



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



2022-0498

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus, 43215

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
 Involves: Dion Nicodemus
 Activity Date: 3/7/2022
 Activity Location: Franklin County Sheriff's Office
 Authoring Agent: SA John Butterworth

Narrative:

On Monday, March 07, 2022, at 1337 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Butterworth (SA Butterworth) and SA James Gore (SA Gore) interviewed Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Deputy (Dep.) Dion Nicodemus (Nicodemus), who was accompanied by his attorney, Lathan Lipperman, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at Franklin County Sheriff's Office (SIU). The interview was audio recorded.

Dep. Nicodemus read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

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 elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: Dion Nicodemus	Rank: Deputy (Dep.)
Badge Number: 1228	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: N/A
Radio Call Sign: 169-D	Immediate Supervisor: Sgt. Erlinwein
Radio Channel Utilized: Security Control 1	Mobile Data Terminal: Not Present
Cruiser Description: N/A	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating Positions: N/A
Assignment: Facility Security Unit	Normal Shift: 1000 - 1800
In-Car Camera: Not Present	Spotlight: Not Present
Emergency Lights: Not Present	Siren: Not Present
Shift Day of Incident: 1000-1800	Duty Status: Off-Duty
Days Off: Saturday and Sunday	

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.



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



2022-0498

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus, 43215

Uniform Worn: Deputy Sheriff Uniform including Black shirt with badge and patches and gray uniform pants.	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Gun belt containing gun, extra magazines, taser and duty items.
Other Recording Devices: None	Body Worn Camera: Not Present

Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Sig Sauer	Model: P233
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Click here to enter text.
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Right side
Magazine Capacity: 15	Total Rounds as Carried (including chamber): 16
Extra Magazines: Two	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 30
Discharged During Incident? No	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned

Narrative:

On Monday March 7, 2022, SA Butterworth and SA Gore met with Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Attorney Lathan Lipperman at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office SIU Office. Attorney Lipperman advised that one of the deputies that had assisted during the Officer-Involved Critical Incident earlier in the day would like to speak with agents and provide a statement about his involvement in the incident. SA's Butterworth and Gore agreed to sit down and speak with the deputy along with Attorney Lipperman.

At approximately 1337 hours, SA Butterworth and SA Gore along with Deputy Dion Nicodemus and Attorney Lipperman met in an interview room at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office SIU office. SA Gore activated a digital audio recorder to record the statement and conversations between the agents, Deputy Nicodemus and Attorney Lipperman.

SA Butterworth provided Deputy Nicodemus with a copy of the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form. SA Butterworth read the form in its entirety to Deputy Nicodemus and asked if he was willing to continue to speak with agents about what happened. Deputy Nicodemus



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



2022-0498

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus, 43215

understood the form and signed it. Once the form was signed, SA Butterworth signed the form as well and the interview continued.

SA Butterworth asked Deputy Nicodemus to explain what happened during the incident, how he was involved, what he may have seen and heard during the incident as well as any information he could provide about what occurred. Deputy Nicodemus stated he and Deputy Feery met in the garage around 0930 to 0935 hours. They typically meet around that time before going into the work for the day. Deputy Nicodemus said he noticed deputies running down the side of level 7 of the garage and figured something was up because they were running down the ramp. Deputy Nicodemus said he knew something was going on, and saw some sort of scuffle. Deputy Nicodemus grabbed his bag, and headed toward where he saw the deputies running to.

According to Deputy Nicodemus he observed, from about 20 feet away, [REDACTED] involved in a fight. Deputy Nicodemus said it was hard to make out exactly what was going on as Deputy [REDACTED] had also got in and was trying to assist. Deputy Nicodemus stated that Deputy [REDACTED] asked for a taser from Deputy Decklin. Deputy Nicodemus thought he was about 15 feet away at the time and heard a pop and saw a flash. He thought it was the taser as it didn't sound like a gunshot, or was loud enough to be a gunshot. Deputy Nicodemus observed the man who had been fighting with the deputies, stop fighting. At that time, he was then asked to stop witnesses to the incident that were nearby, and stopped two people that were getting into a silver sedan.

Deputy Nicodemus stopped a man and woman that were later identified as Ives Toure (Toure) and Sheena Doumbouya. Deputy Nicodemus observed blood all over the female (Doumbouya) and in particular, her face. Deputy Nicodemus couldn't recall their names during the interview, but said he asked they come to the back of their car. Doumbouya said "he started beating on me" and Deputy Nicodemus asked for more information from her. Doumbouya asked if he was ok, referring to who was later identified as Rayshawn Meeks, the man who had been fighting with officers. Deputy Nicodemus asked if she knew him (Meeks), and Doumbouya said he came with us. Nicodemus asked Doumbouya to confirm they all three came together and Doumbouya told him yes. He then asked when was the assault she was involved in occur. Doumbouya told Deputy Nicodemus it happened when we pulled in, there was an argument between she and Meeks and then Toure tried to come around and help her. At that point, Nicodemus was told the police officers were there, and Doumbouya said he (Meeks) was then fighting with the police officers. Doumbouya asked if he (Meeks) was shot and Nicodemus asked if she had been shot. Doumbouya said she was just beat up. Nicodemus saw she had missing teeth and certainly looked like she had been shot due to the amount of blood he could see. Nicodemus asked Deputy Decklin if an ambulance was coming and he was told yes it was.



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



2022-0498

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus, 43215

Deputy Nicodemus continued to talk with the witnesses, as it appeared as if there were no further threats from the fight. Deputy Nicodemus could observe that he (Meeks) was limp and not moving, thus there was no further threat. Nicodemus said he saw everyone (deputies) stand up from the fight. Toure commented about wanting to confirm that they were going to be given a court date when Deputy Nicodemus questioned why they were trying to leave the scene. Toure nor Doumbouya answered his question.

Deputy Nicodemus told SA Butterworth and SA Gore that he did not see a gun during the fight. He stated he probably saw the muzzle flash as he wasn't sure if the taser was used. SA Butterworth confirmed with him that he did not see a gun during the struggle or altercation and he confirmed, no, he had not. Deputy Nicodemus told agents that Deputy Decklin stood up and "marked in" because they weren't even on shift yet, and then told everyone what happened. Deputy Nicodemus then "marked in" as well. At that point there were several people responding to the area of the incident, and there were people everywhere according to Deputy Nicodemus.

SA Butterworth reviewed the incident with Deputy Nicodemus to be sure he had the correct information. Deputy Nicodemus confirmed that he and Deputy Feery typically meet in the garage before reporting into the courthouse for duty. Deputy Nicodemus confirmed that Deputy [REDACTED] and Deputy Feery were observed, by him, as taking off running. Deputy Nicodemus recognized Deputy [REDACTED] as he is plainclothes and works in SIU. Deputy Nicodemus observed them running down the ramp in the parking garage. Deputy Nicodemus was going to help with the incident but was stopped and told to get the witnesses in the car. Deputy Nicodemus said when the "pop" had gone off, everything stopped, or paused and he was then asked to stop the witnesses as it appeared as if they were going to leave the area.

SA Butterworth asked Deputy Nicodemus if he had observed, during the altercation, a police officer or anyone with a gun, pull a gun out, whether it was a police officer or civilian witness. Deputy Nicodemus stated he did not see anyone pull a gun out and the only thing he observed was the taser. During the time he heard the pop and saw the flash, Deputy Nicodemus said he saw the taser but not a gun. When asked if the taser had been deployed, Deputy Nicodemus could not tell if it had been or not. He assumed that it had, due to the flash and pop, but when thinking about it, it could have been the gun that he heard and a muzzle flash that he saw. SA Gore began to ask if he could describe the pile of people, during the struggle, or people in a pile, Deputy Nicodemus states he (Meeks) was actively fighting. SA Gore then asked about the taser to which Deputy Nicodemus said it was just like his, which was a yellow X-26 Taser. SA Butterworth asked who's taser it was and agents were told it was Deputy Feery's. Deputy Feery handed the taser to Deputy [REDACTED]



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



2022-0498

Officer-Involved Critical Incident- 34 E. Fulton Ave., Columbus, 43215

SA Butterworth asked if after the incident, was there any conversation between everyone about what happened. Deputy Nicodemus had talked to Deputy Feery after the incident and a comment was made about it being "one hell of a Monday" but nothing else was talked about. SA Butterworth confirmed that Deputy Nicodemus was not part of the altercation and that he did not make it down the ramp to the altercation. Deputy Nicodemus again said he did not and only was at the car and the witnesses. SA Gore asked if the vehicle was running at the time he contacted the witnesses and he stated he thought it was running at the time. It appeared as if they were ready to leave but the car was not in reverse. When they got out of the car Deputy Nicodemus noticed the blood on the female and a tear from the male. The male said he had court and Deputy Nicodemus told him that's the least of the worries right now.

When asked if he had conducted any other interviews or recorded anything Deputy Nicodemus said he had not, other than talking to the female. SA Gore asked if he had recorded anything, and again asked if they had body worn cameras and Deputy Nicodemus confirmed he did not- record anything and did not have a body worn camera. Deputy Nicodemus said while talking to Deputy Toth, Deputy Toth may have keyed up his radio and there could have been a recording of them talking. After speaking with the witnesses and detectives Deputy Nicodemus said he was finished with the incident.

Before concluding the interview, SA Gore asked if Deputy Nicodemus had performed any first aid. Deputy Nicodemus said he did not with the man on the ground, or the officers. He said once he knew the squad was coming he kept the female calm until they arrived.

The interview concluded at approximately 1401 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

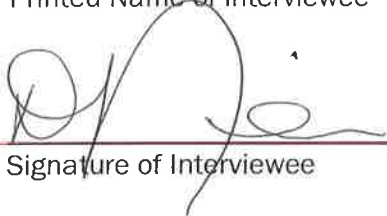


Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is not a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Dep. Dion Nicodemus
Printed Name of Interviewee

3/7/22 @ 1338
Date / Time


Signature of Interviewee

SA SOHN BUTTERWORTH
BCI Agent (Printed)


BCI Agent (Signature)