



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

To: Gary Tyack, Franklin County Prosecutor
From: Jim Mulford #39, Special Agent, Ohio BCI
Date: December 8, 2023
Involves: [REDACTED]
BCI Case Numbers: 2023-1792
BCI Laboratory: 23-16470

Investigative Request

On July 06, 2023, Sergeant James Marable of the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) requested the assistance of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation's (BCI) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Crime Scene Unit (CSU) in conducting an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved shooting incident. The incident reportedly occurred on July 6, 2023, on Interstate 70 at the Mound Street exit, Columbus, OH, and resulted in the death of Abdisamad Mohamed Ismail (Ismail).

Preface:

This report serves as a synopsis of the investigation into the July 6, 2023, officer-involved shooting in Franklin County, Ohio. This report only summarizes the information that the investigative team determined to be the most useful in achieving an overall understanding of what occurred in this incident. Every fact and detail is not presented in this summary report. Therefore, it is recommended that each individual report from which this document is derived be read in order to obtain a complete understanding of this investigation. Further, audio and/or video recordings exist for the majority of the interviews conducted, revealing further details of statements given regarding the incident.

This investigation was conducted with the purpose of determining, to the extent possible, the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. As unbiased collectors of fact, the investigative team has not and will not render any opinion of the legality of officers' actions. Instead, it is anticipated that this investigation will provide the basis of information for decisions to be rendered by the appropriate authorities.

Investigative Team

Lead BCI Special Agent:



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

- SA Jim Mulford

Assisting Investigative BCI Special Agents:

- SA Ryan Scheiderer
- SA James Gore
- SA Jon Scale
- SA Chad Holcomb
- SA Kyle Douglass
- SA John Butterworth
- SA Craig Call
- SA James Poole

BCI Crime Scene Special Agents:

- SA Sarah Taylor (lead)
- Crime Scene Tech Amy Gill

BCI Investigative Supervisor:

- Special Agent Supervisor Kevin Barbeau

Summary of Process

The following is a partial list of investigative activities or methods which were employed during the course of this investigation, by the investigative team, in an effort to thoroughly and accurately locate and document all pertinent facts and circumstances regarding this incident:

- Recorded interview(s) of the eight officers who discharged their weapons
- Recorded interviews of multiple officers who were involved in the incident, at the scene, or otherwise deemed to potentially have relevant information
- Recorded interview(s) of others subjects directly involved in the incident
- Review of all pertinent available body cameras involved in the incident
- Review of all available surveillance video which captured any portion of the incident
- Processing of the scene for potential evidence (photographing, searching, measuring, documenting, and collecting)
- Processing of involved vehicle(s) for potential evidence
- Reviewed audio communications on the radio frequencies utilized during the incident
- Review of 911/phone communications related to the incident
- Review of dispatch/CAD records pertaining to the incident
- Review of Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) communications relative to the incident



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

- Review of the department's reports, photographs, and investigative materials pertaining to the incident, excluding any Garrity statements or information derived from any compelled statement
- Conducted forensic laboratory examinations to include:
 - Firearm identification testing of involved firearm and casings
 - DNA testing of involved firearm
- Collected and reviewed the departmental personnel files of the officers involved in the shooting, to include training and disciplinary records (if any)
- Reviewed firearm qualification and training records for involved officers
- Obtained the department's policies and procedures regarding use of force for prosecutorial review
- Obtained medical records and autopsy report
- Obtained documents from ATF regarding their parallel Investigation

Incident Summary/Overview

On Thursday, July 06, 2023, CPD officers engaged in a vehicle pursuit with a Porsche SUV that had allegedly been stolen at gunpoint from a dealership earlier in the day. It was also believed that three subjects (later identified as Abdisamad Mohamed Ismail, Faisal Darod, and Aden Jama) inside the vehicle had robbed a bank just prior to the pursuit. At some point during the pursuit, the vehicle stopped in the eastbound lanes of I-70 near Mound Street. The three occupants exited the vehicle and shots were exchanged between the responding officers and Ismail. CPD Officer [REDACTED] (Officer [REDACTED] was struck by gunfire and was transported to Grant Medical Hospital where he was treated for multiple gunshot wounds. In total eight (8) CPD officers returned fire at Ismail to include: CPD Officer [REDACTED] CPD Lt. [REDACTED] CPD Officer [REDACTED] CPD Officer [REDACTED] CPD Officer [REDACTED] CPD Officer [REDACTED] and CPD Sgt. [REDACTED]

Ismail was also struck by gunfire and pronounced deceased on scene. The other two occupants, Faisal Darod and Aden Jama, fled the scene on foot and were later apprehended.

Faisal Darod and Aden Jama were arrested and charged federally by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). The federal statement of facts outlines the circumstances leading up to the officer involved shooting.

The federal statement of facts indicates:

“By 2022, the defendant, FAISAL M. DAROD, had become friends with his co-defendant, ADEN A. JAMA, and ABDISAMAD ISMAIL, a/k/a “GTA,” a/k/a “Grand Theft Auto,” who is



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

now deceased. Beginning in February 2023, DAROD began making concerted efforts to obtain a firearm for ISMAIL from one of DAROD's neighbors. By May 11, 2023, ISMAIL had succeeded in obtaining a Glock, Model 17, 9mm firearm. That afternoon, DAROD purchased two boxes of 9mm ammunition from Vance Retail LLC. Later that evening, DAROD and ISMAIL took the firearm and ammunition to LEPD Shooting Range, where they were ultimately kicked out for unsafe behavior on the range. On June 2, 2023, DAROD returned to Vance Retail (Cleveland Avenue location) with ISMAIL and purchased three more boxes of 9mm ammunition and a 33-round extended 9mm magazine with an orange follower, which he gave to ISMAIL. Beginning on June 16, 2023, and continuing to July 6, 2023, ISMAIL - often aided and abetted by DAROD and JAMA began using that firearm, extended magazine, and ammunition to commit a string of armed robberies.

Count 1: On June 21, 2023, DAROD knowingly and intentionally aided and abetted ISMAIL in the commission of an armed robbery at the GameStop Store located at 1720 Hilliard-Rome Road, Hilliard, Ohio. At the time, GameStop engaged in commercial activities in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce. More specifically, GameStop intended to purchase and did purchase video gaming consoles, video games, and related accessories made by manufacturers and producers outside the State of Ohio and the United States, which moved and were to move in interstate and foreign commerce from outside the State of Ohio and the United States for use and sale by GameStop within the State of Ohio.

ISMAIL and DAROD initially planned to rob a bank that day, but they mistakenly believed that it would be open until 6:00 p.m. When they realized the bank was closed, they shifted focus to the GameStop instead. At roughly 6:15 p.m., ISMAIL entered the GameStop while brandishing a handgun with an extended magazine at the store employees and customers. ISMAIL told those employees and customers that it was a robbery, and he demanded they give him Sony PlayStation gaming consoles. ISMAIL forced two store employees, at gunpoint, from the front of the store to a back storeroom, where they gathered up several PlayStation consoles. ISMAIL then instructed the victims to get behind the sales counter, look away, and wait for four minutes before moving. ISMAIL made off with two PlayStation consoles. DAROD, who had been waiting outside the whole time, began texting his associates to see how he and ISMAIL could dispose of their stolen merchandise. Thus, on June 21, 2023, ABDISAMAD ISMAIL knowingly and unlawfully took personal property (multiple Sony PlayStation Gaming Consoles) from the person of and in the presence of the GameStop employees, against their will, by actual or threatened force, or violence, or fear of injury to the employees' persons and, as a result, interstate and foreign commerce were affected. DAROD, for his part, aided and abetted ISMAIL's commission of this crime by knowingly and intentionally helping and encouraging ISMAIL to commit the robbery through his help in obtaining the firearm, extended magazine, and ammunition, as well as through his service as a lookout and



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

wingman for the robbery itself, and his efforts after-the-fact to help dispose of the stolen merchandise.

Counts 2 and 3: On July 3, 2023, DAROD knowingly and intentionally aided and abetted ISMAIL in the commission of an armed robbery at the Westerville Auto Group, a/k/a "the Auto Gallery," and in the use and carrying of a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. At the time, the Westerville Auto Group, which is located at 5309 Westerville Road, Minerva Park, Ohio, was engaged in commercial activities in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce. More specifically, the Westerville Auto Group intended to purchase and did purchase cars and other vehicles made by manufacturers and producers outside the State of Ohio and the United States, which moved and were to move in interstate and foreign commerce from outside the State of Ohio and the United States for use and sale by the Westerville Auto Group within the State of Ohio. ISMAIL and DAROD drove together to the car dealership. Once there, ISMAIL got out and proceeded to the dealership on foot. While making his approach, ISMAIL spotted one of the owners in the parking lot; he then brandished a handgun with an extended magazine at the owner and stated he was "back for the Maserati." ISMAIL was referencing a 2013 Maserati Gran Turismo that he had previously stolen from the same dealership and the same owner on June 19, 2023. By July 3, 2023, that Maserati had been recovered from a nearby church where ISMAIL had left it. He was presumably trying to steal it again. The owner told ISMAIL that they no longer had the Maserati, so ISMAIL forced the owner from the parking lot inside of the dealership at gunpoint, where he again pointed the firearm at the owner and his father. The owner then gave ISMAIL the keys to a 2016 Corvette Stingray instead, which had an estimated value of \$41,000.00. ISMAIL also demanded the surveillance footage from the dealership. The owners advised that it would take some time to login and delete the footage, so ISMAIL took the entire DVR system instead. ISMAIL then instructed both owners to sit on the ground until he left in the Corvette. He also threatened to shoot them if they did not comply with his demands. ISMAIL then got in the Corvette and drove off the dealership lot. Following the robbery, DAROD and ISMAIL began texting one another to try and meet up. Later that evening, DAROD began searching online for where the USB port is located in a 2016 Corvette, and over the next two days, he had others record several videos of himself driving the Corvette around the parking lot of the Baymont Inn and Suites at Morse Road, where he and ISMAIL had rented a room.

Thus, on July 3, 2023, ABDISAMAD ISMAIL knowingly and unlawfully took personal property (a 2016 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray) from the presence of the Westerville Auto Group owners, against their will, by actual or threatened force, or violence, or fear of injury to the owners' persons and, as a result, interstate and foreign commerce were affected. ISMAIL, moreover, knowingly used and carried a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. DAROD, for his part, aided and abetted ISMAIL's commission of both



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

crimes by knowingly and intentionally helping and encouraging ISMAIL to commit both of those crimes through his help in obtaining the firearm, extended magazine, and ammunition, as well as through his service as the driver/drop-off man for the robbery itself. Counts 4 and 5: On July 5, 2023, DAROD knowingly and intentionally aided and abetted ISMAIL in the commission of an armed robbery at a Fifth Third Bank and in the use and carrying of a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. At the time, the Fifth Third Bank Branch, which is located at 1669 Fishinger Road, Upper Arlington, Ohio, had its deposits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Prior to the robbery, DAROD helped ISMAIL search for Fifth Third Bank locations in Columbus, Ohio, and he also arranged for his friend and co-defendant, ADEN A. JAMA, to pick them up after the robbery. ISMAIL and DAROD drove to the bank together in the stolen Corvette Stingray they had obtained just two days prior. At roughly 2:32 p.m., ISMAIL entered the bank while brandishing a handgun with an extended magazine and demanded cash from the bank employees. ISMAIL had the tellers empty their drawers, but he wanted more money, so he forced the employees, at gunpoint, to go from the teller counter to the bank vault to give him more cash. ISMAIL then demanded the surveillance footage from the bank and forced one of the employees, at gunpoint, to go to the electronics room to retrieve that footage. Once ISMAIL had obtained the cash, later determined to be \$75,436.00, and some surveillance equipment, he ordered the bank employees and customers to remain behind the counter and wait five minutes before doing anything, or else he would shoot and kill them. ISMAIL and DAROD then sped off in the Corvette. Following the bank robbery, DAROD texted JAMA and directed him to meet up with them at 1148 West Sixth Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, which was approximately three-and-a-half miles from the bank. JAMA drove there and picked up ISMAIL and DAROD. At the time, JAMA knew that ISMAIL and DAROD had just robbed a bank. In an effort to avoid being arrested, ISMAIL and DAROD abandoned the stolen Corvette at that location. To help them avoid being arrested, JAMA drove ISMAIL and DAROD to the Baymont Inn and Suites and dropped them off. While at the hotel, DAROD had JAMA record a video on DAROD's cell phone showing DAROD laying on the hotel bed, surrounded by cash that he and ISMAIL had just stolen from the bank, while rapping about "cheese"—i.e., money, being in the air and everywhere. DAROD paid JAMA approximately \$800 for picking them up and helping them get away from the stolen Corvette. Thus, on July 5, 2023, ABDISAMAD ISMAIL knowingly and unlawfully took money that was in the care, custody, control, management, and possession of the Fifth Third Bank Branch located at 1669 Fishinger Road, Upper Arlington, Ohio, whose deposits were then federally insured, from a bank employee or from the bank while a bank employee was present by the use of force and violence or intimidation. ISMAIL, moreover, knowingly used and carried a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. DAROD, for his part, aided and abetted ISMAIL's commission of both crimes by knowingly and intentionally helping and encouraging ISMAIL to commit both of those crimes through his help in obtaining the firearm,



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

extended magazine, and ammunition, their pre-planning of the armed robbery, DAROD's prior assistance in obtaining the stolen Corvette Stingray that he and ISMAIL used to drive to the bank, DAROD's efforts to line up a getaway driver, and his subsequent payment of roughly \$800 to that getaway driver.

Counts 7 and 8: The next day (July 6, 2023), DAROD and JAMA knowingly and intentionally aided and abetted ISMAIL in the commission of an armed robbery at Byers Imports and in the use and carrying of a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. At the time, Byers Imports, which is located at 409 North Hamilton Road, Whitehall, Ohio, was engaged in commercial activities in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce. More specifically, Byers Imports intended to purchase and did purchase cars and other vehicles made by manufacturers and producers outside the State of Ohio and the United States, which moved and were to move in interstate and foreign commerce from outside the State of Ohio and the United States for use and sale by Byers Imports within the State of Ohio. DAROD and JAMA drove ISMAIL to the car dealership in ISMAIL's car. Once there, they dropped him off. ISMAIL then entered the dealership, brandished a handgun with an extended magazine at one of the employees, demanded that other employees get on the ground, and then began yelling, "Where is my Porsche?" Ultimately, ISMAIL focused his attention on one of the male sales associates and began asking him multiple times, "Are you ready to die?" The sales associate gave ISMAIL the keys to a 2020 Porsche Cayenne SUV, which had an estimated value of \$90,000.00. ISMAIL took the keys, climbed into the Porsche Cayenne, and sped off the lot onto North Hamilton Road. Shortly after the robbery, DAROD and JAMA drove to some townhomes on the southeast side of Columbus, Ohio, to meet up with ISMAIL and their newly acquired Porsche Cayenne. Once the three of them met up, they drove off together in the Porsche, sometimes exceeding 100 miles per hour, while traveling to Hilliard, Ohio, to commit an armed bank robbery.

Thus, on July 6, 2023, ABDISAMAD ISMAIL knowingly and unlawfully took personal property (the Porsche Cayenne) in the presence of the Byers Imports employees, against their will, by actual or threatened force, or violence, or fear of injury to the employees' persons and, as a result, interstate and foreign commerce were affected. ISMAIL, moreover, knowingly used and carried a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. DAROD, for his part, aided and abetted ISMAIL's commission of both crimes by knowingly and intentionally helping and encouraging ISMAIL to commit both of those crimes through his help in obtaining the firearm, extended magazine, and ammunition, their pre-planning of the armed robbery, DAROD's service as a driver and/or lookout both before and after the robbery, and their shared use of the fruits of the robbery (the car), which they intended to and did use to commit a follow-on armed bank robbery. Counts 9 and 20: Later that day (July 6, 2023), DAROD and JAMA knowingly and intentionally aided and abetted ISMAIL in the commission of an armed robbery at a Fifth



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

Third Bank and in the use and carrying of a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. At the time, the Fifth Third Bank Branch, which was located at 2455 Hilliard-Rome Road, Hilliard, Ohio, had its deposits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Prior to the robbery, ISMAIL, DAROD, and JAMA stopped at a Target on Hilliard-Rome Road to purchase a backpack to use in the robbery. At roughly 4:00 p.m., ISMAIL entered the bank while brandishing a handgun with an extended magazine and demanded cash from the bank employees. ISMAIL had the tellers empty their drawers, but he wanted more money, so he forced the bank manager, at gunpoint, to go from the teller counter to the bank vault to give him more cash. Once ISMAIL had obtained the cash, later determined to be \$85,236.00, he ordered the bank employees and customers, at gunpoint, to get into the bank manager's office. He then instructed them to wait inside and to not call the police. ISMAIL then exited the bank and got into the driver's seat of the stolen Porsche Cayenne. Unbeknownst to ISMAIL, DAROD, and JAMA, Whitehall Police Detectives had been tracking their movements using the Porsche Cayenne's onboard GPS system. When ISMAIL entered the Cayenne, those detectives attempted to surround it with their own unmarked cars, and several of them ordered ISMAIL and the other occupants of the vehicle to stop, at gunpoint. ISMAIL, however, drove the stolen Porsche through a gap in the detectives' cars and fled over a grass embankment onto Hilliard-Rome Road and eventually, out to Roberts Road and the freeway. Columbus Police officers took over the hot pursuit with marked vehicles and helicopters. Officers located the Porsche Cayenne on Interstate 70, travelling eastbound, toward downtown Columbus. According to the vehicle's onboard sensors, ISMAIL and his compatriots reached speeds in excess of 125 miles per hour while trying to avoid apprehension. At approximately 4:07 p.m. (near rush hour), and while nearing Mound Street, the Porsche came to an abrupt stop due to vehicle damage. Other nearby vehicles also came to a stop due to the wreckage and police response. DAROD and JAMA fled from the wreckage on foot and escaped for a time. ISMAIL, on the other hand, found his Glock, Model 17, 9mm handgun (S/N: ZLB578), with an extended magazine with an orange follower attached, and ambushed the responding officers. ISMAIL opened fire from close range and immediately struck one of those officers, who suffered permanent and life-threatening injuries as a result of his gunshot wounds. During the ensuing gun battle, ISMAIL was struck several times and died of his gunshot wounds soon after. A civilian's vehicle was also grazed by a gunshot from the nearby gun battle. Responding officers rushed their injured colleague to Grant Hospital, where he was treated for an extensive period of time given the severity of his injuries. A subsequent search of the Porsche Cayenne revealed a bag on the rear floorboard with \$86,898.00 inside. The same bag contained a key fob and valet key that paired with the stolen Chevy Corvette Stingray, which was later recovered where ISMAIL, DAROD, and JAMA had abandoned it the day before. Following the gun battle on I-70, a coordinated manhunt ensued for DAROD and JAMA, who had not yet been identified. They first ran to a nearby women's shelter, which



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

turned them away. They later obtained transportation back to the Baymont Inn and Suites, on Morse Road, which had served as their staging ground. Ultimately, DAROD was arrested in Columbus, Ohio, on the evening of Friday, July 7th. By then, he had conducted several internet searches for flights out of Columbus to Somalia. JAMA was arrested the following day, Saturday, July 8th, while trying to board a flight out of Chicago O'Hare International Airport bound for Turkey, with an ultimate destination of Somalia. Thus, on July 6, 2023, ABDISMAD ISMAIL knowingly and unlawfully took money that was in the care, custody, control, management, and possession of the Fifth Third Bank Branch located at 2455 Hilliard-Rome Road, Hilliard, Ohio, whose deposits were then federally insured, from a bank employee or from the bank while a bank employee was present by the use of force and violence or intimidation. ISMAIL, moreover, knowingly used and carried a firearm during and in relation to that robbery. DAROD, for his part, aided and abetted ISMAIL's commission of both crimes by knowingly and intentionally helping and encouraging ISMAIL to commit both of those crimes through his help in obtaining the firearm, extended magazine, and ammunition, their pre-planning of the armed robbery, DAROD's prior assistance in obtaining the stolen Porsche Cayenne that ISMAIL used to drive them to the bank, and DAROD's service as a lookout both before and after the bank robbery and the ensuing hot pursuit."

Subsequent Investigation

Due to the details of the altercation, it was decided that CPD Detectives and ATF Agents would investigate all activity not directly involved with the officer involved shooting. BCI would handle everything related to the officer-involved shooting.

Physical Evidence and Laboratory Reports

Various items of potential evidence were submitted to the BCI Laboratory for analysis. The actual reports should be consulted as the following synopsis does not include many of the details from the full reports.

The BCI Firearms Section performed an analysis of the officers' firearms, as well as the firearm-related evidence collected from the scene, vehicles, and autopsies (casings and bullets). By comparing evidentiary cartridge casings/projectiles to known standards from each weapon, identifications were able to be made as to which casings/projectiles were fired from each firearm. Of the casings/projectiles recovered, the following identifications were made:

BCI Firearms Laboratory Report Lab# 23-16470 stated Forensic Scientist Matthew White identified nine (9) 9mm Cartridge cases and one fired bullet as being source identified to the operable, non-law enforcement, Glock 9mm Luger Semi-automatic pistol (ZLB578) located at the scene. All other related firearms submitted evidence was source identified



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
 Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

to the known law enforcement firearms. Item # 54 (fired projectile recovered from the body of Officer [REDACTED] was source identified to the non-law enforcement Glock 9mm Luger Semi-automatic pistol (ZLB578) located at the scene. Some of item #56 (multiple projectiles and fragments collected during the autopsy of Abdisamad Ismail) were source identified to S&W Pistol [REDACTED] issued to CPD Officer [REDACTED] and S&W Pistol [REDACTED] issued to CPD Officer [REDACTED]. The rest of the items were deemed insufficient for comparison. time.

DNA Laboratory Report for BCI Lab# 23-16470 stated a Glock 9mm Luger Semi-automatic pistol (ZLB578) located at the scene was submitted to the Lab. Forensic Scientist Sabrina Selbe examined the firearm and determined that Abdisamad Ismail was a major contributor to the DNA swabbings from the trigger and back slide of the firearm.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Investigative Interviews

The following information comprises extremely abbreviated versions of the statements made by the witness and/or participants of this incident deemed by the author to be of most relevance to the overall understanding of the incident. More detailed accounts can be found by reading the separate reports written by the interviewers and by reviewing the recordings of each interview, including those not synopsized below.

CPD Officer [REDACTED]

“After the Mound Street Exit and just west of the 1-7IS exit, the suspect vehicle appeared to have crashed and had stopped between the left most (north) and middle of the three (3) lanes with its front facing northeast. I do not remember seeing any sort of damage on the suspect vehicle. I saw a male black jump over the concrete barrier to the south as we came to a stop. I radioed the mile marker location and told them that the suspect was running south. I got out of passenger side (south) of the cruiser and drew my weapon. I remember a white sedan, possibly a Toyota Camry, right behind the suspect vehicle, between the cruiser and the concrete barrier. My focus was totally on the suspect



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

I saw running south I saw when we pulled up. I planned on jumping the concrete barrier and following him in order to apprehend him.

Almost immediately after exiting the cruiser, and as I approached the barrier, I was shot several times and fell to the ground. I do not remember seeing the suspect that shot me prior to being shot and I do not remember the sound of his gun firing. I do clearly remember knowing I had been shot. I remember yelling something like "I'm hit" or "I was shot." As I was falling, I believe I may have shot at the suspect, a male black, 1 to 2 times. When I fell onto the ground, the suspect shot at me again. I do not remember hearing the shots, but I felt two (2) shots hit my back, covered by my ballistic vest. I believe I hit my gun on the ground when I fell, and it malfunctioned. I dropped the mag, reloaded, and pulled back the slide to clear it. I was still on the ground and turned to see the suspect running to the east. I shot multiple times from the ground laying on my right side with my head towards the concrete barrier. I tried to get up, but my right leg gave way and I fell back to the ground. I repositioned myself on the ground. The suspect was now walking towards me. He was looking directly at me and coming my direction. I do not remember seeing the suspect's weapon at the time, but I believed he was coming back to finish me off. I fired multiple more times from the ground on my left side with my head facing north, but the suspect kept coming. I kept firing until the suspect fell to the ground, and the threat had ended. I remember looking back and seeing an officer behind me, I now believe that was Officer ██████████ though F did not know him at the time. Several other officers came towards me, speaking to me. I remember officers placing a tourniquet on my leg. I was carried under my arms to a cruiser and placed in the back. I was laying with my head and upper body on the driver's side of the vehicle laying on Officer ██████████. An officer, who I now know was Officer Anthony Muscaro, was holding the tourniquet on my leg. I remember asking if Officer ██████████ was ok, as I did not remember seeing him on scene after the shooting and I wanted to make sure he had not been hurt. I now know that Officer ██████████ was driving the cruiser that was taking me to Grant Hospital. I was taken out of the cruiser at Grant by several police officers that were apparently already there and carried to a gurney. I then received treatment in the emergency room trauma bay. I had no further involvement in the incident."

Officer ██████████ continued in his statement, "The third (or second) time I fired, the suspect was coming towards me west with his eyes focused on me. I believed the suspect was returning to execute me after he saw that I was not dead. I don't remember how many times I fired. When I fired, I did not believe that I had any other reasonable alternative other than to fire to protect myself. The suspect was or had been actively trying to kill me. He shot me multiple times. When I fired, I also did not believe that I had any other reasonable alternative other than to fire to protect my fellow officers and



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 2023- 1792

the civilians that were stopped in their vehicles on the interstate as their lives were in imminent danger of death or severe bodily harm from the armed suspect.”

CPD Lt. [REDACTED] Interview:

Lt. [REDACTED] wrote in his statement, “Traffic was stopped as I approached close to the I-75 interchange after I had passed the Mound Street exit. I had to weave my way through several stopped vehicles that were attempting to get out of my way. I could see several cruisers up ahead. Just before I could get to the scene, “shots fired” 10-3 was announced on the radio. I pulled up behind another CPD cruiser on the leftmost (north) lane. I got out of the driver’s side door and drew my weapon. I proceeded forward (east) around the cruiser that was in front of me on its lefthand (north) side. I could hear shots being fired. There were several civilian vehicles and more cruisers as I continued east but I could not see the suspect. I saw the black Porsche that was sitting between the leftmost (north) and middle lanes at an angle with the front pointed to the northeast. There were no cars, either civilian or cruiser, east of the suspect vehicle. I could see Sergeant [REDACTED] in front of me (east) still in the leftmost lane, pointing his weapon to the southeast towards the other side of the suspect vehicle. To my right (south), I could see an officer, who I now know was Officer [REDACTED], on the ground on the right berm close to the concrete barrier. Directly behind the black Porsche was a white sedan, which still had civilians inside.

As I approached Sergeant [REDACTED] I was able to see the suspect over top of the black Porsche. The suspect was a male black wearing a black hoodie, lighter colored pants, and had a mask over his face. The suspect was advancing west toward several officers, including Officer [REDACTED], that were firing at him. At the time, I believed the suspect had a weapon. He had his hands up near his waist in a manner consistent with holding a weapon with his elbows at a 90-degree angle with his fist pointed towards the officers. As he continued to move towards the officers, I fired at the suspect twice from this location over the top of the suspect vehicle. When I realized I was too close to Sergeant [REDACTED] who was also firing, I moved back and to my right (southwest). I fired twice from this location. I saw the suspect fall to the ground. I along with other officers stated that the suspect was down, and all shooting stopped. I aired that the suspect was down. I approached the suspect with other officers.”

Lt. [REDACTED] continued in his statement, “At the time I fired, I knew that the suspect had been involved in an armed robbery just before this incident and had likely been one of the perpetrators of other armed robberies before July 6th as this crime had been similar to other crimes in the area. I knew' that the suspect had previously shot, as a 10-3 had been aired over the radio. I had seen Officer [REDACTED] on the ground. I observed the suspect move west directly towards Officer [REDACTED] and other officers that were continuing to fire at him. He just kept coming. At the time, the suspect had his arm up



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

near his waist in at a 90-degree angle in a manner consistent with holding a weapon. When I fired, I did not believe that I had any other reasonable alternative other than to fire to protect my fellow officers, as their lives were in imminent danger of death or severe bodily harm as the suspect kept advancing upon the firing officers. When I fired, I also did not believe that I had any other reasonable alternative other than to fire to protect the civilians in their vehicles in the middle of the scene and those in vehicles behind us on I-70E.”

CPD Officer [REDACTED] Interview:

Officer [REDACTED] wrote in his statement, “I parked the cruiser in the leftmost lane somewhat behind the Porsche. There were two civilian cars in the middle lane to our right (south). A white sedan that was right behind the suspect vehicle in the middle lane, east and slightly south of our cruiser, and another vehicle, which was dark in color and almost directly to our right (south). We were both focused on the fleeing suspects. Officer [REDACTED] exited the cruiser from the passenger side, which was closer to the location the running suspects had been seen going over the concrete barrier to the south. I exited the cruiser from the driver's side (northside of the vehicle) and quickly locked the door. I ran behind the cruiser toward the rear of the dark-colored civilian vehicle that was to the south of my location. I heard gun shots and drew my weapon, taking cover behind the dark-colored civilian vehicle. I heard Officer [REDACTED] say something like, “I’m hit.” I stood up from behind the dark-colored civilian vehicle to see that there was a third suspect, who I had not previously seen, who was firing at Officer [REDACTED]. Officer [REDACTED] was now laying on the ground just north of the concrete barrier over which the first two (2) suspects had fled. This suspect was a male black wearing a dark colored hoodie, lighter khaki-colored pants, and a medical mask covering his face. The suspect was only a few feet (just to the north of) Officer [REDACTED] who was bleeding on the ground. The suspect shot at Officer [REDACTED] at point-blank range. I fired at the suspect. I would estimate that I shot at the suspect 3 to 4 times from this location. I believe the suspect shot at least once in my direction. He then moved north between the white civilian vehicle and the dark-colored civilian vehicle. The white vehicle was just north of the dark civilian vehicle (which I was still behind) in middle lane. I shifted to the passenger side rear of the dark civilian vehicle. I fired several more times at the suspect. I would estimate 3 to 4 more times. The suspect attempted to gain entry to our cruiser, which was locked, and then tried to gain entry to the white civilian car that was directly in front (east) of the car I was taking cover behind. That vehicle was also locked with civilians still inside. I fired over the dark-colored civilian car again at this point, but I am unsure how many rounds I fired- maybe 1 or 2 rounds. The suspect began to run east on I-70E on the right (south) berm. At the time, I believed he still had a weapon. I fired again from right-hand (south) side of dark-colored civilian vehicle- maybe 3 to 4 rounds. I could see and hear Officer [REDACTED] continue to fire from his position on the ground



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

right (southeast) of my location just to the north of the concrete barrier. After running maybe 60-70 feet, the suspect then abruptly turned and started walking back towards Officer [REDACTED] and me in a strangely slow and purposeful manner. I moved east up to the white civilian car and told him to "get on the ground" several times. He did not comply and kept walking towards Officer [REDACTED] and me. Multiple officers were shooting at him at this point. The suspect did not appear to react at all at first even though multiple officers were shooting at him. I was unsure whether he had a weapon at this point or not. At one point, he had moved his hands up towards his waist with his fists pointed towards us- he just continued to move forward seemingly unfazed by the firing.

Officer [REDACTED] continued in his statement, "When I exited my cruiser, I heard gun fire and heard Officer [REDACTED] say that he had been hit. I saw the suspect shoot at Officer [REDACTED] at point-blank range in what I believed was an attempt to execute him. I saw Officer [REDACTED] bleeding on the ground. I believe the suspect also shot at me. The suspect then attempted to enter a police cruiser and then an occupied civilian vehicle. Finally, the suspect turned back towards Officer [REDACTED] and me. He was ordered repeatedly to the ground. He did not comply and continued to walk towards us. When I fired, I did not believe that I had any other reasonable alternative other than to fire to protect Officer [REDACTED] the other officers who arrived, the civilians that remained in their vehicles, and myself, as our lives were in imminent danger of death or severe bodily harm as the suspect kept advancing upon the firing officers."

CPD Officer [REDACTED] Interview:

Officer [REDACTED] wrote in his statement, "Sgt. [REDACTED] and I slowed our cruisers and began to stop shortly before the 70/71 split. Just then, I heard several shots being fired. Officer Rhoebeck aired "10-3" (officer in trouble) and "shots fired." Seconds later he aired that an officer was hit. I could not yet see the suspect(s) or the injured officer. I navigated around several civilian vehicles and parked behind Sgt. [REDACTED] in the far left lane. As I came to a stop, I saw a male black suspect wearing a black hoodie, surgical mask and baseball cap running toward the driver's side of a cruiser parked in front of Sgt. [REDACTED]'s cruiser. It appeared that suspect was trying to get into that cruiser to flee, but the driver's door was locked. I lost sight of the suspect a moment later as I exited my cruiser. I got out and quickly ran around the back of my cruiser and unholstered my weapon. I heard multiple shots being fired as I did so. I ran to the right (south) side of the highway, around a parked pickup truck, and moved east toward the sound of shots. I saw an officer on the ground (who I later learned was [REDACTED] in the far right (southern) lane that appeared to have been shot about ten yards ahead. The suspect was about 20-30 yards ahead of Officer [REDACTED] on the right (southern) part of the highway. I believe at the moment I saw him he was walking east but was turning around to walk (west) in the opposite direction, towards me and Officer [REDACTED] I aimed my weapon at the



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

suspect as I continued east towards Officer [REDACTED]. I did not immediately fire as my attention was diverted towards Officer [REDACTED] and the suspect did not appear to be firing his weapon. But an instant later, it looked as though the suspect was reaching towards his waistband. I believed he was reaching for a weapon to again fire at officers, and it was then I fired at the suspect.”

Officer [REDACTED] continued in his statement, “I was in fear for my life, the surrounding civilians’ lives, and other officers’ lives especially for the life of Officer [REDACTED] at the time I fired my weapon. Before arriving on scene, I knew that the suspect(s) inside the Porsche had reportedly stolen it at gunpoint only hours earlier. I was also aware that afterwards the same suspect(s) had gone on to rob a bank and flee the police at dangerously high speeds during rush hour traffic. Once the Porsche stopped on 70E, instead of surrendering the suspect in the surgical mask immediately shot at Officer [REDACTED] grievously injuring him before attempting to steal a cruiser. The suspect then apparently ran (east) from the scene, though I could not see him at that point. Once I rounded the pickup truck and started moving east, I saw the suspect turn around and start walking west directly towards Officer [REDACTED], and by extension, me. It appeared the suspect’s hands were empty at that time, but I could not tell for certain. He gave no indication of surrender. Instead, he kept his hands near his waist as he moved towards us. Multiple officers were firing at the suspect by that time, but I did not immediately fire as I momentarily glanced down at Officer [REDACTED] to assess his injuries. But when I looked back up the suspect was still moving towards us, and instead of putting his hands into the air or giving any indication of compliance, he appeared to reach near his waistband. I thought he was reaching for his weapon and that he intended to shoot Officer [REDACTED] me, and/or one of the many other officers on scene and it was then I fired. I was also concerned since there were numerous civilians inside their vehicles within the immediate vicinity, and I feared any one of them could be inadvertently struck by the suspect’s rounds. At the time I fired at the suspect, I did not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect Officer [REDACTED] life, my life, or the lives of the other officers and civilians in the immediate area.”

CPD Officer [REDACTED] Interview:

Officer [REDACTED] wrote in his statement, “I heard someone air “shots fired.” I unholstered my weapon. As I was unholstering my weapon I heard someone air “Officer hit.” At that point, traffic on 70 East was backed up. I was able to observe through intermittent breaks in traffic a dark-skinned male in civilian attire near a black Porsche. I predominately saw the male from the torso up. He appeared to be squaring his body to officers and raising his arms, as if to fire a gun. Aside from Columbus Police Officers, he was the only other individual outside of a vehicle and in the roadway. I navigated my cruiser behind two other cruisers and parked between the northernmost lane and the



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

second lane of 70 east. I estimate that from the time I began pursuit until the time I parked my cruiser, approximately 2.5-3 minutes passed. I heard gunshots as I exited my cruiser. The shots sounded like they were coming from east to west, toward officers. There were several vehicles, both CPD and civilian, between my cruiser and the suspect vehicle. The Porsche was stationary, angled facing northeast between the two northernmost lanes of traffic on Interstate 70 east. As I exited my cruiser, I could see that someone was on the ground southeast of me and appeared to be injured. I saw multiple officers, including Sgt. [REDACTED] to my left (east/northeast). CPD Officer [REDACTED] was on my right (southeast). I ran to my right (south) and east, past two civilian vehicles in order to observe more clearly the situation. Once I got closer, I could see that the person on the ground was a CPD Officer who appeared to have been shot in the lower body due to blood pooling around his lower extremities. I saw a black male wearing a hoodie and surgical mask near the right (south) side of the highway. I confirmed he was the male I observed a few seconds earlier in civilian attire with arms raised towards officers, as if firing, while I was approaching the scene in my cruiser. He also matched the description provided by Whitehall PD of the suspect who stole the Porsche at gunpoint from the dealership and who was observed inside the Porsche at the 5/3 Bank. His hands appeared to be clenched near his stomach and waistline area and were never clearly visible to be empty. He was advancing in a hurried and aggressive manner west, toward the injured officer and the officers returning fire. The officers on my right and left were firing at him. I believed he was the person who had shot the officer on the ground to my southeast. The male never made any attempt to give himself up or show that his hands were empty. I positioned myself behind the rear passenger side of a white civilian sedan to obtain cover and a steady platform to return fire. I fired multiple shots in rapid succession at the suspect. Initially, the suspect continued to move aggressively forward, toward officers while simultaneously maintaining his hands toward his stomach and waistline. When I ducked behind the civilian vehicle to reload the suspect fell to the ground.”

Officer [REDACTED] continued in his statement, “At the times I fired my weapon at the suspect, I do not believe I had any reasonable alternative to protect my life, the lives of the other officers on the scene, and the lives of the civilians on the interstate at that time. I did have a taser with me, however, given my distance from the suspect and that I believed the suspect had fired at officers and shot an officer, I did not believe it would be appropriate to counter their deadly force with a taser.”

CPD Officer [REDACTED] Interview:

Officer [REDACTED] I wrote in his statement, “A second or two later, an officer aired “10-3,” which is our code for officer in trouble. I was scanning the area as I continued driving on 70E when I saw a CPD officer down in the roadway to my east. I believe I yelled “He’s



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 2023- 1792

shot!” and I believe I aired that an officer had been shot/hit (at the time I did not know it was Officer [REDACTED] . I did not see the suspect but I heard rounds being fired. I quickly drove around several stopped civilian vehicles and pulled up behind another CPD cruiser. I exited my cruiser and immediately unholstered my weapon. There were still rounds being fired as I advanced east on 1-70. As I ran east between several vehicles on 1-70, I saw officers to my left (north) and some to my northeast. I heard multiple rounds being fired and I saw the suspect approximately 30-35 feet in front (east) of me. Due to my position and multiple vehicles in between the suspect and me, I was not able to see the suspect’s hands. However, I could clearly see that he was walking (west) towards Officer [REDACTED] who was still on the right (south) side of the roadway, as he was unable to move due to his injuries. I took a position behind a back passenger side corner of a black SUV. The suspect continued advancing towards Officer [REDACTED] so I began firing my weapon at the suspect. However, the suspect was undeterred and continued coming toward Officer [REDACTED] I stopped firing when the suspect went to the ground. I moved forward while several officers rendered aid to Officer [REDACTED] who appeared to be bleeding heavily.”

Officer [REDACTED] continued in his statement, “At the time I fired my weapon at the suspect, I was in fear for the life of Officer [REDACTED] as well as the other officers and civilians in the area and myself. Prior to me firing my weapon, the suspect had committed an armed robbery of a car dealership, robbed a bank and shot Officer [REDACTED] Despite multiple rounds being fired, the suspect continued to advance toward Officer [REDACTED] while he was laying with severe injuries and bleeding in the roadway. I truly believed he was coming back to try and execute Officer [REDACTED] The suspect never put his hands up or gave any indication of surrendering.”

CPD Officer [REDACTED] Interview:

Officer [REDACTED] wrote in his statement, “Moments after we got onto 70E, I saw the black Porsche SUV traveling at high rates of speed pursued by multiple CPD cruisers. I told Officer [REDACTED] to let those cruisers pass and then join the pursuit. Just as those cruisers passed us, though, suddenly traffic in front of us slowed. I could not see the Porsche at that time, but I believed it was stopping. As we neared a stop an officer aired “10-3, shots fired,” and that an officer had been shot. Officer [REDACTED] also exclaimed “He’s shot! He’s shot! Officer hit!” I could not see the suspect or officer that was shot (who I later learned was [REDACTED] , since we were behind several cruisers and civilian vehicles, but I heard multiple rounds being fired. Officer [REDACTED] quickly drove around several stopped civilian vehicles and parked behind another CPD cruiser in a middle lane. I exited and unholstered my weapon. For a fleeting moment, up ahead near the Porsche I saw a male black wearing black clothing and a surgical mask run between vehicles. I believed that individual was the suspect as he was near the Porsche and there were multiple



Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary



Officer-Involved Critical Incident – 2023- 1792

rounds being shot from that location. There were no other civilians out of their vehicles, either. I moved east along the right (south) side of the highway toward the sound of shots. I ran about 10-15 yards then saw Officer ██████ shot on the ground about 10 yards ahead. I briefly also caught a glimpse of the suspect: He was on the right shoulder of the highway about 30-40 yards ahead, and he appeared to be walking west towards Officer ██████. But multiple rounds were still being exchanged, so I quickly cut left and continued east, taking cover behind parked vehicles. I moved about 5-10 more yards east behind the driver's side fender of a cruiser. I trained my weapon on the suspect as shots continued being fired: He was about twenty yards away and still moving towards Officer ██████. The instant after I took aim, he reached with his right hand towards the back of his waistband. I believed he was going to pull a weapon and that he intended to shoot and kill Officer ██████ and/or me or the many other officers surrounding him. It was then I fired at the suspect. I stopped firing when the suspect went to the ground."

Officer ██████ continued in his statement, "I was in fear for my life, the lives of the other officers on scene—especially Officer ██████—and the numerous civilians in the vicinity. This incident happened very quickly. Cruisers and traffic began slowing only moments after we spotted the suspect and joined the pursuit. And only seconds later, the stolen Porsche came to a stop, and the suspect immediately opened fire, striking and grievously injuring Officer ██████. I fired my weapon seconds later. At the time I fired my weapon, I did not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect Officer ██████ life, my life, any of the multiple other officers' lives, or the lives of the many civilians in the immediate vicinity who could have been struck by the suspect's rounds."

CPD Sgt. ██████ Interview:

Sgt. ██████ wrote in his statement, "Initially, I did not see the suspect or officers. However, as I exited my cruiser, I saw the suspect to my east, near the right (south) side of the freeway. He was advancing west towards Officer ██████ who was lying in the roadway several yards to my southeast. Officer ██████ appeared to be bleeding, as I saw blood on the road around him. There was also an officer next to (north of) Officer ██████. I immediately drew my weapon and ran east along the concrete barrier on the north side of the interstate. I passed the driver's side of Cruiser ██████ as shots were being fired. I took a position just northeast of ██████ (northwest of the Porsche). The suspect was just southeast of the Porsche and advancing towards Officer ██████. I heard another officer giving commands to the suspect (I do not recall exactly what he said) but the suspect continued to advance towards Officer ██████. The suspect's right side was bladed towards Officer ██████. And since the Porsche was between the suspect and me, I could not see the suspect's right hand and I continued to hear rounds being fired. I believed the suspect was firing at Officer ██████ as he lay wounded in the road. I leveled my weapon and aimed at the suspect's center mass and fired several



**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
Prosecutor Summary**



Officer-Involved Critical Incident - 2023- 1792

rounds in a controlled shot cadence. The suspect did not react to the multiple rounds being fired at him. I was concerned he may be wearing a bulletproof vest so I took a second and stopped firing to re-align my shot for his head. During that second, the suspect fell to the ground. I saw two other officers (one was Officer [REDACTED] who had been behind (west) me approaching the suspect. I took a position at the front driver's side of the Porsche and I provided cover until they had the suspect secured."

Sgt. [REDACTED] continued in his statement, "At the time I fired my weapon at the suspect, I was in fear for the life of Officer [REDACTED] as well as the other officers and civilians in the area. Prior to firing my weapon, the suspect had committed an armed robbery of a car dealership, robbed a bank, shot and severely wounded Officer [REDACTED] and was advancing towards him. Despite multiple rounds being fired, the suspect continued to advance toward Officer [REDACTED] while he was laying with severe injuries and bleeding in the roadway. I believed he was coming back to try and execute Officer [REDACTED]. The suspect never put his hands up or gave any indication of surrendering. I do not believe I had any other reasonable alternative to protect Officer [REDACTED] life, and the lives of the other officers and civilians in the area at the time I fired my weapon."

Summary

All persons known to have relevant information regarding this investigation have been interviewed (or attempted), and all known pertinent records and evidence have been obtained and reviewed. BCI will continue to offer investigative assistance into any newly identified witnesses or information relative to this criminal investigation. BCI's investigation into this Officer-Involved Critical Incident is concluded unless such new information/witnesses is/are identified through grand jury or other means.

Agents remain available for consultation and/or to perform any additional investigation, analysis, processing and/or other assistance/involvement you might deem to be necessary.

Contact Information

The preceding information comprises only a portion of facts and circumstances collected during the investigation of the officer-involved shooting incident. For further review of specific information or documentation collected during the investigation, please refer to the individual reports and documents from which this summary was derived. Any questions regarding the content or context of the information contained in this document can be directed to the attention of Special Agent Jim Mulford. SA Mulford can be reached via email at james.mulford @OhioAGO.gov or by telephone, at 614-935-9660.