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## **Man Who Shot City Worker Had Weapons Stockpile**

*In executing Gun Violence Restraining Order, police seize cache of firearms, ammo, explosives*

San Diego Police executing a Gun Violence Restraining Order seized a cache of weapons that included an assault rifle, explosives, and approximately 75,000 rounds of ammunition from the home of a man who shot a city Public Utilities Department worker on Labor Day.

Detectives searched the home on Meade Avenue in University Heights after the City Attorney's Office obtained the GVRO against its 79-year-old owner, Nathan Lee Brogan, who was arrested for the September 3 shooting and is being held in the Vista Detention Center.

The GVRO was the 56th obtained by the City Attorney's Office on behalf of the San Diego Police Department. The restraining orders have removed more than 190 firearms, including a dozen AR-15s, from gun owners who were determined by the court to be a threat to themselves or others.

On September 7, police removed an AR-15 with a 200-round drum magazine, and 34 other rifles and 21 handguns of various makes and calibers from Brogan's residence. Explosives, including a smoke grenade and 4.5 pounds of loose black powder, were removed by the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department bomb squad. The residence is five blocks from Alice Birney Elementary School.

**“GVROs are a powerful tool for protecting the public from predictable violence. This GVRO likely prevented an even greater tragedy,”** City Attorney Mara W. Elliott said. **“Our Police Department was rightly concerned that the suspect, if released on bail, would have immediate access to weapons concealed in his house. Their instincts were confirmed when, after our office obtained a GVRO, they searched his residence and uncovered a deadly arsenal.”**

The Public Utilities Department employee, wearing a uniform and bright vest, was part of a city crew fixing a water leak on Meade Avenue. Before approaching Brogan's residence to purge a water line of air, the employee saw Brogan through a window, announced his presence, and asked about the water pressure. The employee was walking away when Brogan emerged from his residence, saying “I don't care who you are,” and shot him at close range. The employee was hospitalized with life-threatening injuries to his chest and right arm. Police recovered a shotgun and a spent shell at the scene.

The San Diego County District Attorney's Office later charged Brogan with attempted murder, assault with a firearm, and unlawfully discharging a firearm, all felonies. Brogan pled not guilty and is being held on \$1 million bail in the medical unit of the Vista Detention Center, where a deputy city attorney served him with the GVRO.

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**“The San Diego Police Department is appreciative of the efforts of Western Division Investigations for its tireless work in putting this case together for the District Attorney’s Office where Mr. Brogan can be processed through the criminal justice system,”** Police Chief David Nisleit said. **“The City, the Department, and the community as a whole are grateful for the efforts of the City Attorney’s Office to file the GVRO petition with the court, authorizing the legal seizure of firearms in Mr. Brogan’s possession.”**

In Brogan’s garage, police found black powder and a reloading bench and equipment used for homemade ammunition, as well as about 75,000 rounds of live ammunition of various types and calibers. Inside the residence, they found firearms stashed in rooms, cabinets, and storage areas.

The nearly 90 items removed under the GVRO have been impounded at SDPD Headquarters.

This case was handled for the People of the State of California by Supervising Deputy City Attorney Ryan E. Scott.

Images and video of the confiscated weapons are available upon request.

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