On June 26, 2017, Captain Jason Ciaschini took the stand as the State’s witness against me. Notably, he was the only Punta Gorda Police Officer to take the stand and not be in uniform. The following is a breakdown of intentionally false statements, made under oath by Captain Jason Ciaschini, during his sworn testimony at my trial. These statements, on their own individual merit, amount to perjury, a felony in the State of Florida. You can view Jason Ciaschini’s testimony during my trial at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9uzyjH8OuU&t=12378s>.

1. When asked by the prosecutor if he considered me a friend, his response was, “Absolutely.” Captain Jason Ciaschini and I have a commonly-known and well-documented professional dislike for each other. This is a lie.
2. “Tom Lewis had initiated them” referring to the shoot-don’t shoot scenarios being first brought to the Punta Gorda Police Department. As you will see from Captain Ciaschini’s cross-examination testimony, he later stated that he does not have any knowledge on how they were initiated at the police department.
3. When asked who had “facilitated”, the shoot-don’t shoot scenarios prior to August 9, 2016, Captain Ciaschini stated that, “they were always by Tom Lewis and Jeff Woodard.” Not only is this statement false, Captain Ciaschini was well aware that there had been a minimum of one scenario that I wasn’t even present – a shoot, don’t shoot scenario (the very scenarios that were always done) for Amanda McCorkle who won a community basket from the Kiwanis Club. That scenario was facilitated by Lieutenant Rick Mohaupt and I was never present.
4. Captain Ciaschini claimed in his testimony that he was “off-site” meaning not at the police department for the day (on August 9, 2016). What he intentionally fails to testify to is that prior to going “off-site”, he attended the last planning meeting for the event that night. During the planning meeting (which was held at our 8:00am morning staff meeting), he was provided another copy of the itinerary (which he was also previously supplied within his calendar invite to the event) which depicted the officers and their assigned roles. Interestingly, he was assigned to create the video tapes of the building surveillance for the investigation and failed to secure the entire day as it would have shown him leaving after attending the portion of the morning meeting.
5. Captain Jason Ciaschini testified that “(Chief Lewis) directed everyone on where to go that evening.” As you can see from the video, I directed no one – we followed the same script as outlined in the agenda/itinerary, the agenda that Captain Ciaschini testifies as knowing that Katie Heck put together.
6. Captain Ciaschini testified that he was not aware as to how the officers got their role that night. When the facts are that he not only testified that he knew Katie Heck created the agenda and he was provided an agenda with the officer roles on it within an electronic Outlook calendar invite and he attended the planning meetings.
7. Captain Ciaschini testified that “they said that they were ready for the scenarios, Captain Woodard brought Mary Knowlton outside”. This is without question, a lie. No one said that anyone was ready. The video clearly shows that Captain Ciaschini took it upon himself (no one spoke to him and asked no questions to anyone) to nod to Captain Woodard and start the scenarios. Furthermore, he certainly doesn’t have the same testimony on the night he provided FDLE a statement. The prosecutor followed-up with the question, “Who said they were ready for the scenarios?” and Captain Jason Ciaschini replied, “I don’t recall.” That’s because it didn’t happen.
8. On cross-examination, Captain Ciaschini admits that the scenarios for these community events were brought to the Punta Gorda Police Department from former Chief of Police Albert Arenal, who in turn assigned them to the then-Community Services Lieutenant Joe King and that he (Captain Jason Ciaschini) was Lieutenant King’s direct supervisor.
9. On cross-examination, Captain Jason Ciaschini admitted to being in some of the planning meetings for the community events that had the shoot-don’t shoot scenarios. This is in direct conflict with his testimony that he provided to FDLE where claimed that he had no idea how they were going to play out and was unaware of how officers were assigned roles.
10. On cross-examination, Captain Jason Ciaschini admitted that he was provided an Outlook calendar invitation with the itinerary attached. This is in direct conflict with his testimony that he provided to FDLE.
11. Next, during cross-examination, he testifies that he “doesn’t believe he attended” the planning meeting for the August 9th event. The fact is that not only did he attend that morning, there were several planning meetings related to the August 9th event that he also attended.
12. On-cross-examination, he testified that he didn’t know how the second scenario was to play out. He continued to go back and forth on his knowledge, his attendance at meetings, etc.

You can take the above quoted testimony of Captain Jason Ciaschini and compare these perjured statements to the statements that he provided FDLE on the night of the incident and compare all of them to the known building surveillance video of that tragic night and you will determine that Captain Jason Ciaschini committed the offense of perjury.