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# Articles

"Don't Gamble Your Future Away" John Raggio

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### 911 caller wounds police officers

As men tried to kick in the door, Steven Ray Jones begged a 911 operator to quickly send the police.

Jones, believing the attackers who critically injured his cousin had returned, opened fire as the door to the Pleasant Grove apartment flew. Flying debris and shrapnel wounded three Dallas officers. None suffered serious injury, but the incident reveals a breakdown in communication as police dispatch communicated with them and while a 911 operator was still on the line with Jones.

The situation could have ended with the officers or Jones critically injured or dead.

Assistant Chief Daniel Garcia, who oversees the department's dispatch and 911 communications center, said these types of incidents show that the 911 operator and dispatcher did well under pressure. "The bottom line is the safety of the officers and our citizens," he said.

Jones, 27, is being held without bail in the Dallas County jail because the shooting incident triggered a probation violation related to a 2011 girlfriend at gunpoint. He now faces three counts of aggravated assault on a public servant.

"I had no intentions of shooting at the police, but I understand why they're upset with me," he said in a jail interview Thursday. "I was in fear."

About 8 p.m. Monday at the Diamond Creek Apartments in the 8100 block of Scyene Circle, a fight broke out. The first officers who went to the scene were

A short time later, a large brawl broke out. Several men attacked Jones' cousin, Alundo Demar Carroll, prompting Jones to grab a gun and fire it twice into the air to try to break up the fight. Then an unidentified gunman opened fire as he and Carroll fled into the second floor apartment.

"He took a shot in the leg and collapsed right in front of our apartment door," Jones said. The bullet traveled through both of Carroll's legs, and his cousin inside and locked the door. At 8:42 p.m., he called 911.

"The dudes are beating and kicking at my door," Jones told The News. "I tell the 911 operator, they're trying to get in, and my cousin's been shot."

The dispatcher told officers who had just arrived at the scene that a caller was saying his cousin was shot. She also told them that she

Police officers saw Leeann Foster knocking on the door, and that's who they think Jones actually heard. Foster, who lives nearby, said she

"I told them if they're in there, they are scared and they are hurt," Foster said.

A short time later, officers approached the door. Authorities say they knocked and identified themselves as police, although Foster, still nervous,

Authorities say the officers believed that someone lay inside bleeding and possibly dying, so they decided to kick in the door. The officers were trying to do so.

Inside the apartment, Jones panicked when the kicking started. Jones said he yelled that the police were on the way and they needed to I  
"Police."

"I was telling them, 'We don't want no problems. Y'all need to leave us alone,'" he said. "I'm telling the 911 operator to hurry up, that they'  
police kicking at your door right now.' They wouldn't have had to kick it in. I would have opened the door."

The operator apparently didn't know police had arrived and noted in the online messaging system to dispatchers that Jones believed sus;  
again tell officers that people were at the door.

"In a perfect world, it would have been great if she could have put that out" again, Garcia said. "She didn't, but the fact is she had already  
After Officer David Grubbs kicked in the door, Jones fired two shots as Grubbs and two other officers rushed inside. One round slammed  
his chest. Shrapnel struck Officer Marshall Milligan in the left hand and in the face. Debris hit Officer Daniel Mulvihill's face and eye.

"When that door swung open, I thought I was about to die," Jones said. "Then I realized who had kicked the door in. I dropped the gun an  
with them, 'I'm sorry, I didn't know it was y'all."

Police found Carroll on a bed. He underwent several hours of surgery at a hospital. No suspects have been identified in the attack on him

Toby Shook, a well known defense attorney and former high ranking Dallas County prosecutor, said prosecutors may have a hard time pr  
that Jones knew he was shooting at police officers.

"If the defense has extremely strong evidence that he's in fear and legitimately believes that these are bad guys breaking in to do harm, th  
conviction," Shook said.

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