligations for collateral damage due to the incident, and others like this one:

No public discussion about deals can take place until the criminal investigation runs its course.

The first step is to go after the criminals implicated in the case for relief. All demands for relief for damage resulting from the shooting should be filed with the police department in order to be considered by the courts as part of a settlement or sentencing, if the suspects are found guilty.

How long this takes is determined by how the suspect pleads, court dates, outcome of the case and sentencing dates if any. Until this case is adjudicated and runs through the courts, it is hard to place any secondary blame, according to the officer.

(Please add or edit to this report which I would like to share with residents of Project Artaud.)

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Questions about use of vehicles by shooters:

Witnesses heard rounds of gunshots coming from several areas. Therefore, either:

1. There were several guns going off at different areas of the neighborhood, several blocks apart, or
2. There were at least two guns being fired in cars that were driving around shooting at different areas of the neighborhood.
3. Or, there were at least two people, running around the neighborhood firing off weapons at a number of locations.

Questions about the suspects:

1. Were the suspects on foot or in a vehicle when they were apprehended?
2. Were the suspects in possession of weapons when they were apprehended?

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Attention: Police Reports

April 12, 2011

Please send us a copy of the police report involving the shooting at Mariposa and Alabama Street. We enclose a self-addressed stamped #10 envelope.

Name: Suzanne Couture
499 Alabama St
San Francisco, California, 94110
Case number: 110291272

San Francisco Police Department
Thomas J. Cahill Hall of Justice
Report Management Section
850 Bryant St., Room 475
SF CA 94103-4603

Please send us a copy of the report in the enclosed envelope.

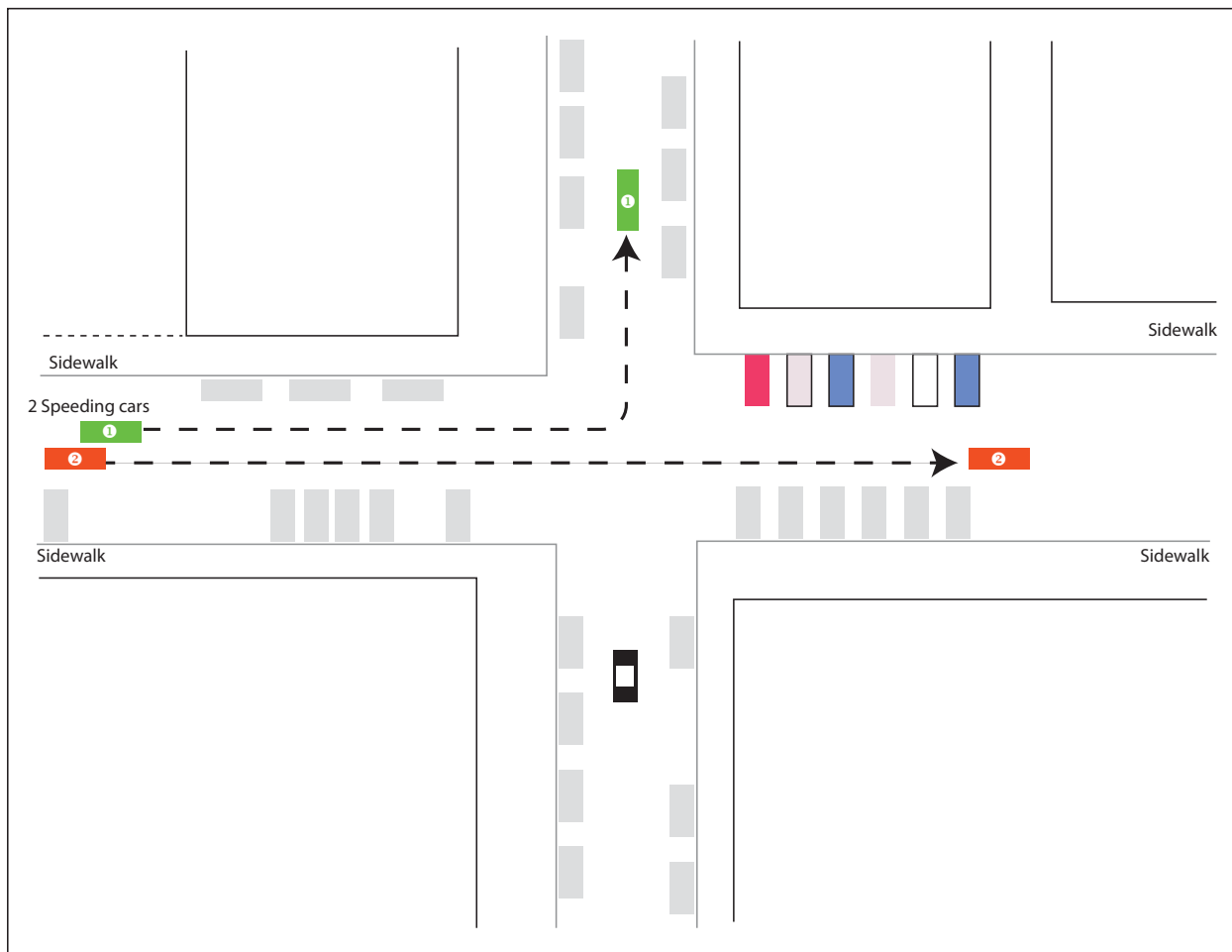
Sincerely,

Mari Eliza
For Suzanne and the inhabitants of 499 Alabama building.

Inc: self-addressed, stamped envelope

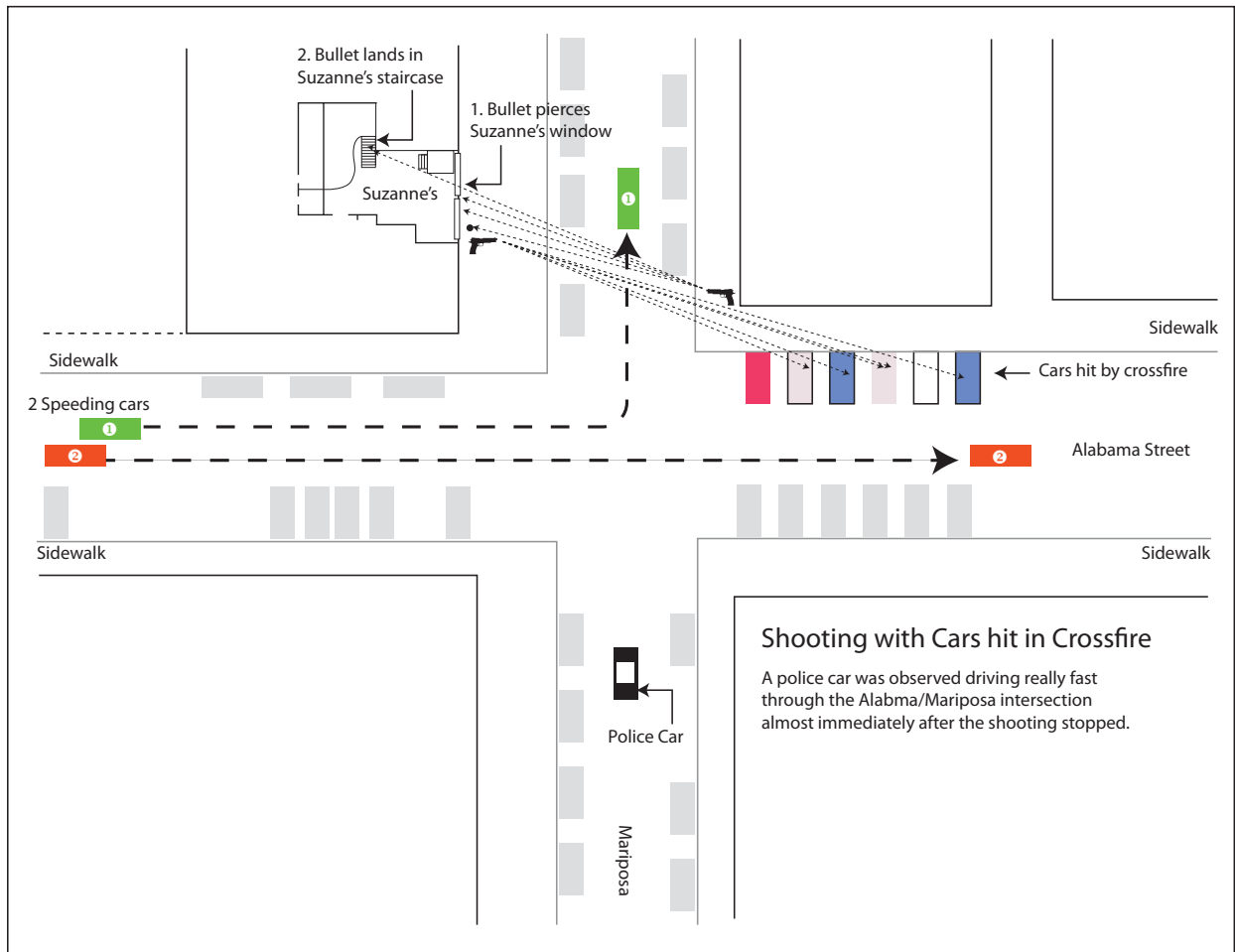
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EXHIBIT 1: Speeding Cars



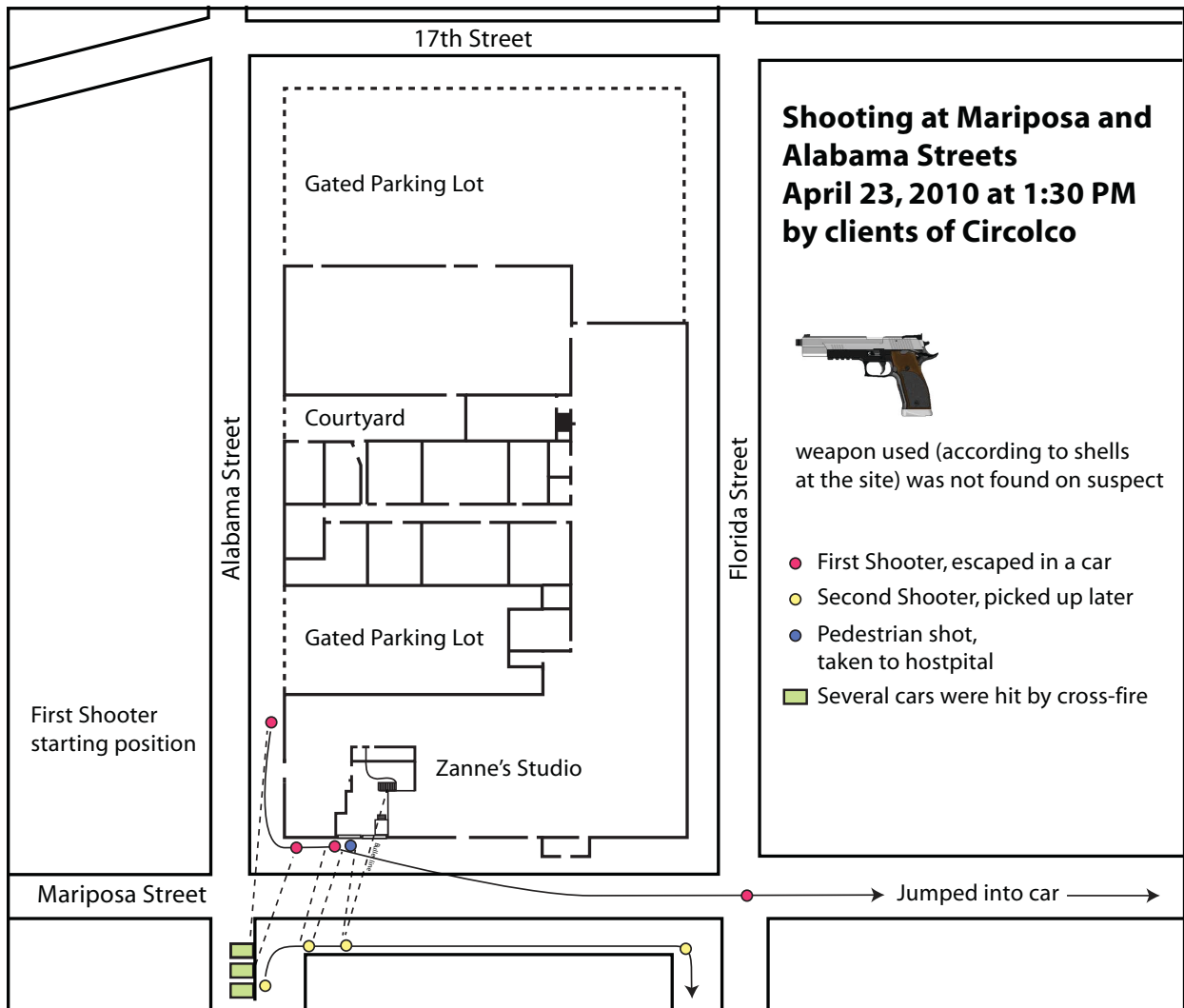
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EXHIBIT 2: Gunshots following speeding cars



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EXHIBIT 3: Gunshots - Narrative



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EXHIBIT 4: Gunshots - Photos



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EXHIBIT 5: Press Coverage

Innocent Bystander Caught in Crossfire on 16th and Alabama Streets

By: [Lydia Chávez](#) | April 10, 2011 – 11:36 am | Filed Under: [Today's Mission](#)

Police said that at 1:50 a.m. today two suspects began shooting at one another at Alabama and 16th streets.

A bullet hit the leg of an uninvolved bystander, who was taken to San Francisco General Hospital for non-life-threatening injuries, police said.

The two suspects were arrested.

The incident took place a block east of El Rincon, a nightclub near the Potrero Shopping Center.

If you were out early this morning and heard something, let us know.

Greg Mahon woke up early this morning to what seemed like firecrackers. But after hearing screams and three to four rounds of rapid gunfire, he ran to his rooftop at 16th and Alabama to see what was going on.

“We saw other people on top of their building on Alabama and Mariposa Street,” said Mahon, a 42-year-old communications consultant who has lived in the same place for nearly four years. “They looked like they were right on top of it.”

The rounds came from a gunfight near the intersection of Florida and Mariposa between two suspects that ended with an innocent bystander shot in the leg, police said. The suspects were arrested and the victim was taken to San Francisco General Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The shooting marks the fifth gun-possession arrest this year between South Van Ness and Potrero Avenue in the north eastern Mission, according to the San Francisco Police Department’s crime reports.

The bar closest to the scene of the Sunday morning shooting is Circolo at 500 Florida St. El Rincon is several blocks away on 16th and Harrison.

Mahon said there have been three club-related shootings in the area in the past two years.

After a police officer was shot in the foot while breaking up a club fight last summer, El Rincon was forced to shut down for four months. Also, Whisper on Florida Street was closed in 2009 after several incidents, including one in which a bullet went through Circolo’s window.

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Although Mahon is unsure of the cause of last night's shooting, he blamed San Francisco's Entertainment Commission for the club violence.

"The commission is biased in favor of the club owners," he said. "There are club owners who are willing to abide by rules and maintain a decent attitude, and club owners that rent out to promoters that don't have accountability to the community."

Mahon said the commission needs to communicate more with the community to ensure that San Francisco's club scene doesn't attract gang violence in the future. Commissioners could not be reached for comment.

An earlier version of this story, based on the police account, reported that the firefight occurred at 16th and Alabama...

Definitely heard those up at 18th and Vermont, and recognized the first burst as gunfire (as opposed to fireworks, which are pretty common). The cadence was a lot more regular and spaced, and the sound was just "heavier". Called 911, and a few seconds later started hearing the sirens. First burst of gunfire was 4 shots, and then about a minute later there was a lot more (about 10 shots more, total)...

I'm not sure why this location and details is wrong on all press. And if this is what the police report says, that's very scary to have such clearly wrong information.

Considering there are bullet holes through several cars parked beneath my window, a bullet through the window of a neighboring building, and my door was caution-taped off for several hours, I think it's obvious that the shooting happened right here. I even have a video of the first cop car on the scene taken from my window.

This happened at Alabama and Mariposa. The two shooters came from Circolo. The owner confirmed this. Saturday night disturbances from the non-local crowd at Circolo are not only common, but occur like clockwork every Saturday night at 2am. It seems that patrols have become regular at this time, and the loitering disturbance has reduced. Although it's unfortunate that police time & energy has to be taken up for something that could be prevented by increased responsibility of the venue owner.

This is a regular disturbance in an otherwise non-violent neighborhood...

I'll guess that the first round of gun fire was around the 16th & Alabama area. Then the final gunfight was at Alabama & Mariposa. I remember the first round of shots(4 to 5 of them) sounded a bit farther away. When the second shots(10 to 15) started it sounded much louder and much closer to my house(Mariposa & Vermont).

So maybe the first calls were reported from there and then the gunfight ended at Alabama & Mariposa?...

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Thanks to Debra Walker a meeting was held with neighbors and Circolo folks and the club agreed not to book any more “out of town crowds” in the club. This is a great move and we neighbors are very pleased. The staff at Circolo is really working hard to make it all work. It is all just outside my window...

<http://www.fugitive.com/archives/38952>:

Police arrested two suspects following a shooting early this morning that injured a bystander in San Francisco’s Mission neighborhood, authorities said. The two suspects started shooting each other just before 2 a.m. at 16th and Alabama streets when a bullet struck the uninvolved bystander in the lower leg, police officials said. The victim was taken to a local hospital to be treated for an injury that is not life threatening, according to police. No further information about the suspects or the victim is available.

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