TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV Location: Pensacola, FL Quarter ending: December 31, 2019

<u>ISSUE/description:</u> 1. GUN VIOLENCE. Our community experienced a high-profile shooting

incident in December. The public and many politicians are calling for Gun Control. Government regulations providing personal safety protection.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News at 6PM	11/25/19	06:00PM/2 minutes	News	*

* A renewed effort to clamp down on youth crime and violence continues to emerge in our community. The latest initiative happening just a few hours ago at a town hall meeting in Downtown Pensacola. It was a heart to heart conversation among community members laced with a sense of urgency. The news lately in Escambia County has been grim. A day ago, police were called to a fatal stabbing at Big Lagoon State Park. This follows back to back shootings last week, one involving the death of a 15-year-old. A violent trend that's wearing on many will continue as long as people don't get involved. That's why Easley attended Monday's youth gangs and violence prevention at a church in downtown Pensacola. He's looking for an actionable plan. Omar Neal came from Alabama to help people like Easley find proactive solutions. Neal is a former police officer and former mayor of Tuskegee, Alabama. He works with officers across the U.S to work on community policing. "What I want people to begin to do is to think about what we can do to change things and how can they personally get involved." Neal goes on to say this is not the end of the conversation. It's just the beginning of a dialogue that must happen for change to take place.

2. Channel 3 News Special Report 12/06/19

07:18AM/1.1 minutes News

07:50AM/2 minutes 08:08AM/7 minutes 08:27AM/6.6 minutes

3. Channel 3 News Special Report

12/06/19

08:44AM/4-hr. 42-min. News

*** WEAR preempted regular programming to provide continuous commercial-free coverage of the active shooter event occurring at Naval Air Station Pensacola, the military and law enforcement and emergency personnel response, and official statements from the PNAS commander, Pensacola Mayor, Escambia County Sheriff, Governor DeSantis and Representative Matt Gaetz. During this live coverage, it was announced that the shooting had been carried out by a Saudi Arabian student who was taking flight instruction at the local base.

^{**} WEAR broke into regular programming to announce that there was an active shooter event occurring at Naval Air Station Pensacola. We broke in 3 more times with updates on the situation, now identified as a mass shooting.

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4.	Channel 3 News at 6PM	12/06/19	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	***

**** Four people are dead, including the suspect, after an active shooting incident at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola. ABC News has identified the shooter as Mohammed Saeed Alshamrani. According to the Associated Press, Alshamrani is a Saudi aviation student. AP says investigators are working to determine if the shooting is terror-related. The Pentagon says he started his training at NAS Pensacola in August 2017 and was scheduled to finish in August 2020. Republican leaders are scrutinizing the U.S. Military's training programs for foreign nationals. "One of the things that I talked to the president about is given this was a foreign national in the employ of a foreign service is - and there will be time to do this but obviously the government of Saudi Arabia needs to make things better for these victims. I think they are going to owe a debt here given that this is one of their individuals," says Governor Ron DeSantis. The Pentagon also adds the Department of Defense (DOD) has over 5,000 foreign students from 153 countries in the U.S for security cooperation training and that every student is vetted by the DOD. The NY Times reports that a person who was briefed early in the investigation says six other Saudi nationals were detained for questioning near the scene of the shooting. including three who were seen filming the entire incident. WEAR has not been able to confirm this with local authorities. According to Captain Tim Kinsella with NAS Pensacola, the shooter was training at the base. Capt. Kinsella says hundreds of people from across the world come to cross-train at NAS Pensacola and the base has always had international students. On Friday, the Escambia County Sheriff's Office (ECSO) received a report of an active shooter at NAS Pensacola at 6:51 a.m. When deputies arrived on scene, ECSO says deputies shot and killed the suspect. ECSO says the suspect and two victims were pronounced dead at the base. A fourth victim was taken to Baptist Hospital for treatment and later passed away. Seven others injured were taken to Baptist Hospital for treatment. West Florida Hospital says they also treated one patient. Sheriff David Morgan told Channel 3 News that the suspect used a handgun in the attack and two deputies were also shot. They were taken to Baptist Hospital for treatment, and one has been released. Sheriff Morgan said the other deputy suffered non-life-threatening injuries. NAS Pensacola says the names of the victims won't be released until 24 hours after the next of kin has been notified. Local law enforcement says FBI is heading the investigation, along with ATF and NCIS. Capt. Kinsella says the base will stay on lockdown until further notice. NAS Pensacola Corry Station was placed on lockdown earlier on Friday, but that lockdown has been lifted. Governor Ron DeSantis arrived at Pensacola around noon. He said mental health coordinators have been sent to speak with witnesses and the victims' families. DeSantis, President Donald Trump, and Rep. Matt Gaetz all took to social media to address the mass shooting. This is the second shooting that occurred on a Navy base in the last week.

5. Channel 3 News Special Report

12/06/19

08:02PM/14 minutes News

***** WEAR broke into our primetime programming to bring local viewers a live news conference with local, state and national officials with the latest information on today's mass shooting at Pensacola NAS.

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6. Channel 3 News 12/07/19 06:12PM/13 minutes News ******
Special Report

******* WEAR broke into regular programming to bring viewers an in-depth interview with Representative Matt Gaetz on the latest details of the investigation into the mass shooting at Pensacola NAS. Gaetz is calling it an 'act of terrorism' despite the FBI holding off. Gaetz is demanding action and a thorough investigation of the event. He says he wants to see a review of the U.S training Saudi students and the Kingdom step in and help victims' families. He wants to see a tougher stance taken against the Kingdom. "I also think that we need to get information from the defense attaché in Riyadh regarding the screening process of those individuals who may be on their way here. There's something even more troubling to me and that is just maybe this was preventable," Gaetz adds. Gaetz says a 2016 NCIS report includes an analysis of Saudi Flight Program. He says 9-11 families have been suing for access to it. He feels something in it may have prevented this shooting. Gaetz says he can't release any new information about the gunman that hasn't been released by the FBI. He agrees there are many unanswered questions. It will take many of those facts being confirmed by the FBI that will determine where things go from here.

7. Channel 3 News at 10PM 12/07/19 10:13PM/6.1 minutes News

******* The shooter who opened fire at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola Friday morning had reportedly condemned the United States as a "nation of evil" on an online post. FBI confirms the identity of the shooter to be 21-year-old Mohammed Alshamrani, 2nd LT in the Royal Saudi Air Force, who was a student naval flight officer of Naval Aviation Schools Command. Anyone with information regarding Alshamrani and his activities is encouraged to call 1-800-CALL-FBI. A recent statement from the FBI says, "FBI Jacksonville is not aware of any credible threat toward the Pensacola community at this time." Several news outlets, including ABC, The New York Times, and Daily Mail, are reporting a "manifesto," "will," or "screed" found online criticizing United States support for Israel and expressing hatred for the U.S. According to ABC, the post reads: I'm against evil, and America as a whole has turned into a nation of evil ... I'm not against you for just being American, I don't hate you because of your freedoms, I hate you because every day you're supporting, funding and committing crimes not only against Muslims but also humanity. Four people, including the shooter, have died in the tragic incident. Eight people, including two deputies with the Escambia County Sheriff's Office and a NAS Pensacola officer, were injured. Officials have not officially released the names of the victims. ECSO says they will not release the names of the deputies injured in the shooting until both have been released. ECSO says one deputy shot in the knee is still currently recovering at Baptist Hospital. Authorities say the attack ended with a sheriff's deputy killing the shooter. ABC is reporting that six other Saudi nationals were detained for questioning, including three that were seen filming the shooting near the scene, according to The New York Times. On Saturday, the FBI says they will be holding a press conference at the Escambia County Emergency Operations Center. An exact time for the press conference has not been confirmed, but FBI says they expect it to be after 4 p.m. According to Associated Press corrections, a U.S official says the Saudi student who fatally shot three people at a Florida naval base had hosted a dinner party earlier in the week to watch videos of mass shootings. The official was briefed by federal investigators, AP writes. AP adds the official authorities tell him one Saudi student was recording outside the building while the shooting took place. He says 10 Saudi students are being held at the base and that several others are still unaccounted for. Rep. Matt Gaetz tweets out he recently spoke with Saudi Ambassador Reema Al-Saud and received her condolences. Gaetz expresses how they "expect to conduct our investigation with full cooperation and no interference from the Kingdom".

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8. Channel 3 News at 10PM 12/07/19 10:13PM/2.7 minutes News

********* Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola is now open to Mission Essential Personnel only through the weekend, the base says. This comes after the deadly mass shooting that occurred at the base. Four people, including the shooter, died. Eight people, including two deputies, were shot and injured. Families who live on base will be able to access the base and their homes. The National Naval Aviation Museum is closed Saturday and until further notice. The Barrancas National Cemetery is closed to visitors until further notice, NAS Pensacola said. "[It's] a sad day for Naval Air Station Pensacola and the local community with the events that unfolded onboard the installation," said NAS Pensacola Commanding Officer, Capt. Tim Kinsella. "We appreciate the support that we have received from across the country to include local, state and federal agencies. The quick actions by our naval security forces and local law enforcement prevented the situation from potentially being worse than it was. A center for Emergency Family Assistance has been established at the Navy Gateway Inns and Suites and will stay open until 9 p.m. They will open at the Fleet and Family Service Center (FFSC) at 8 a.m. Sunday. FFSC will have counselors there to support witnesses, friends, and more.

Channel 3 News Special Report 12/08/19

11:17AM/9 minutes News 11:31AM /20 minutes

03:57PM/19 minutes

******* WEAR broke into regular programming 3 separate times for updated information concerning Friday's mass shooting at Pensacola NAS.

10. Channel 3 News at 5PM 12/08/19

05:00PM/1.7 minutes News

*10

*10 Public Affairs Officer Jason Bortz has confirmed that the Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola base will reopen to all employees on Monday. He says that visitors planning to visit the base on Monday must have a current Department of Defense (DoD) card. If not, they will be turned away. The main and west gate will be open at normal times. This comes after the deadly mass shooting at NAS Pensacola that happened Friday. Three sailors were shot and killed. They've been identified as: Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson, Student, Naval Aviation Schools Command, 23, from Coffee, Alabama; Airman Mohammed Sameh Haitham, Student, Naval Aviation Schools Command, 19, from St. Petersburg, Florida; and Airman Apprentice Cameron Scott Walters, Student, Naval Aviation Schools Command, 21, from Richmond Hill, Georgia. The Naval Aviation Museum and Lighthouse will be open, but only for current DoD ID cardholders.

11. Channel 3 News at 5PM

12/09/19

05:00PM/1.5 minutes News

*11

*11 Monday morning was Escambia County Sheriff David Morgan's first briefing with the lead investigators since the deadly shooting at NAS Pensacola on Friday. Sheriff Morgan called the meeting productive and says he's now been invited to attend daily FBI briefings. He says his own deputies transported at least seven people to the hospital. "The on-scene supervisor made the decision that we will transport to the hospital while rendering whatever on-scene aid we can to them to make sure they get the appropriate medical care as soon as possible," Sheriff Morgan explained. With traffic to the base diverted, deputies were concerned that paramedics wouldn't be able to arrive fast enough. Sheriff Morgan says several deputies drove victims off-base and transferred them to ambulances on their way. He added that both of his deputies injured in the shooting will be interviewed by FBI investigators. Right now, five of the eight injured have been released from the hospital. NAS Pensacola says the remaining three patients are in stable condition.

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12. Channel 3 News at 10PM	12/10/19	10:00PM/1.5 minutes	News	*12

*12 Florida Senator Rick Scott is continuing to demand answers linked to a United States foreigner training program following the NAS Pensacola shooting. Channel 3 News obtained an interview with Sen. Scott on Capitol Hill on Tuesday. He arrived in the city of Pensacola hours after the shooting calling for a suspension of the program and tighter security. He also visited NAS Pensacola, OneBlood and the hospital, hearing stories of heroism firsthand. Channel 3 News has heard stories of members from the U.S. Marines and the U.S. Navy using their training to fight back, rescue the wounded and barricade themselves in areas for safety. Step One, we've got to understand how we need to vet better," Sen. Scott said. "Step two, until we know what's going to happen, we ought to just shut own the program. We shouldn't be putting people at risk", the Senator stressed. Sen. Scott says he spoke with the Ambassador to the U.S. from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Scott said the kingdom has committed to cooperate fully with the United States in investigating Friday's attack. "There's wonderful people here in this country from all over the world, Florida is a melting pot, but there's also radical Islam," Sen. Scott said. "We've got to deal with radical Islam. They hate us," he added. He is demanding the Saudi government fully cooperate and not allow any of the students to return until they have worked with the FBI. The Senator adds if anybody's done anything wrong the Saudi government must hold them accountable. Senator Rick Scott, also the former Governor of Florida, vows to protect the United States and our military.

13. Channel 3 News at 10PM 12/10/19

10:00PM/2 minutes

News

*13

*13 The Navy has ordered a temporary grounding for Saudi Arabian aviation students training at multiple Florida bases, according to Military.com. This report comes following the deadly mass shooting at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola. Three sailors died during the active shooter incident. Eight people were also injured. According to ABC News: 303 Saudi flight students at three Navy bases participating in the Navy's flight instruction programs are not flying until further notice, though they will be receiving classroom instruction. The Navy is describing this as a 'safety stand-down and operational pause.' 'Training was suspended over the weekend for all personnel. Some training commands aboard NAS Pensacola have resumed training, including those with International Military Students. This training includes aviation training,' said Lt. Commander Megan Isaac, a Navy spokesperson. 'A safety stand-down and operational pause commenced Monday for Saudi Arabian aviation students at NAS Pensacola and NAS Whiting Field and NAS Mayport, Florida. Classroom training is expected to resume this week for those students.' The operational pause affects about 175 Saudi students at NAS Pensacola and NAS Whiting Field, in the Pensacola area, and the 128 Saudi students at Naval Station Mayport, in Jacksonville. On Sunday, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said they are working under the presumption that the shooting was an act of terrorism. FBI added that all international students are accounted for and that Saudi students have been cooperating with their investigations. On Tuesday, the Pentagon ordered a review of the vetting procedures for international students who participate in training on U.S. military installations. Military Times says the Pentagon demanded the process be strengthened. Deputy Defense Secretary David Norquist signed a memo that suspends flight and other operational training for all Saudi Arabian students in U.S. military programs.

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14. Channel 3 News at 6PM	12/11/19	06:00PM/2.1 minutes	News	*14

*14 Since the deadly shooting, there's been talk and calls to action to better secure our military and prevent tragedies like this one from happening again. A group of U.S. Navy instructor pilots at NAS Pensacola reportedly asked Navy officials if they could arm themselves following the shooting. NAS Pensacola Public Information Officer Jason Bortz says they have their own Naval security force charged with keeping the base and those inside safe. He could not go into detail about their training or how many security personnel work each shift, but he was quick to ensure their force is not contracted out. He says this group is comprised of active-duty sailors and individuals from the department of Naval citizens. He says these are the only armed personnel on the base, all other firearms are banned. People in the Pensacola community believe if more people were armed, the shooter wouldn't have been able to kill three Navy sailors. Bortz says their Naval security force mans the gates into and out of the base and they have roving patrol as well. As for security getting onto the base, Bortz says they are still only allowing those with a Department of Defense issued identification. They have not confirmed a date on when they are opening the base for civilians without DoD IDs.

15. Channel 3 News at 6PM 12/13/19 06:00PM/1.7 minutes News

*15 It's been a long week for the Escambia County Sheriff's Office. Three deputies were shot in seven days, two at NAS Pensacola during the mass shooting, and the other responding to a call on Limerick Lane on Wednesday. Tonight Channel 3 has confirmed with ECSO that all three deputies are at home recovering from their injuries. While this week has been tough, Sheriff Morgan says he's thankful that his deputies' injuries weren't worse. "We didn't lose anybody," Morgan said. "This week was tragic, but we didn't suffer a death. Right now we've got three grieving families from those sailors whose lives have been changed. We can't repair that." Sheriff Morgan tells us counseling services have been available for all deputies this week. Over the weekend, Sheriff Morgan told us he was frustrated with the FBI because he hadn't received a briefing in days. After that reporting, Sheriff Morgan was briefed by lead FBI Agents on Monday. He says he's been briefed 3 times this week. "I can tell you that the FBI is absolutely working this case," Morgan said. "They are doing exactly what we'd expect and want them to be doing." He says he plans to continue attending FBI briefings as the investigation continues.

16. 3 in the Morning

12/17/19

06:00AM/2.5 minutes News

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*16 Channel 3 News is getting new information about how the NAS Pensacola shooter was able to get a hunting license in Florida without going through a safety training course. We received a copy of his license and saw the box for the safety course was not checked. Channel 3 asked the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) how that was possible. They tell us the course was not required based on a law allowing an individual to hunt if they agree to do so while supervised by a qualified adult who is 21 years or older. The Navy says 2nd Lt. Mohammed Alshamrani, of the Royal Saudi Air Force, shot and killed three sailors at the base on December 6th.

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17. Channel 3 News First at 4	12/17/19	04:00PM/1.2 minutes	News	*17

*17 How did a Saudi flight student purchase a gun through a federal loophole and get it on a U.S. military base? Our 3 Investigates team and ABC News first broke the news on how and where the gun was purchased. The investigation also uncovered the shooter fired more than 180 rounds for about 15 minutes inside a building at NAS Pensacola, before being shot and killed. Those trapped inside say they used their military training to fight back. "One of them ran up to him and tried to stop the guy, and lost his life doing it, but he slowed him down," U.S. Sen. Rick Scott said. Sen. Scott is now demanding transparency from the FBI investigation. He says he wants to know exactly what happened, so everyone can understand what changes do need to be made. The Florida senator is also questioning if training should be held in Saudi Arabia instead. Reports indicate U.S. Navy pilots are asking that military officers be allowed to arm themselves on U.S. military bases. "They should have access to a weapon, how can you expect them to defend themselves," Scott said. The senator says it defies logic - our men and women operate multi-million dollar pieces of equipment and are trusted to keep our country safe, but they are not allowed to carry weapons. He added he will work with key government agencies like the Armed Services Committees and the Department of Defense and asking the tough questions "What went wrong? How do we change it so this doesn't happen again? How do we make sure everyone understands the changes being made?" Sen. Scott asked. The senator says streamlining communication between military law enforcement and local law enforcement is critical.

*18 Initially, people, including lawmakers, were confused about how a foreign national could get his hands on a

who has access to the Saudi students during the investigation. Channel 3 reached out to the FWC asking if

there has been a change in protocol when issuing hunting licenses; they did not respond.

18. Channel 3 News at 6PM 12/19/19 06:00PM/2.5 minutes News

firearm. This comes in the wake of the deadly attack on Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola carried out by a Saudi Arabian student. "I don't understand how somebody that comes over here from another country and in their military and is supposed to simply be here training and how they have access to a gun," said Florida Senator Rick Scott. It was less than a week after the shooting that the FBI confirmed it was purchased legally. The shooter was issued a Florida hunting license, confirmed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission. It's remained a topic of discussion, but public statements on that loophole in the political sphere have stayed mostly non-existent among the talk of foreign national vetting and arming servicemen and women on base. Senator Marco Rubio's spokesperson sent Channel 3 a statement when asked what he thinks about the loophole and if he's working towards a solution. "Senator Rubio shares the concerns expressed by law enforcement and will continue working with his colleagues on appropriate solutions to a number of issues exposed by the tragedy as NAS Pensacola," the spokesperson said. Channel 3 also reached out to Senator Rick Scott who was one of the first to call for tougher foreign national vetting. His press secretary did not return our requests for a statement. Representative Matt Gaetz, who's also been very vocal following the shooting, did not send a statement regarding the loophole, but his team says it is on his radar. However, we did get a hold of a letter he sent Thursday to Secretary of Defense Mark Esper. In the letter, he asks if the Department of Defense has halted Saudi students from training on military installations, if the Saudis have committed to their vetting process, and

*18

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19. Channel 3 News at 10PM 12/19/19 10:00PM/2.8 minutes News *19

*19 We spoke with a first responder who rushed in to help in the aftermath of the deadly Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola shooting. On December 6th, EMS Commander Jimmy Maddrey got to work early to hit the gym, but dispatch calls for help started pouring in. He drove to NAS Pensacola, but although he's been in public safety for more than 20 years, he'll never forget what he saw next. "There were a lot of different agencies involved law enforcement, Navy, fire [department], helicopters from different agencies," he said. He commended the teamwork of the responding agencies, saying if it weren't for their clear communication and training, the death toll would be higher. "A physician at one of the local hospitals most of these patients were taken to stated that without the placement of these tourniquets, the death toll would have been higher," he said. Responders were prepared to handle an active shooter call, but they hoped to never get one. "You never want it to happen in your hometown, but sometimes it just does."

20. Channel 3 News at 6PM 12/20/19 06:00PM/2 minutes News *20

*20 The Director of the Naval Aviation Museum says Navy leadership is working to reopen Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola to the public. Director Sterling Gilliam tells us while no official date has been set for when NAS Pensacola will again welcome civilians, the day could be soon. "It's always been more about the ongoing FBI investigation than it has been about heightened security," Gilliam said. The FBI tells us their investigators are still working to understand the motive for the attack that killed three sailors. A memorial service, closed to the media, was held Thursday at the museum to honor the fallen, giving their classmates the chance to say goodbye. "Almost 1,400 people were in attendance in our Blue Angel Atrium yesterday, including the families of the three victims." Gilliam says he expects museum events to be back open to the public early in the new year. Several Escambia and Santa Rosa County schools have field trips scheduled in 2020. "The 75th anniversary of the end of World War II occurs next year so we look forward to celebrating that." The museum also plans to honor the fallen sailors with a memorial onsite. "Whether you are currently in the Navy or you flew years ago, this museum is a rallying point," Gilliam said. "We are very honored to serve as a venue where folks can celebrate naval aviation and honor the lives tragically lost."

21. Channel 3 News at 6PM 12/27/19 06:00PM/2 minutes News *21

*21 Florida lawmakers have filed a bill aiming to close the loophole that allowed a Saudi Arabian student at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola to buy a gun used in the mass shooting earlier this month. The bill is called the 'Foreign National Firearms Background Check Enhancement Act'. Legislators hope it can help prevent another tragedy like the NAS Pensacola shooting. The FBI identified the shooter as a Saudi Arabian national student Mohammed Alshamrani. The investigation revealed that Alshamrani was able to legally buy the handgun used in the shooting through a federal loophole. That exception allows foreign nationals to buy guns if they have a valid state hunting license. It's a loophole that Florida lawmakers want to close. U.S. Representative Charlie Crist introduced the bill that would require foreign nationals to go through a tougher vetting process. The bill states foreign nationals would have to petition the attorney general directly to have the right to buy a gun and that person would have to also receive a waiver from the Attorney General certifying that the recipient meets the same background check requirements as US citizens. This proposed legislation comes after the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission announced they were going to review and amend state regulations regarding foreign nationals obtaining hunting licenses. A companion bill needs to be filed in the Senate before it's sent over to the governor's desk for his signature.