

Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation Investigative Report



2023-1835 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 114 North Ninth St, Byesville, OH (L)

Investigative Activity:	Interview with Officer
Involves:	Jeremiah Wise (S)
Date of Activity:	07/20/2023
Activity Location:	Guernsey County Sheriff's Office – Business – 601 Southgate Parkway, Cambridge, OH 43725, Guernsey County
Author:	SA Craig Call

## Narrative:

On July 11, 2023, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Investigations and Crime Scene Units were requested by the Guernsey County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) to investigate an Officer–Involved Critical Incident (shooting) involving members of the Byesville Police Department (BPD), GCSO, and Jeremiah Wise (Wise). It was reported to BCI the incident occurred at Wise's residence, 114 North 9th Street, Byesville, Ohio and resulted in Wise being shot by officers and transported to a nearby hospital where he ultimately succumbed to his injuries. BCI Special Agent Craig Call (SA Call) was designated as the lead investigator.

BCI was informed BPD Chief of Police **Constant of Constant of Sector 1**, BPD Auxiliary Officer **Constant of Sector** 

After an initial review of the body worn camera footage available and briefly speaking with officers on scene during the incident, it was determined the following officers would be interviewed due to their involvement in the incident:

- Sgt. Bill Patterson (Hostage Negotiations)
- Detective Brian Carpenter (Lead Hostage Negotiator during the event)
- GCSO Special Deputy Courtney Ryan (Tactical Emergency Medical Services/TEMS)
- GCSO Deputy Jeff Barton (GCSO SWAT)
- GCSO Deputy Jon Simmerman (Perimeter during the incident)

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On July 20, 2023, SA Call met with GCSO Detective Brian Carpenter (Detective Carpenter) and Attorney Sauter at the Guernsey County Sheriff's Office in reference to obtaining a witness statement from Detective Carpenter. Prior to beginning the interview, SA Call explained to Detective Carpenter the investigation was not an internal investigation by the GCSO and BPD, but an independent third-party investigation. SA Call further explained the interview was voluntary and could be stopped by Detective Carpenter at any time. Detective Carpenter indicated he understood and agreed to be interviewed by SA Call. SA Call provided Detective Carpenter with BCI's Criminal Investigation Notification Form which Detective Carpenter reviewed and signed. Attorney Sauter did remain present for the interview.

The audio recording began at approximately 1009 hours.

Detective Carpenter is badge number 3035 and is a four year veteran of the GCSO with 18 total years of previous law enforcement experience. Detective Carpenter is currently assigned to the investigations division as a detective. In addition, Detective Carpenter serves as a member of the GCSO SWAT and Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) as well as a member of the Central Ohio Drug Enforcement (CODE) task force.

Detective Carpenter explained he is nationally certified as a negotiator through the Public Agency Training Council (PATC) and completed their three Phase HNT training with Phase I and II being completed in Springfield, Ohio, and Phase III being completed at a location in Georgia.

On the date of the above referenced incident, Detective Carpenter explained he was working an unrelated search warrant with the GCSO SWAT team when he became aware there was a call for service in Byesville involving a suicidal male with access to weapons. Detective Carpenter indicated he responded to the area along with the GCSO SWAT team to assist at the request of BPD.

Detective Carpenter described the incident as occurring during the afternoon hours on a sunny day in a densely populated area with a large amount of people present unrelated to the incident.

Upon their arrival, Detective Carpenter indicated the GCSO SWAT team staged at an area away from the residence while Sheriff Paden, Major Wilkinson, Sgt. Patterson, and he proceeded to the perimeter of the residence to meet with BPD Detective Carpenter later identified the staging area as a large parking lot on North 8<sup>th</sup> Street near Glass Avenue. Detective Carpenter said Detective Carpenter explained them of the residence location and briefed them on the situation. Detective Carpenter explained he and Sgt. Patterson returned to the staging area after being briefed and began preparing to establish communication with Wise.

Detective Carpenter indicated members of Wise's family began arriving at the staging area and noticed a male subject, identified as Michael, talking on speaker phone in a vehicle. Detective Carpenter said he and Sgt. Patterson approached Michael and Michael informed them he was currently speaking with Wise. Detective Carpenter indicated he was able to listen to their conversation and described Wise's demeanor as angry and hostile and observed Wise continually make suicidal comments. Detective Carpenter indicated he ultimately requested Michael end the conversation because it appeared counterproductive.

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Detective Carpenter described making several unsuccessful attempts to call Wise from a GCSO phone before approaching Michael and requesting to use his phone to which Michael agreed. Detective Carpenter said he later photographed his activity on Michael's phone prior to returning it to him. Detective Carpenter said he was successful in contacting Wise on Michael's phone and estimated he participated in six or seven calls with Wise throughout the incident. Detective Carpenter described the conversations with Wise as a "roller coaster" and further describing Wise as beginning the conversations extremely angry, calming down throughout, and beginning the next conversation extremely angry again. Detective Carpenter said Wise expressed anger at law enforcement continually throughout these conversations and also appeared to dislike his ex-wife. Detective Carpenter said Wise informed him he had been drinking a 30 pack of Busch Light and had 14 beers remaining. Detective Carpenter indicated he was able to build rapport with Wise while discussing the ex-wife and beer drinking, but Wise would never agree to meet with Detective Carpenter unarmed. Detective Carpenter explained Wise actually invited him to come inside and drink a beer with him at one point during negotiations, however he warned he would shoot Detective Carpenter if he tried anything. Detective Carpenter believed Wise to be intoxicated throughout the incident and described Wise as having slurred speech and erratic speech patterns. Detective Carpenter said Wise identified the firearm he was carrying throughout the incident as a Rock Island 9mm carrying eight rounds.

While taking a break from negotiations, Detective Carpenter indicated he and Sgt. Patterson made the decision to change tactics and switch the BPD perimeter cruisers and personnel out with GCSO personnel. Detective Carpenter said this decision was made because it appeared Wise was more irritated at BPD than other law enforcement. Detective Carpenter confirmed Wise never named a specific officer(s) he was upset with, just that he was upset with BPD. As this process was taking place, Detective Carpenter described hearing radio traffic indicating Wise came outside the residence. Detective Carpenter called Wise and through the open phone line heard Wise talking to the officers outside the residence. Detective Carpenter explained he heard what he believed to be Wise return inside the residence and re-engaged Wise in conversation. Detective Carpenter said Wise informed him he just went outside with a gun and would go back outside with a gun. Detective Carpenter said he urged Wise not to do so and asked Wise if he would meet him outside the residence. Detective Carpenter described Wise's behavior as extremely hostile at this time and heard Wise begin screaming at who Detective Carpenter indicated he heard multiple gunshots at this time.

Detective Carpenter indicated he and the SWAT team responded to the residence and observed Wise laying on the floor immediately inside the residence. Detective Carpenter said he and the SWAT team made entry into the residence and GCSO TEMS Ryan began rendering aid to Wise by applying chest seals to his injuries. Detective Carpenter observed Wise to have two apparent gunshot wounds with one to the right lower chest area and the other upper back area. Detective Carpenter described Wise as moving but unresponsive throughout this process and did not believe he made any utterances at any time. Detective Carpenter observed Wise to be dressed in mesh shorts and with no shirt. Detective Carpenter indicated he knew a non-law enforcement firearm was recovered at this time, but he did not personally see it. Detective Carpenter said he assisted the responding emergency medical services load Wise into the transport squad.

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Detective Carpenter said he met with Sgt. Patterson after Wise was transported and was informed BCI would be responding to investigate the incident. Detective Carpenter was tasked with obtaining a search warrant for the residence and did so. Detective Carpenter indicated the scene was secured with crime scene tape and a crime log was started. Detective Carpenter indicated this ended his involvement in the incident.

SA Call provided Detective Carpenter with an overhead Google Map view of the incident area with the 114 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street address flagged with a red pin and asked Detective Carpenter to identify his location throughout the incident. Detective Carpenter identified a large parking lot area off of North 8<sup>th</sup> Street near Glass Avenue. Detective Carpenter also identified this as the area the GCSO SWAT team and members of Wise's family were gathered as well. The map has been added to the case

Detective Carpenter confirmed he did not fire his weapon nor did he observe any officer fire a weapon at any time during the incident.

The interview concluded at approximately 1037 hours.

## Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Carpenter CIN Attachment # 02: Carpenter Overhead View Attachment # 03: GCSO Detective Carpenter Interview

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## Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation



## **Criminal Investigation Notification**

- 1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
- 2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
- 3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is **not** a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Printed Name of Interviewee

Signature of Interviewee

6 6010 BCI Agent (Printed)

BCI Agent (Signature)

1004 1-20-231

Date / Time

BCI-INVEST-34 Revised 03/17

