



**Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**



**12/18/2012 INTERVIEW OF OFC. GEORGE ROBERTS**

**Summary**

On Tuesday, December 18, 2012, Special Agent Cooper and Special Agent Stranahan conducted an interview with Cleveland Police Officer George Roberts regarding his involvement in the pursuit and officer involved shooting incident which occurred November 29, 2012 in Cleveland, Ohio and ended in East Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

**Details**

On Tuesday, December 18, 2012, at approximately 1100 hours, Special Agent Cooper and Special Agent Stranahan were assigned to conduct an interview with Cleveland Police Officer George Roberts regarding his involvement in the pursuit and officer involved shooting incident which occurred on November 29, 2012. The interview with Officer Roberts was conducted at the Richfield BCI&I offices and was audio/video recorded.

At approximately 1249 hours, Special Agent Cooper and Special Agent Stranahan met with Officer Roberts, his attorney Patrick D'Angelo and Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association Representatives Jeff Follmer and Steve Kinas in the conference room at the Richfield BCI&I offices. After initial greetings, Special Agent Stranahan advised Officer Roberts of his Miranda rights which he indicated he understood and was willing to provide a statement regarding this investigation. The following information was provided by Officer Roberts during the interview.

Officer Roberts indicated he has been a Cleveland Police officer for the past three years. According to Officer Roberts, he had no law enforcement experience prior to working for the Cleveland Police Department. Officer Roberts indicated he was in the United States Marine Corps from 1991 until 1995. Officer Roberts holds a current Peace Officer certification from the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy and stated the only additional training he received since the police academy is the yearly Cleveland Police Department In-Service training. Officer Roberts stated the most recent training he received from the Cleveland Police Department was in May 2012 and covered topics related to the use of force.

<b>File Number: SI-18-12-82-1493</b>	<b>File Title: Timothy R. Russell (S) Malissa A. Williams (S)</b>
<b>Case Agent: Mark Kollar</b>	<b>Authoring Agent: Stranahan, S. #98</b> <i>JS</i>
<b>Date of Report: December 18, 2012</b>	<b>Exhibit #: 31</b>
<b>Investigative Activity: Interview of George Roberts</b>	<b>Supervisor Approval: Dennis Sweet</b> <i>[Signature]</i> <b>JAN 14 2013</b>

Officer Roberts advised he is currently assigned to basic patrol at the Cleveland Police Department Third District Station where he works third shift (2130 hours to 0730 hours). Officer Roberts stated his shift supervisor is Lieutenant Wilson. Officer Roberts indicated he is in good health and at this time he does not take any prescription medications or abuse of drugs/alcohol. Officer Roberts stated he has never been involved in a previous shooting incident and that he does not have any disciplinary actions in his personnel file.

On November 29, 2012, Officer Roberts was assigned to zone 1 within the Cleveland Police Department Third District which he referred to as the “downtown” zone car. According to Officer Roberts, he was wearing his issued Cleveland Police uniform, vest and duty belt with issued equipment during his shift on November 29, 2012. Officer Roberts indicated he carries the following equipment on his duty belt: an ASP baton, Glock 17 pistol, two additional magazines, a flashlight, two (2) sets of handcuffs, pepper spray and a Taser with three (3) cartridges. Officer Roberts indicated he was not carrying any additional police equipment and that he does not employ the use of any personal audio/video recording devices while on duty.

Officer Roberts recalled he was partnered with Officer Jaime Cruz II, but he is unable to recall which patrol unit they were assigned to on November 29, 2012. According to Officer Roberts, the patrol unit he and Officer Cruz utilized on November 29, 2012 was equipped with over-head lights, siren, police radio and Mobile Data Terminal (onboard computer). Officer Roberts indicated he was seated in the front passenger’s seat and that Officer Cruz was driving the vehicle. Officer Roberts also recalled he and Officer Cruz were monitoring Cleveland Police Radio channel 3 prior to their involvement in the pursuit.

According to Officer Roberts, he and Officer Cruz were dispatched to a call for service in the Second District. Upon completion of the call for service, Officer Roberts and Officer Cruz began monitoring radio traffic regarding the pursuit which was being broadcast on both the Second District and Third District Radio channels. In order to ensure they had the most accurate information regarding the pursuit, Officer Roberts recalled that he and Officer Cruz monitored channel 3 (Third District) via the in car mobile radio and channel 2 (Second District) via his portable radio.

Officer Roberts indicated that he and Officer Cruz were not able to catch up to the pursuit until the pursuit entered East Cleveland. Officer Roberts recalled driving on Euclid Avenue in East Cleveland and overhearing a radio broadcast regarding shots being fired. Officer Roberts heard an unknown Cleveland Police officer report that shots were being fired and Officer Roberts was able to hear gun shots in the background of the radio broadcast. Officer Roberts indicated he and Officer Cruz continued monitoring radio traffic and caught up to other police vehicles involved in the pursuit.

Officer Roberts recalled Officer Cruz parked their patrol vehicle behind other Cleveland Police vehicles which were parked on a side street south of Euclid Avenue in East Cleveland. Officer Roberts is unable to provide any additional details regarding the name of the side street in East Cleveland where they parked their patrol vehicle. According to Officer Roberts, both he and

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Officer Cruz exited the patrol vehicle and walked up a hill toward the parking lot of Heritage Middle School which is located at 14410 Terrace Road, East Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio 44112.

Once in the parking lot of Heritage Middle School, Officer Roberts observed the area around the suspect vehicle had already been taped off with yellow police tape. Officer Roberts described the scene as being dark and he observed several Cleveland Police vehicles which he described as being “shot up.” Officer Roberts estimated that he and Officer Cruz were only on scene for approximately three (3) minutes. Officer Roberts stated that while on scene he did not take any photographs with his cellular telephone. Officer Roberts indicated that he has not had any conversations with other officers regarding this incident.

Officer Roberts indicated that while he was on layoff status for approximately the last six months, he had worked in an off-duty capacity at the Norma Herr Women’s Homeless Shelter which is located at 2227 Payne Avenue, Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio 44114. During his employment at the homeless shelter, Officer Roberts had contact with Malissa Williams. According to Officer Roberts, Williams was a resident of the facility and he had dealings with her on several occasions. Officer Roberts described Williams as “having an edge” and making threats toward staff members. Officer Roberts advised he escorted Williams from the property on several occasions but he never arrested her.

Officer Roberts advised that the information he provided was truthful and he is unable to provide any additional details regarding this investigation. At this time the interview with Officer Roberts was concluded and Officer Roberts, his attorney and Union representative departed area. The interview with Officer Roberts was audio/video recorded and a copy of the interview was downloaded to a DVD which was provided to Special Agent Kollar to be placed in this case file as Exhibit #31.

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### **Subject Information**

Name: George A. Roberts  
Address: [REDACTED] Sagamore Hills, Cuyahoga County, Ohio 44067  
Telephone: [REDACTED] (personal cellular telephone)  
Employment: Officer - Cleveland Police Department  
DOB: 5-13-1969  
SSN: [REDACTED]  
Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Height: 5’10”

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Weight: 210 lbs.

Hair: Brown

Eyes: Blue

S/V/W: W

CCH: No

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