



Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT



12/19/2012 INTERVIEW OF LISA ZAK

Summary

On Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 1302 hours, Special Agents Kevin Cooper and Jean-Philippe Rigaud interviewed Cleveland Police Dispatcher Lisa Zak (“Zak”) regarding her 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. The interview was conducted at the Richfield BCI&I offices and was audio/video recorded. The digital recordings were transferred to disks and are located in the exhibit portion of the case file (Exhibit #42).

Details

On Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 1302 hours, Special Agents Kevin Cooper and Jean-Philippe Rigaud interviewed Cleveland Police Dispatcher Lisa Zak (“Zak”) regarding her 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. The interview was conducted at the Richfield BCI&I offices and was audio/video recorded. The digital recordings were transferred to disks and are located in the exhibit portion of the case file (Exhibit #42).

Special Agents Cooper and Rigaud met with Zak, her attorney Patrick D’Angelo, Cleveland Police Patrolmen’s Association Dispatcher Representative Charlie McGeever, and Cleveland Police Patrolmen’s Association Vice-President Steve Kinas in the conference room at the Richfield BCI&I offices. Special Agents Cooper and Rigaud properly identified themselves and advised Zak she was being interviewed to determine her actions of the evening of November 29, 2012. The following information was provided by Zak to special agents during the interview.

File Number: SI-18-12-82-1493	File Title: Timothy R. Russell (S) Malissa A. Williams (S)
Case Agent: Mark Kollar	Authoring Agent: Kevin Cooper #45 <i>KCC</i>
Date of Report: 12/19/2012	Exhibit/Location: 42
Investigative Activity: Interview of Lisa Zak	Supervisor Approval: Dennis Sweet <i>[Signature]</i> JAN 10 2013

Zak was asked if the shooting had affected her and if she was having any difficulties as a result of the shooting. Zak stated she was doing fine and she was just concerned for the officers involved.

Zak was questioned concerning her background regarding her employment with the Cleveland Police Department and specifically about her knowledge and actions of the evening of November 29, 2012. Zak stated she has been employed by the Cleveland Police Department for sixteen (16) years as a radio dispatcher. Zak stated she works rotating days off in "H class. Zak stated she has no set days off. Zak stated she had just completed her shift at 2230 hours after working channel 2 on November 29, 2012. Zak stated she stayed later to assist the other dispatchers with the pursuit. Zak stated she was officially off-duty.

Zak stated she takes no prescribed medications. Zak stated she does not abuse alcohol or drugs. Zak stated she does not require glasses or contacts to correct vision.

Zak stated she has no specialized training except for yearly updates in her training curriculum.

Zak stated she has been a dispatcher in many officer involved shootings. Zak stated she has worked the evening of too many shootings to mention. Zak was asked to provide her recollections of her most notable involvement in a police officer shooting. Zak stated she was a dispatcher the night Cleveland Police Officer Derrick Owens ("Owens") was killed in March 2008. Zak stated she assisted in locating the shooter and his ultimate arrest.

Zak stated she has been disciplined once for failing to dispatch a police unit to a call for service. Zak stated the man was deceased when officers were finally dispatched and arrived. Zak stated the call for service originally came in as two females dragging a mannequin across a street and placing the mannequin in leaves. Zak stated the original caller called back and said the mannequin was actually a man and was still breathing. Zak stated the man died as a result of an overdose of heroin. Zak stated she received thirty (30) days off as discipline for her lack of action. Zak stated she is still involved in litigation from the incident.

Zak stated her supervisors on the evening of November 29, 2012 were Sergeants Petranek and Rucker.

Zak stated she was never directly involved in the officer involved shooting as a dispatcher of November 29, 2012. Zak stated she was ending her shift when the pursuit started. Zak stated she stayed after to assist. Zak stated she was concerned about the duration of the pursuit and didn't think the pursuit would end well for anyone. Zak stated she never worked the radio during the pursuit and only monitored the broadcast of the pursuit with the dispatch supervisors. Zak stated she later helped obtain an address to have an emergency medical unit to be dispatched.

Zak stated she monitored the broadcast of the pursuit and did not know how the pursuit started. Zak stated she never heard any officer mention anything about a gun or gunfire. Zak stated she heard officers indicating the speed to be "slow" and Sergeant Coleman advise officers to "watch the crossfire". Zak stated she heard the radio traffic indicate the suspect's vehicle had "crashed".

Zak stated she heard an officer radio that shots were fired. Zak stated she never heard any gun shots fired on the radio.

Zak stated she recognized the officer's voice broadcasting the pursuit to be that of Officer Siefer. Zak stated she could tell Siefer was under stress from the tone of his voice. Zak stated she could tell the situation was bad from the inflection in Siefer's voice. Zak stated the sound of Siefer's voice gave her "chills". Zak stated she could tell Siefer believed he was in danger from the sound of his broadcasts. Zak stated after hearing Siefer's voice on the radio made her think this wasn't going to end well. Zak stated Siefer's voice is generally "laid back".

Zak stated she spoke with several officers by both texts and cellular phone. Zak stated she spoke with Patty Katynski ("Katynski") who indicated she was okay. Zak stated Katynski's voice was "different" and she seemed "distant". Zak stated Katynski did not have a lot of words and Katynski was detached. Zak stated she could tell Katynski was shaken by the events of the shooting.

Zak stated she also texted Officer Michael Brelo ("Brelo") asking if he was "okay". Zak stated Brelo texted back that he and his partner, Cindy, were both fine. Zak stated Zak stated she had no discussion with Brelo regarding his activities during the incident of November 29, 2012.

Zak stated she never heard any supervisor advise any of the officers to discontinue the pursuit.

Zak stated the pursuit was long as compared to other pursuits she witnessed in her career. Zak stated there was a disbelief in the radio room. Zak stated this pursuit stood out in her mind as being different because of the number of officers involved and the distance the pursuit continued.

Subject Information

Name:	Lisa Zak
Address:	[REDACTED] Brunswick, OH 44212
Telephone:	[REDACTED]
Employment:	Cleveland Police Department - Dispatch
DOB:	6/1/1965
SSN:	[REDACTED]
Sex:	Female
Race:	White
Height:	5'04"
Weight:	153lbs.
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
S/V/W:	Witness
CCH:	No identifiable criminal history per OHLEG