



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



2024-3996  
Officer Involved Critical Incident - 780 Taylor Road,  
Gahanna, Ohio 43230 (L)

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Witness Officer  
**Involves:** Sergeant Pat Millenbaugh, Gahanna Police Department  
**Activity Date:** 01/17/2025  
**Activity Location:** Gahanna Police Department – 460 Rocky Fork Blvd,  
Gahanna OH 43230  
**Authoring Agent:** SA Kyle Douglass

**Narrative:**

On Friday, January 17, 2025, at 1154 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) and SA James Gore (SA Gore) interviewed Gahanna Police Department (Gahanna PD) Sergeant (Sgt.) Pat Millenbaugh (Sgt. Millenbaugh), who was accompanied by his attorney, Kate Harshman, from the Fraternal Order of Police. The interview took place at the Gahanna Police station. The interview was audio recorded.

Sgt. Millenbaugh was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the December 19, 2024 officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 780 Taylor Road in Gahanna, Ohio. Reportedly, Sgt. Millenbaugh did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

Sgt. Millenbaugh stated his badge number/radio call sign on December 19, 2024, was 45. Sgt. Millenbaugh's current assignment is first-shift patrol supervisor, his normal working hours are [REDACTED]. Sgt. Millenbaugh confirmed he was working his normal shift on the date of the incident. He has been employed by Gahanna PD since July 2, 1994, for a total of about 30 years of service. Sgt. Millenbaugh has no prior law enforcement experience. Sgt. Millenbaugh also served in the Ohio Army National Guard. During the incident, Sgt. Millenbaugh wore his standard police uniform with a metal police badge affixed to it. He also wore a ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove Gahanna PD cruiser #150, marked with Gahanna PD emblems and emergency lights, and was by himself. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. Sgt. Millenbaugh was carrying his department-issued Glock 17, 9mm handgun.

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On December 19, 2024, Sgt. Millenbaugh was dispatched to respond to a call for service at SpringHill Suites for an alleged fraudulent use of a credit card. Also responding were Gahanna PD Officers [REDACTED]. Gahanna PD officers met with the hotel manager, who explained a hotel guest had used another person's credit card to pay for the room. Sgt. Millenbaugh knocked on the hotel room door and attempted to make contact with the occupant. Sgt. Millenbaugh knocked several times and received no response. The hotel manager provided a key to unlock the room, and the door only opened several inches due to the security latch being utilized from the inner side of the room door. A male occupant inside responded, but did not come to the door. Sgt. Millenbaugh recalled one of the other Gahanna PD responders indicated the occupant may have escaped via the hotel room window. [REDACTED] immediately left to pursue the subject. The hotel room occupant was later identified as Alex Russell (Russell).

Sgt. Millenbaugh exited the hotel when he heard [REDACTED] announce on the radio "code 40" (gun) and "code 44" (officer in trouble). Sgt. Millenbaugh ran and eventually located Russell walking through the parking lots to the east of SpringHill Suites. Sgt. Millenbaugh and other Gahanna PD officers gave several verbal commands to Russell to drop his gun. Sgt. Millenbaugh recalled Russell eventually crossed Taylor Road into the driveway area at 780 Taylor Road.

When Sgt. Millenbaugh arrived at Russell's location, Russell had turned to face Gahanna PD officers and pointed the gun at his own head. Sgt. Millenbaugh instructed Gahanna PD officers to spread out. Russell had moved to the grassy area east of the driveway. Sgt. Millenbaugh asked for "less lethal" which he believed [REDACTED] deployed. Sgt. Millenbaugh believed Russell was struck by the less lethal "bean bag" round. "Then he turned towards Taylor Road and his gun came up," Sgt. Millenbaugh stated. Sgt. Millenbaugh then heard multiple rounds of gunfire.

Sgt. Millenbaugh stood closest to Taylor Road with other Gahanna PD officers to his left standing in a line facing east towards Russell. After the gunshots had ceased and Russell had dropped his gun, Gahanna PD officers approached Russell and began rendering first aid. Sgt. Millenbaugh provided medical supplies while other officers administered CPR and utilized an AED device. Gahanna PD officers were eventually relieved by EMS medics. Sgt. Millenbaugh ensured no officers had been injured and began securing the scene.

Sgt. Millenbaugh clarified he did not observe what had prompted the initial gunfire, and at that point had not seen Russell point his gun towards Gahanna PD officers. Sgt. Millenbaugh indicated when Russell ran away from Gahanna PD officers after [REDACTED].

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deployed the less lethal shotgun, described what he saw as “gun kinda up” (Russell’s gun). Sgt. Millenbaugh said he did not observe whatever threat was perceived by other Gahanna PD officers which prompted the initial gunfire. Sgt. Millenbaugh did not remember if he saw Russell fall to the ground. Sgt. Millenbaugh remembered Russell still had the gun in his hand after he was laying down on the ground and was still moving. Sgt. Millenbaugh was asked if he witnessed Russell point his gun at Gahanna PD officers while he was laying on the ground, to which Sgt. Millenbaugh responded, “It was pointing towards us.”

Sgt. Millenbaugh recalled hearing [REDACTED] fire one round from the less lethal shotgun but was unsure if [REDACTED] was able to fire an additional round. Sgt. Millenbaugh indicated he was looking at [REDACTED] when the gunfire began.

Sgt. Millenbaugh did not fire his duty weapon during the incident. Sgt. Millenbaugh explained his duty weapon was never unholstered nor aimed at Russell during the incident.

The interview concluded at approximately 1220 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.

**References:**

No references

**Attachments:**

1. 2025-01-17 Sergeant Pat Millenbaugh Interview Audio

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