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April 9, 2014

"The Boston Marathon Bombings, One Year On: A Look Back to Look Forward"

Good morning, thank you for inviting me to speak here this morning. My name is Jeffrey J. Pugliese, I'm a Police Sergeant with the Watertown Massachusetts Police Department. I'm a 34 year veteran of the Department. In addition to my duties as a Patrol Supervisor, I have been a department firearms instructor for over 29 years. I am also a U.S. Army Veteran (1974-1978), serving in the Berlin, Germany as a Military Police Officer assigned to the Berlin Brigade.

I am here to discuss the events of the early morning hours of April 19th, 2013.

It was just after midnight and I had just finished my work shift when I heard a radio broadcast that officers from my agency were following an alleged carjacked vehicle. I knew the current shift had only four Patrol Officers and a Patrol Sergeant working, I decided to drive in that direction in the event any additional assistance would be needed by the officers.

While en-route to the area, I heard another radio broadcast that officers were now taking gun fire from the occupants of the alleged carjacked vehicle and they were requesting assistance.

On arrival at the scene, I heard gun fire, I exited my vehicle and within moments I heard an explosion.

I advanced to the area where other officers were taking cover and returning gunfire. The suspects were eventually taken into custody.

While I am not at liberty to go into minute details as the incident is still awaiting trial of one of the suspects, I will endeavor to answer any questions you may have.

I think it should be noted that in today's ever changing environment of violence, local municipal governments are not financially equipped to take on the increasing burden of such hostile actions.

In closing, I would like to say that all of the Officers involved in this incident are ordinary men who were put into an extraordinary situation and performed extraordinarily well.

Once again, thank you for inviting me to speak here this morning.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey J. Pugliese
Sergeant
Watertown Massachusetts Police Department