



**Jefferson County (Colorado). Sheriff's Office
Columbine High School Shootings Investigation
Records, April 20, 1999**

Series #121

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Overview of Records

Creator:	Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
Title:	Columbine High School Shootings Investigation Records
Dates:	April 20, 1999
Series Number:	121
Quantity:	12 boxes (10 document boxes, two slim document boxes), 5 cubic ft.
Arrangement:	Numerical as numbered by the Sheriff's Records Unit
Abstract:	Reports, interviews, and witness statements of victims, students, teachers and others, and set of 23 CD/DVDs containing digitized copies of all investigative files, documents, recordings, images, and drawings released to the public in connection with the investigation of the shootings at Columbine High School, Littleton, Colorado, on April 20, 1999.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions:	Laptop needed to view CDs and DVDs. Copies of CDs/DVDs may be purchased directly from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Records Unit. Copies of Columbine records released by the Jefferson County Coroner's Office, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, and Jefferson County District Attorney's Office may be obtained directly from those agencies.
Use Restrictions:	Records shall not be used for the direct solicitation of business for pecuniary gain (monetary gain).
Preferred Citation:	Item Description; Columbine High School Shootings Investigation Records, April 20, 1999; Series #121; Jefferson County Archives, Golden, Colorado.
Provenance:	The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office provided a copy of its Final Report on CD to the Archives when it was released in 2000, and a set of the JCSO 911 and Dispatch Audio CDs was given in 2004. Paper documents were converted to CD by the Sheriff's Office Records Unit to provide a user-friendly format. A complete set of all CDs & DVDs was provided to the Archives in July 2011. Binders containing paper copies of the Investigative Files found on CD #9 were transferred to the Archives in February 2016 by the Jefferson County Public Information Office.
Related Records:	Media Articles, 1999-2000 Ephemera Recovery Photographs, 1999, Series 131

History Note

On a sunny spring day in April 1999, a suburban high school in Jefferson County, Colorado, found itself under attack by two of its own. In less than fifteen minutes of the first-lunch period on that Tuesday, two student gunmen killed 13 and wounded 21 before they turned the guns on themselves.

Columbine High School was one of three in the unincorporated southeast portion of Jefferson County. The county itself lies on the west side of the Denver metropolitan area and is the most populated county in the state. The large unincorporated region along the county's southern plains and foothills had a population of nearly 100,000 residents - 1,945 of who attended Columbine High School.

The two student gunmen were Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold. Their plans for attacking the school, recovered by investigators after the tragedy had taken place, evolved over one year's time. In those plans, Klebold and Harris outlined a mission to kill as many students and faculty as possible. They would set off destructive bombs inside the school and then shoot any survivors trying to run out. Bombs inside their cars would explode later, killing law enforcement, fire or medical personnel responding to the scene.

When many of the Columbine students heard what sounded like pop guns coming from outside the cafeteria during the first lunch period, they thought that senior prank day had come. School-wide pranks initiated by graduating seniors were a tradition throughout the United States, and up to that point Columbine's seniors, ready to graduate in just four weeks, had not participated in any such activity. It seemed right to students who heard the first few shots that, as it was toward the end of the school year, prank day was finally upon them.

But it wasn't a prank. Not when two hate-filled students, heavily armed with firearms and bombs, chose April 20, 1999, as the day to attack and kill students and faculty at their school.

(History note taken from the Foreword to the Sheriff's Office Final Report.)

Scope and Content Note

Collection contains a set of 23 CD and DVDs containing digitized copies of all investigative files, documents, reports, audio and video recordings, images, and drawings released to the public in connection with the investigation of the shootings at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Listed next to the title of each CD or DVD is the date those particular records were released to the public.

Paper copies of the Investigative Files found on CD #9 contain reports, interviews, and witness statements with victims, students, teachers, and others. They are organized in groups by physical location at the time of the shootings then alphabetically by name.

According to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department's website accessed in 2016, all remaining Columbine evidence, including the "Basement Tapes" were destroyed in early 2011.

Container List	Box	Folder
CDs/DVDs:		
<p>1. Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Final Report, Released May 15, 2000 (3 copies)</p> <p>Findings of the 10-month investigation into the shootings: Timelines Crime scene diagrams Detailed information from first responders, support response, the investigation, larger community response, explosive response, management structure Photographs General information about law enforcement, fire, and EMS involved Audio of radio traffic and 911 calls Video of KUSA-TV Ch 9 coverage, KMGH-TV Ch 7 President Clinton address, fire alarm activation, SWAT tour, and cafeteria surveillance tapes.</p>	1	1
<p>2. KCNC Ch 4 Helicopter Footage/Littleton Fire Department Training Video, Released April 26, 2000</p> <p>Raw aerial footage (1:55) Video of outside and inside of school, video inside library (14 min) (May contain sensitive images)</p>		2
<p>3. Cafeteria Surveillance Video, Released June 7, 2000</p> <p>Inside Cafeteria before, during and after shootings (May contain sensitive images) Security Tape 1, 10:34 am to 12:39 pm Security Tape 2, 12:39 pm to 1:11 pm</p>		3
<p>4. Rampart Range Video, Released October 21, 2003</p> <p>Footage of Klebold, Harris, & two others shooting at bowling pins and trees (17:20) (Footage contains graphic language)</p>		4
<p>5. Crowd Footage, Released February 26, 2004</p> <p>Approximately 38 minutes of crowd footage filmed by JCSO Crime Lab outside Columbine High School after 1:00 pm on April 20, 1999, shows students being interviewed, etc. (May contain sensitive images)</p>		5
<p>6. Harris and Klebold Video Clips, Released February 26, 2004</p> <p>Miscellaneous footage of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold retrieved from school or given to JCSO by citizens, dubbed onto master DVD (1:38:46 total length)</p>		6

Container List	Box	Folder
CDs/DVDs (cont.):		
<p>7. Jefferson County 911 and Dispatch Audio (Set of 2 disks), <i>Released August 7, 2000</i> (2 copies) See also #10 – 911 dispatch tape contains missed side of tape from this release.</p>	1 (cont.)	7
<p>8. Not yet converted to digital</p>		
<p>9. Investigative Files Books 1-12 and CBI Lab Report, (Includes #15) <i>(Released November 21, 2000)</i> 11,000 pages of investigative files, largest single release of police reports, interviews, and witness statements of victims, students, teachers, and others</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 1: Library Injured, A-Z Other Injured, A-Z Library Witnesses Outside Witnesses, A-L</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 2: Outside Witnesses, M-Z Math Witnesses, A-Z Science Witnesses, A-K</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 3: Science Witnesses, L-Z Cafeteria Witnesses, A-F</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 4: Cafeteria Witnesses, G-M</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 5: Cafeteria Witnesses, N-Z</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 6: Choir Witnesses Class Area Witnesses, A-Z</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 7: Hallway Office Witnesses Student/Faculty Not on Location, A-J</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Book 8: Student/Faculty Not on Location, K-Z Non Columbine Witnesses</p>		8

Container List	Box	Folder
CDs/DVDs (cont.):		
Book 9: Bomb Squad First Responders First Aid ATF/Weapons SWAT	1 (cont.)	8 (cont.)
Book 10: Agency Reports, A-Z Agency Reports, Denver Police Department		
Book 11: Agency Reports, JCSO Harris, Vol. I & Vol. II Klebold		
Book 12: Associates		
10. Additional Investigative Files, Released August 8, 2001 Additional ancillary reports (tips, internet, threats, connected reports) Audio cassette of Jefferson County 911 dispatch tape (missed side of tape from previous release) Two large crime scene diagrams		9
11. Printout of Evidence Log, Released April 2001 200 pages, duplicated in Evidence Books #12		10
12. Evidence Books, Released May 11, 2001 Contains two volumes of evidence recovery logs		11
13. Crime Scene Processing Team Reports & Sketches, Released June 19, 2001 Lab graphic books		12
14. FBI Crime Scene Processing Team Reports and Sketches, Released September 5, 2001 FBI Evidence Response Team, April 20-23, 1999		13
15. Included in #9		
16. CBI Laboratory Report, Released February 6, 2002 Ballistics, Firearms Section Report (58 pages)		14

Container List	Box	Folder
CDs/DVDs (cont.):		
17. Miscellaneous Columbine Documents, Released April 10, 2001 Draft Search Affidavit Audio CD of the Shoot Team Interviews Written transcript of Interview with Columbine High School Community Resource Officer, Neil Gardner Executive Summary of the Library Investigative Team	2	1
18. Warrants Books, Released June 9, 2003		2
19. Tracking Sheets, Investigative Index, Other Columbine Documents, Released January 8, 2003 Patty Nielson Call 911 Log Miscellaneous documents from evidence vault Student/Staff Location List Index Supplemental Reports Critical Witness Summaries Lead Tracking Sheets		3
20. Columbine Documents with Slight Differences from Previously Released Originals or Documents Inadvertently Unreleased, Released 2003		4
21. FBI Report, Interviews, Related Columbine Documents, Released May 22, 2001		5
22. Additional Pages, Harris Web Page, Released October 30, 2003 1997 Documents 1998 Documents		6
23. Documents Seized from Harris and Klebold Residences and Vehicles, Released July 6, 2006 Items taken from Harris residence Items taken from Klebold residence Items taken from Klebold vehicle Items recovered from Harris computer Items recovered from Klebold school server files Items recovered from Harris school server files Items recovered from Harris computer Items recovered from Harris AOL account		7

Container List	Box	Folder
Paper Documents of Investigative Files from CD #9:		
11,000 pages of investigative files, largest single release of police reports on interviews and witness statements of victims, students, teachers, and others		
Library Injured, A-I	3	1
Library Injured, J-P		2
Library Injured, Q-Z		3
Other Injured, A-G		4
Other Injured, H-J		5
Other Injured, K-S		6
Other Injured, T-Z		7
Library Witnesses		8-9
Outside Witnesses, A-L		10-11
Outside Witnesses, M-Z	4	1-2
Math Witnesses, A-K		3
Math Witnesses, L-Z		4
Science Witnesses, A-K		5
Science Witnesses, L-Z (1 of 2)		6
Science Witnesses, L-Z (2 of 2)	5	1
Cafeteria Witnesses, A-Ca		2-3
Cafeteria Witnesses, Ch-F		4-5
Cafeteria Witnesses, G-K (1 of 2)		6
Cafeteria Witnesses, G-K (2 of 2)	6	1
Cafeteria Witnesses, L-M		2-3

Container List	Box	Folder
Paper Documents of Investigative Files from CD #9 (cont.):		
Cafeteria Witnesses, N-R	6 (cont.)	4-5
Cafeteria Witnesses, S (1 of 2)		6
Cafeteria Witnesses, S (2 of 2)	7	1
Cafeteria Witnesses, T-Z		2-3
Choir Witnesses		4-5
Class Area Witnesses, A-G		6
Class Area Witnesses, H-Z		7-8
Hallway and Office Witnesses	8	1-2
Student and Faculty Not on Location, A-D		3-4
Student and Faculty Not on Location, E-J		5-6
Student and Faculty Not on Location, K-O (1 of 2)		7
Student and Faculty Not on Location, K-O (2 of 2)	9	1
Student and Faculty Not on Location, P-S		2
Student and Faculty Not on Location, T-Z		3
Non Columbine Witnesses		4
Bomb Squad		5-6
First Responders	10	1
Weapons		2
SWAT		3-4
Agency Reports, A-Z		5-6
Agency Reports, Denver Police Department	11	1-3

Container List	Box	Folder
Paper Documents of Investigative Files from CD #9 (cont.):		
Agency Reports, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO)	11 (cont.)	4-5
Harris, Vol. I		6-7
Harris, Vol. II	12	1
Klebold		2
Associates		3-4