



Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT



12/18/2012 INTERVIEW OF OFFICER JAMES BRESNAHAN

Summary



On Tuesday December 18, 2012 at 1748 hours, Special Agent Perry Roeser and Cuyahoga County Sheriff Detective James Mackey interviewed Cleveland Police Officer James Bresnahan regarding his involvement in the pursuit and the officer- involved shooting incident which occurred on November 29, 2012 in East Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. The interview was conducted at the Richfield BCI offices and was audio and video recorded. The digital recordings were transferred to a DVD disc and are located in the exhibit portion of the case file (Exhibit #69).

Details

On Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 1748 hours, Special Agent Roeser and Detective Mackey met with Cleveland Patrol Officer James Bresnahan, his attorney, Pat D'Angelo and Vice President of the Patrolmen's Association Steve Kinas in a conference room at the BCI offices in Richfield, Ohio. Special Agent Roeser and Detective Mackey properly identified themselves and advised Bresnahan of his Miranda warning. Bresnahan advised he understood and wanted to proceed with the interview.

Bresnahan advised he had 15 years on the Cleveland Police Department. He stated he was assigned to the patrol division and worked second shift. Bresnahan stated he was assigned out of the second district with R class days off. Bresnahan was unsure who his supervisor was on November 29, 2012.

Bresnahan advised that he did not work any extra duty jobs or overtime prior to his shift on November 29, 2012. Bresnahan advised that at the beginning of his shift on November 29, 2012 he was upset because he found out that his father was just diagnosed with cancer. He mentioned that he should have called off duty.

File Number: SI-18-12-82-1493	File Title: Timothy R. Russell (S) Malissa A. Williams (S)
Case Agent: Mark Kollar	Authoring Agent: Perry Roeser 
Date of Report: December 19, 2012	Exhibit #: 69
Investigative Activity: Interview of James Bresnahan	Supervisor Approval: Dennis Sweet  JAN 10 2013

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Bresnahan advised that he doesn't take any prescription medication, but wore prescription eye glasses. Bresnahan stated on November 29, 2012 he wore the department issued blue uniform with an under carriage vest, duty belt which included a Glock 19 pistol, Taser, flashlight, cuffs, radio and an extra magazine for the pistol. Bresnahan stated he doesn't carry a backup weapon. Bresnahan stated he doesn't carry any recording devices or video software on his uniform. Bresnahan stated he drove a Ford cruiser on the night of the incident but couldn't recall the vehicle number. He stated that the cruiser was in good operation the night of November 29, 2012.

Bresnahan stated he had a partner on the night on November 29, 2012 named Robert Wagner. Bresnahan advised the two of them have been together since the first of the year. Bresnahan advised that the radio was on channel 2 and Robert handled the radio transmission.

Bresnahan advised he has had no specialized training, but was current on his Use of Force training and was current on his Peace Officer Certification. Bresnahan stated he had been at the scenes of shootings in the past, but has never fired his weapon.

Officer Bresnahan was asked how he became involved with the events that occurred the night of November, 29, 2012 and he stated that he and his partner (Robert Wagner) were on an assignment on Broadview Road and he overheard radio traffic that indicated a shooting had occurred. Bresnahan stated that as he listened to the radio traffic the situation "sounded desperate". Bresnahan stated that he and his partner started to move in the direction of the pursuit but were a distance away since they had to travel from the Old Brooklyn area.

Bresnahan stated that he was never involved with the active pursuit. He stated that once he and his partner got into the East Cleveland area they were lost. Bresnahan stated that Wagner got onto the in-board computer inside the cruiser and attempted to locate the other cruisers in the area.

Bresnahan said that once they found the incident location they had to park a couple of blocks away due to all the cruisers in the area. Bresnahan advised that he heard no shots being fired upon their arrival. Bresnahan stated he and his partner exited the cruiser, walked up toward the scene and made contact with another Cleveland Officer. Bresnahan stated they were only at the scene for about 10 minutes. Bresnahan advised he didn't take any pictures of the scene and received no photos or text messages from any other officers.

Bresnahan stated he didn't hear any supervisor call off the pursuit over the radio.

Bresnahan advised he and his partner walked back to their cruiser but had to wait a few minutes due to being boxed in from other cruisers.

Bresnahan stated that he and the other officers involved in the pursuit on November 29, 2012, took actions which were consistent with their training. Bresnahan stated that the information provided during this interview was truthful and he was unable to provide any additional information regarding this investigation.

Interview of James Bresnahan

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Witness Information

Name: James Bresnahan

Address: [REDACTED] Cleveland Ohio, 44113

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Employment: Cleveland Police Department

DOB: 08/16/1966

Sex: Male

Race: White

Height: 5'10"

Weight: 160 lbs.

Hair: Gray/bald

Eyes: Blue

S/V/W: Witness
