On 06/10/16, the Plaza Live Theater at 425 N. Bumby Ave hosted a concert by Christina Grimmie (03/12/94) and the band Before You Exit. In 2014, Christina was featured on the show *The Voice*, placing third in the competition. Christina has a very popular You Tube channel with 3.5 million subscribers and her Twitter account has 947,000 followers. The theater’s general manager, Jim Heffelfinger (01/21/59), estimated 250-300 people attended the concert, which started at 19:30 hours. There was unarmed security for the theater and bag checks were conducted at the entrance. After the performance, as she always did, Christina had a “meet and greet” with fans at the back of the theater. It was estimated that over 100 people were still in the theater while this was going on. Christina’s brother, Marcus Grimmie (12/07/92), who acted as her road manager, was seated nearby at the merchandise table. As Christina was greeting fans and signing autographs, Marcus saw “some guy” approach her, then he heard several gun shots. Christina fell to the floor and Marcus immediately “grabbed the guy” but after he was able to break free, the suspect put the gun to his own head and fired. Marcus later confirmed “100%” the person who shot Christina is the same person who shot himself.

Alexander Fogh-Pedersen (09/16/89) was working security inside the theater when he heard several gunshots coming from the area of the merchandise tables. As he rushed over he saw Marcus Grimmie, “grappling” with a white male wearing a “red plaid” shirt. When the suspect was able to break away, Alexander ran over to challenge the suspect but stopped when he saw a gun in his hand. The suspect immediately backed up against the wall, put the gun to his head and fired. Alexander notified his supervisor, Jesse Raper (03/02/86), and called 911.

Witness Erin Westfall (12/06/97) was standing against the wall of the theater when she heard several gunshots from the area around the merchandise table. Believing it was balloons popping she did not react as the suspect approached the area where she was standing. She saw him with a gun in his hand and was standing approximately “five feet” away when she saw him shoot himself in the head. Witness Kaitlin Brundridge (06/26/96) was in line to meet Christina Grimmie and the suspect was in front of her. When she turned around to speak with some friends, she heard several gunshots. Both of these witnesses immediately ran from the theater after the suspect shot himself.
The head of security, Jesse Raper, entered the theater after the shooting and someone was already performing CPR on Christina Grimmie. He approached the suspect and checked him for pulse. He did not detect one. Raper saw two handguns on the ground, one was laying next to the suspect and the other was laying approximately 15 feet away. Because there were still many people in the theater, Raper decided to make the guns safe by ejecting the magazines and clearing the chambers. He later stated the gun that was away from the suspect had a “misfeed” malfunction which would have prevented it from firing. He also said after clearing the guns he left them in the same location he found them.

At 22:24 hours, the Orlando Police Department received multiple 911 calls in regards to a shooting at the theater. Officer Mitchell Ulmer (31113) and other units responded. Upon their arrival, the officers were directed inside the theater where an unknown person was performing CPR upon victim Christina Grimmie. The suspect was laying dead on the floor of the theater with a self inflicted gunshot wound to the head. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Christina was treated by Orlando Fire Department Rescue #6 and transported by ambulance to Orlando Regional Medical Center (ORMC) where she was pronounced dead by Dr. Jillian Davison at 22:59 hours.

I, Detective Michael Moreschi (3369) was assigned to investigate this case and Detective Brian Ferrara (12071) was assigned to assist. When I arrived at the scene I met Marcus Grimmie. In an audio taped statement, Marcus recounted the shooting and told me Christina had not received any threats or undue attention from any overaggressive fans. He had never seen the suspect before and he did not remember seeing him during the show. Neither Marcus nor any of the other witnesses recalled hearing the suspect say anything before or after shooting Christina.

Witness Michael Ward (04/21/93) approached Detective Ferrara at the scene and said he had an audio recording of the incident. Ward had his I-phone in his pocket audio recording during the show and did not turn it off. In his recording, a series of shots are heard followed quickly by a single shot. Ward agreed to provide us his cell phone and the recording was later downloaded. This recording will be retained in the case file.
I also met with several of the other witnesses including Jesse Raper who informed me the theater did not have video cameras inside or outside the theater. Written statements were obtained from the witnesses many of whom were “ear witnesses” to this shooting. Those statements will be retained in the case file.

Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) Cassie Baumgaertner (19264) and CSI Marisa Kuzma (12901) responded to process and document the scene. Inside the theater, I observed the yet to be indentified suspect. He was deceased on the floor, against the wall, with an obvious gunshot wound to the head. Six 9mm shell casings were on the floor, five being near the merchandise table and one near the suspect. The two 9mm Glock handguns and their full magazines, were laying near the suspect. He was wearing black jeans, a black t-shirt and a red, white and blue long sleeve shirt. In the back of his pants were two concealed nylon holster clipped to the inside. With his shirt being untucked this would have hid the guns from view. I also observed how the suspect had blue spongy earplugs in his ears.

Investigator Trish Clark from the District Nine Medical Examiner’s Office responded to the scene. While going through the suspect’s pocket, we discovered his Florida driver’s license, which bore the name Kevin James Loibl (03/10/89). This license was used to positively identify him and it listed Loibl’s address as 4811 23rd Street N, St. Petersburg, Fl. In one of his pockets was a ticket for the show which was printed on 06/05/16 and his cell phone, which was turned over to me. Also, he had a key for a room at the Courtyard by Marriott located at 730 N. Magnolia Avenue. A further examination of his body at the scene revealed Loibl had two full 9mm magazines in his front pocket and a tactical knife strapped to his ankle.

I responded to the Courtyard and spoke with the front desk manager, Pierre (NOI). When I showed him Loibl’s picture, he instantly asked me if he was the suspect in the theater shooting, which was now being broadcast on the news. Pierre explained when he checked Loibl into his room on 06/09/16; he struck him as being “strange.” Loibl had arrived by cab at approximately 13:30 hours on 06/09/16 without any luggage and was paying $269 for the room, which he was scheduled to check out the morning of 06/10/16. We received permission to enter the room from the hotel management. There was no luggage; no personal belongings visible and the bed looked
as if he slept on top of the covers. In the trash it appeared he had purchased some food from the hotel snack bar and ate it in his room.

The room safe was locked and the hotel staff was able to open it for us. There was a small Nike draw string backpack with personal hygiene items inside along with an empty, plastic Glock gun case. The case contained 9mm ammunition and spare magazines. CSI Baumgaertner responded to photograph the room and collect the belongings. While in the process of doing this, I received a call from the front desk notifying me a cab had arrived to pick up Loibl. I met with the driver (NOI) and he informed me Loibl paid him $200 for a round trip from his home in St. Petersburg to the Courtyard in Orlando. A check of Loibl’s license revealed it is a learner’s permit which he obtained on 04/21/16 and he did not have any vehicles registered to him.

A background check of Kevin Loibl revealed he did not have a criminal history and would have been legally able to purchase firearms. It appeared he lived in the house listed on his license for several years with his father Paul Loibl (09/29/56) and brother Chris Loibl (08/15/86). I contacted the St. Petersburg Police Department for assistance in notifying the family of Loibl’s death. I also asked St. Petersburg Police to check their records for any documented incidents they had involving Kevin Loibl. According to their records, Kevin Loibl only appeared twice in police reports. In 2010 his mother, Nora Loibl, died at their home. It was later determine she died of an “aspirin overdose” and her death was ruled an accident. In 2014, St. Petersburg police responded to their home in reference to a domestic disturbance involving Kevin Loibl and his father’s girlfriend (NOI). No arrests were made in the case. There are also no records indicating Kevin Loibl was ever subjected to an involuntary mental health evaluation (Baker Act).

St. Petersburg police were able to contact Paul Loibl at his home and notify him of Loibl’s death. Detective Ferrara and I traveled to his home and met with Paul Loibl, as well as Chris Loibl. Paul told us Kevin had never been diagnosed with a mental illness and he had never threatened to do harm to himself or anyone else. Paul said Kevin did “live like a hermit,” rarely leaving his room except to go to his part time job at Best Buy. Neither Paul nor Chris ever heard Kevin mention Christina Grimmie. They never saw him watch The Voice on television but he did spend
a great deal of time on his computer in his room. They never saw Kevin with any guns and were unaware that he owned any.

The last time Paul saw Kevin was on Thursday (06/09/16) afternoon when he got into a cab. Kevin did not tell him where he was going and he did not get concerned until Friday afternoon when Kevin failed to return. Paul called the Best Buy on Friday and found out he failed to show up for work. Calls from Paul to Kevin went unanswered. Paul allowed us to search Kevin’s room. Inside I observed a thin mattress with bedding laying on the floor, there were no pictures on the wall and the windows were covered with aluminum foil and heavy curtains. Paul explained to me Kevin had an aversion to light. In one of his drawers I saw the same blue earplugs he was wearing at the scene. Paul said Kevin used the earplugs because he was uncomfortable with loud noises.

There was a large television on a dresser in the room, which was connected to a computer tower, which had the side panel missing. Paul gave me permission to take the computer for forensic examination. On the dresser by the computer was a copy of a flyer for a special burial service, which would spread your remains around the base of a tree. The same flyer was later found in Loibl’s pocket. In a filing cabinet in the closet, we discovered the second plastic Glock handgun case. It contained spare magazines and ammunition and was seized with Paul’s permission. We did not discover any pictures of Christina Grimmie or any documents related to her.

Paul explained how Kevin had recently undergone several changes to include getting his learner’s permit, having Lasik eye surgery, obtaining hair plugs and he lost 50 pounds after he chose to follow a vegan diet. When I asked what friends I could talk to about Kevin, Paul said his only friend was Corey Dennington (10/22/85), who he worked with at the Best Buy.

After it was discovered and photographed on the merchandise table at the scene, I took custody of Christina Grimmie’s cell phone. I turned over Christina’s phone, Kevin Loibl’s phone and his computer to Digital Forensic Examiner, Detective Charlie Troell (6795). Detective Troell later reported to me how Loibl’s phone was encrypted; therefore he was unable to extract any data
from it. Upon examination of his computer, Detective Troell reported it was “not functional” and it appeared Loibl had intentionally destroyed the hard drive. The examination of Christina’s phone did not reveal any threatening emails or texts. Loibl’s phone number did not appear in her phone and there was no evidence of any contact between them.

On 06/11/16, Detective Ferrara and I attended the autopsy of Christina Grimmie, which was performed by Dr. Joshua Stephany. Christina suffered a gunshot wound to the side of her head. The entrance wound had stippling surrounding it, which indicates the bullet was fired in close range of the victim. This wound was fatal. Christina also suffered three gunshot wounds to her torso. Dr. Stephany determined Christina died of multiple gunshot wounds and her manner of death was homicide. Dr. Stephany also performed the autopsy of Kevin Loibl who died from a self inflicted gunshot to the head. This gunshot wound was his cause of death and his manner of death was suicide.

Detective Ferrara and I later met with Marcus Grimmie and his father, Albert Grimmie (03/30/58), who had just arrived in Orlando. We told them Kevin Loibl’s name and showed them his picture. Both said they had never seen nor heard of him. Marcus explained how he and Christina had been on a multi-city tour and did not remember seeing Loibl at any previous shows. Albert told us, like Marcus had, that Christina never said anything about receiving threats or unwanted attention from a fan.

A records check of the guns used by Loibl showed he legally purchased them at two different gun shops in St. Petersburg. He bought a Glock 26 (9mm handgun) on 05/25/16, and after a five day waiting period he picked it up on 05/31/16, eleven days before the murder. On 06/01/16 he purchased a Glock 19 (9mm handgun) and he picked it up on 06/07/16, three days before the murder.

Brent Savage (07/10/89), a loss prevention officer for the Old Navy store in the same shopping center as the Plaza Live Theater contacted Detective Ferrara and told him he believed the suspect
was in his store before the shooting. We met with Savage who showed us video from inside the store. On 06/10/16 at 18:54 hours, thirty-six minutes before the concert started, Loibl entered the store wearing the same distinctive shirt. He bought a black baseball hat and a bottle of water. He put the hat on while still in the store and exited.

On 06/11/16, Bruce Corn (07/14/62) contacted the Orlando Police Department to advise he had been hired to take photographs and video at the concert. He met with Detective Troell and allowed him to download the images from an SD card. I later reviewed the photos and found Kevin Loibl was not depicted in any of them. I then watched a video Corn took inside the theater just before Christina took the stage. I was able to see Kevin Loibl, wearing the distinctive red, white and blue shirt, standing against the back wall.

Morgan Wheeler (07/18/95), a cinematographer, had been hired by the band Before You Exit to film their show. Wheeler turned over footage of the show which included shots of the crowd during the bands concert and people entering the theater before the show. Wheeler did capture Loibl as he entered the theater and again inside during the concert. When he entered, Loibl was wearing his distinctive shirt, untucked, and he was wearing the hat he had just purchased. Inside, like Corn’s photo Loibl can been seen standing in the back of the theater. In none of the videos or pictures does it appear Loibl was with anyone else, before or during the concert.

On 06/17/16, Detective Ferrara and I traveled to the Best Buy store in St. Petersburg to interview Kevin Loibl’s co-workers. We discovered Loibl had worked at this particular store for over eight years; he worked mostly on the weekends and rode his bike to and from the store. He was always a part-time employee at the store and was currently a member of their Geek Squad technical support.

In a sworn audio taped statement, Cory Dennington confirmed he has known Kevin Loibl for fifteen years and he believed he was Loibl’s “only friend in the world.” Dennington said he became aware of Loibl’s fixation on Christina Grimmie over the last “six months to a year.” I asked if he knew if Loibl had watched The Voice the season she appeared. Dennington was unsure but “He (Loibl) made it clear he watched everything having to do with her.” From talking
with Loibl about Christina, Dennington believed he spent most of his waking hours watching Christina on YouTube as well as constantly monitoring her social media accounts. Despite following her on social media, Loibl himself did not have a Facebook, Twitter, or any other social media account.

Dennington told us six to eight weeks before the murder he began to realize Loibl’s infatuation with Christina Grimmie was not normal or healthy. Dennington recalled a disturbing conversation with Loibl, who claimed to be an atheist, saying Christina’s belief in Christianity had “changed him” and “helped him to see the world in a different way” and “if there is a God he has seen it in her.” Loibl told him the weight loss, Lasik surgery, teeth whitening and hair implants were all part of a plan to improve his appearance for her. Dennington was unaware of any attempts by Loibl to directly contact Christina and, as far as he knew, Loibl had never attended one of her concerts. Loibl did not tell Dennington about going to see Christina’s concert in Orlando and he was unaware she was performing. We learned Christina Grimmie previously performed in Orlando on March 4, 2016 but the Best Buy store records showed Loibl worked the night of that concert.

Dennington said when he tried to point out to Loibl how it was illogical to think he could begin a relationship with Christina Grimmie, Loibl would become angry and defensive. He said Loibl would not entertain the idea that his plan would not work and when Dennington did, he threatened to end their friendship. Loibl never elaborated on his plan after meeting Christina but he referred to her as his “soul mate.”

Dennington last saw and spoke with Loibl on Sunday (06/05/16) when they were working together. When I asked Dennington about Loibl’s demeanor that day he said “in hindsight, a lot of weird things and a lot of sad things.” He returned some magazines to Dennington that he had borrowed months before and told him “I love you brother.” Loibl also told him he “was tired and ready to ascend.” Dennington was not sure what he meant but Loibl never directly threatened to harm himself. Loibl never talked about guns and Dennington did not know he had purchased any.
Dennington confirmed how he became concerned enough about Loibl’s obsession with Christina Grimmie that he brought it to the attention of their supervisor, Luke Dahl (06/19/75). He said the word did spread to other co-workers and they would good naturedly tease Loibl about his “internet crush” on Christina Grimmie. The day before we spoke with Dennington, an article on TMZ, citing a co-worker as a source, claimed that Loibl was shown a photograph of Christina and her producer (NOI) and this enraged him. Dennington said he was not present when this allegedly happened and he never heard Loibl threaten Christina’s life. It should be noted of the eight co-workers we talked to, none of them claimed to be the source of the story and none of them were aware of someone showing this picture to Loibl.

We also spoke with Luke Dahl (06/19/75), who was Loibl’s direct supervisor for the past year. Dahl described Loibl as “socially awkward, detached,” and lacking “social skills.” Loibl’s current position, which he had held for eighteen months, had him “in the back” where he worked on computers and did not interact with customers. Loibl never mentioned Christina Grimmie to him but the issue was brought to his attention by Loibl’s “only friend in the world,” Cory Dennington. His recollection of the meeting with Dennington about this issue was that it occurred in January or February 2016. Dennington told him he and Loibl’s relationship was deteriorating because of his unrealistic infatuation with Christina Grimmie. Dahl never spoke with Loibl directly about the issue but he did see him watching Christina’s You Tube videos while at his work station.

The other Geek Squad members at the store, Ashlee Thompson (03/30/88), Kevin Moran (03/14/78), Robert Medina (08/21/89), Charles Hoffmeister (06/16/75) and AJ Barnes (07/04/82) were all aware of Kevin Loibl’s infatuation with Christina Grimmie but none of them realized the extent or obsessive nature of it. They all recalled the physical changes in Kevin Loibl occurring but did not notice any mental changes. None of the employees, including Cory Dennington, said they interacted with Loibl outside of work and they all agreed Dennington was his only friend. Ashlee Thompson recalled she was talking with Loibl about Christina Grimmie and he bragged about playing online games with her. This was never confirmed.
From the testimony and evidence collected, probable cause would have been established to charge Kevin Loibl with first degree murder had he lived. Because he took his own life at the scene, the murder of Christina Grimmie is considered CLOSED, DEATH OF OFFENDER.