



# CUYAHOGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

1215 W 3rd St  
Cleveland, OH 44113  
(216) 443-6000

**Officer Narrative**  
**CCSO2024-000134**

Case Number CCSO2024-000134  
Subject FU - Follow up  
Narrative Type Interview Report  
Entered On 4/12/2024 12:00:00 AM  
Entered By 191 - Divis, Randy

## Narrative

On April 10, 2024 at approximately 1300 hours Acting Lieutenant Myers and I conducted an interview of Sgt. Matthew Massey in connection with a Cleveland Division of Police Officer Involved Shooting that occurred on 01/18/2024. Sgt. Massey stated he was aware of the incident I was requesting to speak with him about. Sgt. Massey stated he first became involved when he received a text from Lt. O'Connor and a Code Red message that Cleveland was requesting Bearcat (armored vehicle) support. Sgt. Massey described his role with the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department stating he is a Sgt. assigned to Narcotics and is also assigned as a team leader on the Swat Team. Sgt. Massey originally received the Code Red alert for service around 2200 hours (01/17/2024). Lt. O'Connor then sent Sgt. Massey a text to see if he was available. Sgt. Massey responded to the Cuyahoga County Justice Center where the Sheriff's Department Swat Team Unit is located. Sgt. Massey met other Swat Team members Chris Miller and Nick Moskowitz. Sgt. Massey, Miller and Moskowitz left the justice center around 2300 hours in Sheriff Unit #509 which is the Bearcat (armored vehicle). Miller was driving, Moskowitz was in the back of the bearcat and Massey was in the passenger seat. Sgt. Massey planned with Moskowitz to switch locations in the bearcat when they got on scene.

Sgt. Massey stated they drove to a briefing location in Slavic Village. Sgt. Massey was talking to Lt. Kaloczi leading up to the briefing. Upon arrival at the staging location Sgt. Massey, Miller and Moskowitz were briefed of the scenario then positioned the Bearcat (armored vehicle) at the 1-2 side of the residence which is the front left corner of the residence. Sgt. Massey stated Cleveland had their vehicle (Bearcat armored vehicle) positioned at the 1-4 side of the residence which would be the front right corner of the residence. Cleveland Police were trying to get a response out of the suspect by using an LRAD (Long range acoustic device) trying to get the male to come out and surrender. Sgt. Massey learned the name of the suspect that night but forgot it at this time, but was familiar with the name Robert Perkins. Sgt. Massey stated earlier in the day, Perkins was allegedly shooting at other houses and Cleveland Police had been there since 1930. After negotiations were not successful Swat got there. When the County Swat team arrived, the Cleveland Bearcat moved its vehicle so they could put the breaching arm on their vehicle. Cleveland Swat breached the front door with their bearcat. When the door was breached, Sgt. Massey observed Perkins with a rifle slung to his back. Once the door was breached, Perkins closed his screen door and began cleaning up the mess. Perkins began speaking into a loud speaker stating they were all evil and he had to do this. Sgt. Massey stated it was a bunch of random rhetoric. Perkins went upstairs and Sgt. Massey heard him shoot and Sgt. Massey believed Perkins was shooting out of either the back or the right side of the home. Perkins began firing his rifle approximately five (5) times and Sgt. Massey observed approximately five (5) Cleveland Police Officers run from cover from the area Perkins was firing at. There were two paramedics in the back of the county bearcat and at this time they went and picked up Cleveland Swat member Andy (Crytzer). Perkins began firing at Cleveland's bearcat (armored vehicle). Sgt. Massey could hear the armored vehicle being struck and could see the rounds hitting their vehicle but could not see Perkins from his point. At this time Sgt. Massey placed to drone out of the county bearcat (armored vehicle). Perkins then fired a round at the county bearcat (armored vehicle) and Sgt. Massey broadcasted over his radio that their vehicle had been struck and the window was compromised. Cleveland Swat began shooting and asked if they could fly the drone and Sgt. Massey stated they needed to hurry so they could turn the bearcat (armored vehicle) around because the window was compromised. Sgt. Massey heard the gunshots and heard Cleveland say they returned fire. The drone went up and through a window and could see Perkins was down and not moving. The Cleveland



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bearcat (armored vehicle) approached the residence while Andy (Crytzer) joined the stack to make entry through the front door. Cleveland Swat went to the second floor and secured Perkins while Sgt. Massey was observing the drone screen and calling out updates that Perkins was not moving. Cleveland Swat checked for vitals then called in paramedics. Please refer to audio recording for further details.

On April 15, 2024 at approximately 1000 hours Sgt. Schlegel and I conducted an interview of Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Deputy Nicholas Moskowitz in connection with a Cleveland Division of Police Shooting that occurred on 01/18/2024. Deputy Moskowitz stated he was aware of the incident I was requesting to speak to him about. Deputy Moskowitz recalled receiving a code red alert on 01/17/2024 at approximately 2200 hours. Deputy Moskowitz responded to the Cuyahoga County Justice Center where he met with Sgt. Massey and Deputy Chris Miller. Deputies Moskowitz and Miller along with Sgt. Massey gathered their equipment and responded to the area in the County Bearcat (armored vehicle). Deputy Miller drove the Bearcat, Deputy Moskowitz was in the back of the vehicle and Sgt. Massey was in the passenger front seat of the vehicle.

Deputy Moskowitz recalls getting on scene in the area of Spafford and relieving the Cleveland Division of Police to allow them to place the ram on their armored vehicle. Deputy Moskowitz stated once the Cleveland Division of Police armored vehicle returned and breached the front door, the suspect inside had a rifle described as an assault rifle platform, and the suspect began sweeping up the mess from the door being breached. Deputy Moskowitz stated the suspect ended up on the second floor of the home and began firing multiple rounds at the Cleveland Division of Police armored vehicle. At this time Deputy Moskowitz had switched positions with Sgt. Massey and Deputy Moskowitz was sitting in the front passenger seat of the Cuyahoga County Bearcat (armored vehicle). The suspect then fired one round at the County Bearcat (armored vehicle) which hit the front passenger window right next to Deputy Moskowitz. Deputy Moskowitz believes he recalls Sgt. Massey calling out over the radio to the Cleveland Division of police that their window was compromised and they needed to turn their vehicle around as members of the Cleveland Division of Police returned fire at the suspect. Deputy Moskowitz could not see the members of the Cleveland Division of Police from his position within the vehicle.

On April 26, 2024 at approximately 0700 hours Sgt. Schlegel and I conducted an interview of Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Deputy Chris Miller in connection with a Cleveland Division of Police Shooting that occurred on 01/18/2024. Deputy Miller stated he received a text around 2200 hours on 01/17/2024 from Swat Lt. O'Connor requesting assistance for a barricaded subject. Deputy Miller responded to the Justice Center where he met with Sgt. Massey and Deputy Moskowitz. Sgt. Massey, Deputy Moskowitz and Deputy Miller loaded up the Bearcat (armored Vehicle) and responded to Spafford. Deputy Miller drove, Sgt. Massey was in the passenger seat and Deputy Moskowitz was in the back. When they got on scene Sgt. Massey and Deputy Moskowitz switched positions and their vehicle picked up several medics and had them in the back of the Bearcat (armored vehicle). The Cleveland Swat team decided to breach the barricaded house and was situated in front of the house. The Cleveland armored vehicle left to put their ram on and then returned to its location. While they were sitting there several rounds were fired from the four(4) side of the house which is the right side of the house when looking at it. Once the rounds were fired the Cleveland Swat team breached the door. The Cleveland Swat drone operator placed the drone on top of the County Bearcat (armored vehicle). Deputy Miller heard everyone saying the suspect was up on the second floor. Deputy Miller heard the suspect shoot five (5) plus rounds into the Cleveland armored vehicle. The suspect then shot a round at the County Bearcat (armored vehicle) and Cleveland Swat returned fire. Deputy Miller could not see any of the gunfire due to his positioning and states he is reporting what he could hear people on scene saying as well as what was being said over the radio. Deputy Miller recalls hearing on the radio that members of the Cleveland Swat Team were going to exit their vehicle to take positions once the suspect shot at the county vehicle prior to returning fire. Please refer to audio recording for further details.



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