

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



2022-1564 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1132 Ashwood Drive, South Charleston, OH (L)

Investigative Activity:	Interview with Witness
Involves:	Cole Matthew White (S)
Date of Activity:	07/24/2022
Activity Location:	- 1132 Ashwood Drive, South Vienna, OH 45369, Clark County
Author:	SA Steven Seitzman

Narrative:

On July 24, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an Officer-Involved Critical Incident that occurred at 1132 Ashwood Drive, South Charleston, Ohio. Early information was that the Clark County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) responded to the aforementioned address after receiving a complaint that Jodie Arbuckle (Jodie) may have been shot inside of the residence while checking on the welfare of her son, Cole Matthew White (Cole). CCSO Deputy Yates was one of the responding deputies and was reportedly struck by gunfire when he entered the residence. As the incident progressed, BCI agents learned that Deputy Yates had succumbed to his injuries. BCI agents further learned that Jodie and Cole were found deceased inside the residence after it caught fire.

BCI Special Agent Steven Seitzman conducted an interview with Mark A. Arbuckle (Mark) on July 24, 2022, at 1518 hours. Mark responded to the still-active scene after receiving a phone call from his sister, Lynn Arbuckle (Lynn), on the same date at 1106 hours. He learned that Lynn had received a call from Kristen Mills (Kristen), the fiancée of Jodie, who was frantic and crying. Kristen and Jodie went to check on Cole's welfare. Jodie went inside the residence, while Kristen stayed outside. Jodie and Kristen were on the phone with each other throughout the encounter. She told Mark that Kristen heard Cole say something to the effect of, "I'm sorry," then heard gunshots.

The interview was recorded on a handheld digital recording device. The details below summarize the pertinent portions of the recorded interview and are not a verbatim account. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify the content of the interview.

Mark stated that Cole was his nephew. He said that Cole lived alone at the residence. Cole came

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to own the residence after his grandmother, the original owner, passed away. Cole's mother then purchased the residence from the estate and gave it to Cole. He did not know whether Cole was employed. He described Cole as an extremely bright child as he was growing up. He said that Cole dropped out of high school. He said that he has not had any contact with Cole for approximately a year, because Cole told him that he was "toxic for his lifestyle." He further said that Cole does not have much of a relationship with his father, Melvin White.

Mark said that Cole started down a troubling path several years ago. He recalled that Cole took a drug called DMT approximately four years ago and "never came out of that." He described DMT as "the spirit molecule." He said Cole no longer felt like "the reality of this world was real."

Mark recalled that approximately four years ago, Cole was taken to a hospital by the police for psychological treatment after having "manic episodes." Cole felt that he was a danger to himself, so Jodie contacted the police. He said that Cole spent a week at the hospital. He stated that Cole was doing better until shortly after the pandemic began. He said Cole once again began having "manic episodes."

Mark said that sometime last year, in 2021, Cole passed out drunk in a vehicle while in the Xenia area. Cole had loaded handguns in the vehicle. He recently missed a court date related to that incident. Jodie and Kristen went to check on his welfare on the date of the OICI because of the missed court appearance.

Mark advised that Cole was arrested a few months ago in Logan County for "trespassing on restricted property." He said it was unknown how Cole got to Logan County, because he was found without a car. He stated that Cole went to jail for three days and refused to eat or drink. Cole was then sent to the hospital and placed on a "pink slip."

Mark advised that he knew Cole had at least three guns: an AR-10, a .357, and a Judge. He was uncertain if any of the guns were confiscated during the incident in Xenia. He temporarily took Cole's guns from him after he was hospitalized the first time, approximately four years ago. Approximately three to six months after the hospitalization, he gave the guns back to Cole because he believed Cole seemed better. He stated that Cole took up hunting several years ago. He purchased a crossbow and was "pretty good at killing squirrels." He said Cole desired to be "self-sufficient."

Mark believed that Clark County Sheriff's deputies did a welfare check on Cole a few weeks ago. He believed Jodie's ex-boyfriend, Shawn Holscher (Holscher), was the caller. He was uncertain as to the extent of the relationship between Cole and Holscher. He did not believe deputies made contact with Cole. He believed that Cole's father came to check on him but did not make contact either. It was believed that Cole did not have electricity at that time.

The interview was concluded at 1535 hours. The audio recording is attached below.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2022–07–24/ Interview of Mark A. Arbuckle

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Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.