



CUYAHOGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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

Officer Narrative
CCSO2024-000134

Case Number CCSO2024-000134
Subject GUN - GUNSHOT
Narrative Type Primary Report
Entered On 1/18/2024 12:00:00 AM
Entered By 191 - Divis, Randy

Narrative

On January 18, 2024 at approximately 0331 hours I, (Det. R. Divis #191) was contacted by Lieutenant Bartczak and requested to respond to 7702 Spafford Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44105 in connection with a Cleveland Division of Police Officer Involved Shooting Investigation. While en route to the above listed location I placed a call to the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office at approximately 0400 hours and notified Investigator McKenzie Madigan of the officer involved shooting. I advised there was one male decedent who was pronounced deceased at 1506 hours. Investigator Madigan requested officers contact the Medical Examiner's Office when the scene was ready for the medical examiner's walk through.

Upon my arrival to 7702 Spafford at approximately 0429 hours I conferred with Lt. Bartczak and was assigned to observe the Cleveland Division of Police as they processed the scene of the crime. I entered the crime scene at 0438 hours where I met with Sgt. Rini and other members of the Cleveland Division of Police. Members of the Cleveland Division of Police and I completed a plain view search of the basement to ensure the scene was safe prior to the scene being processed. I proceeded to the second floor of the home where I was met by CDP Sgt. Rivera #9260 as well as CDP Homicide Unit Detectives Legg and Scholtz. Upon my arrival, members of the CDP Homicide Unit were measuring and triangulating evidence placards #1-55 located on the second floor. Upon the completion of the second floor crime scene measurements, detectives moved to the northeast exterior of the home and began measuring and triangulating evidence placards #56-64. Upon the completion of measuring the placards located at the northeast corner of 7702 Spafford, detectives relocated to the northwest exterior side of 7702 Spafford and measured evidence placards #65-79. Upon the completion of the measurements of the evidence placards located on the northwest exterior side of the home, detectives relocated across the street from the northeast exterior of the home and measured and triangulated evidence placards #80-86. Upon the completion of the measurements and triangulation of the evidence placards across the street from the northeast exterior corner of the home detectives measured and documented the damage done to the CDP Lenco Bearcat as well as the CCSD Lenco Bearcat.

At approximately 0710 hours Lt. Bartczak placed a phone call to Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Dowling. APA Dowling confirmed that he had authored a search warrant in connection with 7702 Spafford and that it was sufficient for the removal of any; guns, ammunition or other evidence used to shoot at vehicles and houses in the area.

At approximately 0830 hours Detective Harvey and I began canvassing the area for any available witnesses or cameras. Detective Harvey and I made contact with the residents of 7629 Spafford Rd. which is located diagonally across Spafford Rd. to the northeast. The residents of 7629 Spafford Rd (John Hicks) stated they witnessed portions of this incident and showed Detective Harvey and I damage to their home from gunfire they believed to have come from the area of 7702 Spafford Rd. At this time Detective Harvey continued the interview, please refer to Harvey's body worn camera footage for further details.

At this time I met with ATF Special Agent Michael Gajewski and CCSD Detectives New and Norman and provided them with the; make, model and serial number to the firearm collected from the second floor of 7702 Spafford Rd. While conferring with Lieutenant Bartczak, officers were approached by a concerned neighbor, Tamika Johnson (216)804-2707. Johnson stated she resides at 7130 Canton Ave. and has wanted to provide some information regarding the



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decedent (Perkins). Johnson advised Perkins had a history of exhibiting unusual behavior such as; operating giant bubble machines, riding a bicycle that emitted fire and setting up large Halloween displays. Johnson knows Perkins was a military veteran as she had talked to him in the past. Johnson became aware of the shots being fired in her neighborhood the night of 01/17/24 and was advised by a friend who works for the police department to stay in her home. Please refer to body worn camera footage for further details.

At approximately 0920 hours officers were approached by the neighbor located at 7504 Spafford Rd, Roger Starling. Roger explained he was the person Perkins was trying to kill before and offered to speak with detectives. Detective Moran and I met with Roger and his wife Linda in their residence. Roger explained his house was shot approximately fifteen (15) times in a thirty (30) minute period between 1800-1830 on 01/17/2024. Roger explained this was due to the fact that him and his wife Linda were constantly calling the police to report Perkins' loud noises and music which were often late at night. The Starlings estimated they had called the Cleveland Division of Police approximately eight (8) times to report Perkins for such behavior and believe he was finally issued a citation which sent him over the edge causing him to fire a gun into the Starlings' residence. Roger and Linda were sitting in their living room when the rounds entered their home at approximately 1800 hours and Roger escorted Linda into the basement. Please refer to body worn camera for further details.

During the neighborhood canvas, Detectives Harvey and Gibson identified 7701 Spafford Rd. residents and potential witnesses however the residents stated they only spoke Spanish. Deputy R. Caraballo arrived on scene and accompanied me to 7701 Spafford Rd. in order to interpret for the residents. Deputy Caraballo identified the residents of 7701 Spafford Rd. as Louis Ruiz (██████████) and Gloria Ruiz (██████████). Louis and Gloria showed detectives where multiple rounds entered their home from the area of 7702 Spafford Rd. After completing a consent search of the home, detectives were able to locate a bullet from what appeared to be an assault rifle inside of a box of blankets located on the second floor of the home and notified members of the CDP Crime Scene Unit. Louis and Gloria placed Caraballo in contact with their daughter Shirley who was able to assist in translating for Gloria and Louis. Deputy Caraballo learned that Gloria and Louis' son Jhovary Ruiz maintains the camera footage from the security cameras on the exterior of the home. Jhovary agreed to provide CDP Detective Lowther and myself with dropbox access to the footage he was able to retain from the surrounding time of the incident. Jhovary advised he was forced to manually record the footage and the app on his phone stops recording when he receives phone calls so the footage they will have will contain multiple breaks throughout. Please refer to body worn camera footage for further details.

I advised the owners of 7701 Spafford Rd. that an additional crime scene unit would be processing their home once they were on duty. From approximately 1130-1330 I remained parked on Spafford Rd. along with uniform division members of CDP to ensure the integrity of the multiple additional crime scenes waiting to be processed by the CDP Crime Scene Unit. Members of the CDP arrived on scene to secure 7702 Spafford Rd. and provided me with the key to the lock placed on the front entrance to 7702 Spafford Rd. This key was entered into CCSD evidence at approximately 1633 hours.

While awaiting CDP Crime Scene at approximately 1330 a female identified as Chenyu Wang arrived at 7702 Spafford Rd. Wang identified herself as Perkin's ex-wife and began asking questions relating to this incident. Wang provided text messages she had received and sent with Perkins for approximately one day leading up to the initial incident on 01/17/2024. Wang also advised officers that she had remote access to the camera system on the house. A search warrant for Wang's phone was obtained by Detective Mysliwicz and executed at her address of 1120 E. 67th St, Cleveland, Ohio at approximately 1841 hours. Wang's phone was secured in a faraday bag and entered into CCSD evidence at approximately 1921 hours.

While speaking with Wang, Detective Cavanaugh with the CDP Crime Scene Unit arrived on scene and began processing the scene of 7701 Spafford Rd. CCSD Detectives Day and Repak arrived on scene and continued observing Detective Cavanaugh as he processed four (4) separate houses in the area.