



Ohio Attorney General's Office  
Bureau of Criminal Investigation  
Investigative Report



2023-2730  
Officer Involved Critical Incident – 4312 Helena Avenue,  
Youngstown, OH 44512, Mahoning County

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness  
**Involves:** Elizabeth Cuevas (O)  
**Date of Activity:** 10/12/2023  
**Author:** SA John P. Tingley, #154

**Narrative:**

On Thursday, October 12, 2023, at approximately 1250 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Tingley (Tingley) interviewed Elizabeth Cuevas (Cuevas) at 4302 Helena Avenue, Youngstown, Mahoning County, Ohio.

Cuevas was identified as being the individual who called the Youngstown Police Department (YPD) to initially report an intruder at 4312 Helena Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio. Cuevas is the mother of the owner of the residence at 4312 Helena Avenue, Ernesto Cuevas, and was taking care of the residence while Ernesto Cuevas was incarcerated. The interview was audio recorded.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the interview. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information obtained during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions nor is it a word for word translation of either the questions or answers. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

The interview began with Cuevas advising that a friend of hers, Julie Woods (Woods), was helping her to watch the residence at 4312 Helena Avenue as Woods lives nearby. She stated that Woods had texted her about suspicious activity at 4312 Helena Avenue on the evening of October 11, 2023.

Cuevas stated that on the morning of October 12, 2023, she went to check on the residence at 4312 Helena Avenue and noticed that the gate, which is normally across the driveway and locked, was "bashed in." Cuevas then observed a male coming down the steps of the residence whom she did not recognize.

Cuevas then called the YPD and shortly thereafter, the unknown male subject went back into

This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law – a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.

the residence.

SA Tingley asked Cuevas if she was still in the area when the police arrived. Cuevas advised "yes."

SA Tingley asked Cuevas if the officers spoke with her before they went to the residence at 4312 Helena Avenue. Cuevas replied "yes." She stated that the police brought the male subject out of the house and then brought the subject to where Cuevas was. Cuevas advised that the male subject stated that he was working in the house and had a key to the residence. However, Cuevas stated that the locks to the residence had only recently been changed. The police and the male subject had then returned to 4312 Helena Avenue.

SA Shea then asked Cuevas if she heard the shots fired. Cuevas responded "Yes."

The interview was then concluded at approximately 1253 hours.

For further details, please refer to the audio recording of the interview attached to this report.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2023-2730 INTERVIEW WITNESS CUEVAS