



Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT



12/20/2012 INTERVIEW OF SGT. GEORGE PETERS

Summary

The Cleveland Police Officers involved in the shooting on November 29, 2012 were interviewed at the BCI Richfield Offices. Also present with the officer was Attorney Robert M. Phillips, along with Fraternal Order of Police President Brian Betley and Fraternal Order of Police Vice President Jerry Zarlenga representing the union. The interview was conducted by Ohio BCI Special Agent Scott Stranahan and Special Agent Thomas Verhiley.

Sergeant George M. Peters was advised of his "Miranda Rights" which he waived and consented to speak with investigators.

The interview was video recorded and submitted to the case file as Exhibit #80.

Details

Peters is currently assigned as a Sergeant in the Downtown Service Unit, Flex Shift and is a twenty-two (22)-year veteran of the Cleveland Police Department. On Thursday, November 29, 2012 Peters was working 1600 hours to 0400 hours, with Sundays and Mondays off. Peters' supervisor was Lieutenant Seroka.

Sergeant Peters said he is in good health and is not currently taking any prescription medications with no substance abuse. He does not wear corrective lenses, only reading glasses occasionally. Peters does not currently work any part-time jobs.

Peters was wearing his issued Cleveland Police Department uniform with the exterior bullet resistant vest. All of Peters' department magazines were at full capacity and he was not carrying a back-up weapon.

Peters said on Thursday, November 29, 2012 he was assisting a new officer to the unit with various details pertaining to the Downtown Service Unit when he heard an officer indicate a pursuit was in progress. Peters said he then recognized Officer Almeida broadcast something

File Number: SI-18-12-82-1493	File Title: Timothy R. Russell (S) Malissa A. Williams (S)
Case Agent: Mark Kollar	Authoring Agent: Verhiley, T. #76 <i>TV</i>
Date of Report: December 20, 2012	Exhibit #: 80
Investigative Activity: Interview of Sgt. George Peters	Supervisor Approval: Dennis Sweet <i>[Signature]</i> JAN 14 2013

about a pursuit. Peters heard Sergeant Shepard on radio channel 3 ask who was in pursuit and additional details. Peters said he did not hear a response from anyone, so he was going to advise all of his officers to stay out of the pursuit, but Sergeant Shepard beat him to it. Peters said Sergeant Shepard advised all 3rd District Officers to terminate the pursuit on two separate occasions. Peters then came on the radio and told the officers under his direction, to stay out of the pursuit. Peters said he then turned on the Automatic Vehicle Locator, to determine where his officers were, and if they were in the pursuit. Peters said everyone was accounted for except Officer Laska and Officer Beckner, car #11, call sign #9624. Peters attempted to contact Beckner via his cellular telephone; however, there was no answer. Peters attempted to contact them on channel 3, again no response. Peters said he later met with Officer Laska and Officer Beckner and asked them if they were involved in the pursuit. Officer Laska and Officer Beckner told Peters they were the Rifle Car and if they were needed, they could respond so they remained close to the pursuit. Peters was satisfied with Officer Laska and Officer Beckner's explanation therefore no follow-up was conducted. Neither Peters nor any of the officers under his command generated any reports in reference to the pursuit or officer involved shooting. Peters did not respond to the scene or have any involvement with the pursuit.

Subject Information

Name: Mark S. Peters
Address: [REDACTED] Seven Hills, Ohio 44113
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Employment: Cleveland Police Department
DOB: 05/30/1961
SSN: [REDACTED]
Sex: Male
Race: White
Height: 5'-09"
Weight: 195 lbs
Hair: Gray
Eyes: Brown
S/V/W: W
CCH: No
