



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



2024-1218

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1822 Sherrick Road SE,
Canton, OH 44707

Investigative Activity: Witness Interview
Involves: Anthony "Tony" Cakanic (W)
Activity Date: 04/20/2024
Activity Location: 1108 Ardmore Avenue, SW, Massillon, Ohio 44710
Authoring Agent: SA Charlie Snyder #90

Narrative:

Background:

On Thursday, April 18, 2024, at approximately 2355 hours, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by the Stark County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) to conduct an independent investigation of the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident which occurred around 1822 Sherrick Road SE, Canton, OH 44707. BCI Special Agent Charlie Snyder (Snyder) was assigned to this inquiry. Snyder was tasked in part to conduct an interview with a possible witness, Anthony "Tony" Cakanic (Cakanic). Snyder arranged to interview Cakanic at his Massillon, Ohio residence on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 2040 hours.

Action Taken:

Cakanic confirmed his identification and contact information to Snyder. He also confirmed being present at the Amvet Post 124 Club on Thursday, April 18, 2024, arriving there at approximately 19:00 hours. Cakanic indicated he had been present for the club drawing that occurred and went there to have dinner.

Cakanic advised that when the incident occurred, the bartender Rob "...hit the button to release the door..." [01:20] because someone rung the bell. A large black male subject (Frank Eugene Tyson) then entered and appeared very "... real paranoid and was freaking out - saying someone was after him..." [01:31].

Cakanic indicated other patrons began to panic at that time. The subject then went to the back room of the Amvet.

Cakanic then said another subject in a white colored van pulled up outside Amvet and was not allowed to enter the club. The Amvet manager, Shannon (Gallagher) requested Cakanic to go outside to see what was happening there. Cakanic said he talked to that subject and learned Tyson had an auto accident, striking a telephone pole and was

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trying to leave the scene. Cakanic said that he could see the vehicle's headlights at the accident scene at that time.

The subject in the white van left and Cakanic then observed Canton Police personnel near the accident scene. Cakanic then walked out towards the roadway and noticed coolant apparently coming from the radiator of the wrecked vehicle and that the coolant had traveled from the pole to the next house, where it remained in the yard at that time.

Cakanic stated, "...so I met the officers and told the officers that hey - the gentleman from that car is in the bar - and he is making a lot of people in there real paranoid and scared - you guys need to come down here and take care of the situation..." [03:08].

Cakanic indicated that the police officers walked with him, back to the Amvet club. Cakanic used his key access card to enter the locked door into the club. Shannon Gallagher was standing there and saying, "...he's out of here..." [03:38] and indicating the subject (Tyson), who was then standing at the bar.

When the police officers began to enter, the black male subject, according to Cakanic, began to resist and kept shouting, "...I want the Sheriff's Department - call the Sheriff's Department..." [03:53] and started fighting with them. Cakanic indicated that the black male subject, while attempting to resist, moved from the front door area to the side door, continuing to struggle with the officers. Cakanic stated, "...at the point where they got to the door - then another gentleman there at the bar helped the police to be able to control hold him and get him down onto the ground..." [04:20]. Cakanic indicated the gentleman appeared to be only helping to hold the black male subject and get him onto the ground with the police officers.

Note: Cakanic subsequently identified this party as Ralph Conrad Mosteller, after viewing an OHLEG driver's license printout.

Cakanic indicated he did not see anything he considered excessive, or punches thrown during this time and that they only had ahold of the black male subject and were trying to get him onto the ground. Cakanic believed the police handcuffed the black male subject with his hands behind his back. When asked, Cakanic advised hearing the officers repeatedly telling the black male subject to quit resisting. He advised that the black male subject continued to resist the officers during the whole time.

Cakanic then said that Shannon closed the bar and had all patrons leave the bar. Cakanic indicated he went outside with everyone else.

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When reviewing Cakanic's statement with him, he was asked when the subject initially entered, what was he saying. Cakanic stated, "...he come is saying - he's trying to kill me - trying to kill me - he's coming after me - don't let him in - don't let him in..." [07:13] and was pointing towards the front door. Cakanic indicated believing the black male subject may have been referring to the subject in the white van. Cakanic then stated, "...the look on his face was like he wasn't like all there mentally - like he was on something - or drunk - or drugs..." [07:33].

Cakanic then recalled that he had seen the subject in the white van earlier in the evening, picking up a food order from the Amvet club. Cakanic said that he had not witnessed any communication at any time between the black male subject and the subject in the white van.

Cakanic was asked if at any time during this incident if he witnessed actions by the law enforcement personnel that caused him concern. Cakanic indicated he had not witnessed any issues in that regard or excessive use of force by them. Cakanic advised he was surprised that they had not used Mace or a Billy club and appeared to try to keep it safe for ever one at the bar.

At approximately 2055 hours, the Cakanic interview concluded.

Note: This report summarizes information deemed by the author of the most relevance to the investigation and does not contain all questions and answers from the interview. This report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions. It is suggested the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

References:

None

Attachments:

1. 2024-04-20 - Anthony D Cakanic - Interview 240420_0010

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