



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



2022-0001

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 2307 10th Street SW, Canton, Ohio

Investigative Activity: Witness Interview  
Involves: Janairul Williams (W)  
Activity Date: 1/1/2022  
Activity Location: Canton Police Department – 221 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW, Canton, OH 44701  
Authoring Agent: SA Charles Moran #67

**Narrative:**

On January 1, 2022, at 0427 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Chuck Moran (Moran) and SA Matt Armstrong (Armstrong) interviewed Janairul Williams (Janairul) at the Canton Police Department. The interview was conducted in reference to Janairul possibly being a witness or having knowledge of an incident and subsequent officer-involved shooting that occurred earlier that morning.

SA Moran asked Janairul if he could tell agents what he remembered. Janairul stated, “All I know, I was in the house, it just hit 12 o’clock so my uncle was out shooting his gun and next thing I know, his wife is like, ‘He’s shot.’ ”

Janairul explained that he lives at a different residence in Canton, Ohio, and his uncle, James Williams (James), was his mother’s cousin.

Janairul said he did not see James go outside but “just knew he was outside shooting.” Janairul continued, “And next thing I know, his wife come and said, ‘He’s shot.’ I’m like, I didn’t know if she was saying he shot himself, ‘cause I didn’t know the police was outside at that time, nothing, so, she’s like, ‘He’s shot.’ I’m like, ‘He’s shot?’ ”

SA Moran asked Janairul what time he arrived at James’ residence. Janairul said James picked him up at about 1830 hours; they went to the liquor store at Giant Eagle and then went to his residence.

SA Moran asked Janairul if he saw James use any drugs or drink alcohol excessively. Janairul responded, “No, we just had a nice little...the liquor there like, the bottle right there on the table.”

Janairul added, “Then it’s like, if you go to the house, it’s like uh, like uh...wooden fence along the side door ‘cause that’s where he let his dogs out at. So, you can’t even see inside the fence. So, that’s why I was like, ‘What? Did he shoot himself? ‘Cause if the cop shot him, the cop had

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 except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2022-0001

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 2307 10th Street SW, Canton, Ohio

to shoot through the wooden fence. You couldn't see who, you can't see." SA Moran asked, "It's too tall?" Janairul replied, "Yeah, it's too tall. You can't see." Janairul said the fence only covers the side door and was for the dogs to be able to go outside.

SA Moran asked Janairul if he heard gunfire. He answered, "I mean yeah, I'm right there. I mean, it's going off everywhere though." SA Moran asked specifically about the moments right before he was told James had been shot. Janairul answered, "No, I didn't hear no shots when that happened like, I knew he was out there, I was in inside, I'm in the inside, I'm [unintelligible, but made texting motion with hands as if holding cell phone], I'm trying to get me some ass, I'm trying to go back to the crib so, you know what I'm saying?"

SA Moran asked if it was "common" for James to fire guns on New Years'. Janairul responded, "Yeah, common." SA Moran followed, "In the past he's done that?" Janairul replied, "Yeah." SA Moran asked if James owns guns. Janairul responded, "Yeah, they are his wife's, so I figured they are... yeah, they own them." SA Moran asked Janairul if he knew what type of guns James and his wife, Marquetta Williams (Marquetta) owned. Janairul stated, "No." He added that James and Marquetta owned "pistols and probably a couple shotguns." SA Moran asked, "Have you actually seen those?" Janairul answered, "Yeah, I seen them." SA Moran asked, "Tonight, did you see him go outside with the guns? Before he went out to the fence area, did you see him take one out there?" Janairul responded, "I mean, yeah, 'cause you know, 12 o'clock, that's what you know, they all do." Janairul added, "Yeah, he was already shooting guns. That's what I don't understand. Did he shoot himself? Or did a cop shoot him?" Agents explained that is what they were trying to determine.

Janairul stated, "I was in the house. I don't understand how he got shot. That's why I was asking her. She said he got shot. I'm thinking, I'm thinking the cop shot him. Yeah, so I don't know what happened like, I was in the house. I know there was shooting going on. He went out there shooting and next thing I know, like I said, she came in and said, 'He's shot.' Like 10, 15 minutes later, he comes stumbling in, falls on the floor." SA Moran asked, "It was that long after she said he was shot?" Janairul replied, "Like, not, you know, not 10, 15 minutes, like, probably 5 minutes." He added, "But that's when I noticed the cops was outside so that's why I was like, 'Did the cop shoot him for shooting? Or did he shoot himself?' I don't know."

Janairul said when James stumbled inside, he noticed James was shot because he "had blood all over shirt." Janairul could not tell where James was shot on his body. Janairul said at that time he was not paying attention and there were "a thousand cops outside." SA Moran asked Janairul if he saw James with a gun when he came back inside the house. Janairul answered, "I don't

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 except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



2022-0001

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 2307 10th Street SW, Canton, Ohio

know." Janairul said he was the first person out of the house and was placed in the backseat of a police car.

SA Moran asked Janairul if there were any unusual circumstances that occurred, such as an argument or anything else out of the ordinary, during the time when he was picked up by James and the incident around 0000 hours. Janairul answered "No. Normal. Normal night. Normal night. We, we, taking our little sips." SA Moran asked, "And then the shooting on New Years', that's like, just something..." Janairul interrupted, "Normal, you know, everybody we do, but like, he wasn't the only [unintelligible] shots I was hearing, I was hearing them all around the neighborhood. So, it was normal."

SA Armstrong asked Janairul if James went outside and shot once or a couple different times. Janairul responded, "A couple different times." SA Armstrong asked Janairul if James was shooting the same gun each time or different guns. Janairul replied, "Probably multiple guns. They got multiple guns. [Unintelligible] I don't know."

SA Moran asked Janairul if he believed all of the shooting that James did was in the same area by the wood fence. Janairul stated, "All the same area. Everything right there. Everything happened right there." Janairul reminded agents that he was inside and was texting on his phone when everything happened.

SA Armstrong asked Janairul if James said anything about the direction that he was shooting (air, ground, etc.). Janairul said he did not know which direction James was firing and was not certain if James "shot himself" or if a "cop shot him." Janairul said Marquetta was the only one who saw the incident. SA Armstrong asked if Marquetta was outside with James when he was shot. Janairul stated, "I guess so." Janairul said he was not paying close attention and was inside the house.

SA Armstrong asked Janairul how many times James went outside that night to shoot. Janairul answered, "I don't know. I know it was probably more than once." SA Armstrong asked Janairul if James reloaded any of the guns when he came back inside. Janairul replied, "No. No, I wasn't even paying attention to that anyway. I told you I was in my phone."

SA Moran informed Janairul that James was deceased. He said James was his mother's "little cousin." Janairul said there were cameras at the house and agents could "see what happened." He said the video(s) could be viewed on a phone.

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 except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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



---

2022-0001

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 2307 10th Street SW, Canton, Ohio

The interview with Janairul ended at about 0450 hours. The interview was audio recorded.

Attachments:

The audio recorded interview with Janairul Williams was attached to this report.