



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



2023-0795

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1433 State Route 7, Brookfield Township, Ohio 44403, Trumbull County

Investigative Activity: Interview of Witness Officer
Involves: Sergeant Timothy Grimm (W)
Activity Date: 4/11/2023
Activity Location: Ohio State Highway Patrol – Southington Post –
3424 U.S. 422, Southington, Ohio 44470
Authoring Agent: SA Charles Moran #67

Narrative:

On Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 0702 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Chuck Moran (Moran) and SA Joe Goudy (Goudy) interviewed Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Sergeant (Sgt.) Timothy Grimm (Grimm), who was accompanied by his staff representative, Jeff Skinner, from the Ohio State Troopers Association. The interview took place at the OSHP Post in Southington, Ohio. The interview was audio and video recorded.

Sgt. Grimm, read, understood, and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form prior to the interview.

Sgt. Grimm was identified as being a law enforcement officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the March 21, 2023 officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 1433 State Route 7, Brookfield Township, Ohio. Reportedly, Sgt. Grimm 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 Sgt. Grimm.

Sgt. Grimm stated his radio call sign on March 21, 2023 was 469. He has been employed by the OSHP for about 14 years. He has been a law enforcement officer for a total of 14 years. During the incident, Trooper Brown wore his standard OSHP trooper uniform with a metal police badge affixed to it. He wore a black jacket with OSHP patches and a badge affixed to it during the incident. He also wore a concealed ballistic vest and duty belt. He drove OSHP unit #1286, a marked unit with OSHP emblems and emergency lights. He considered himself to be well-represented as a law enforcement officer during the incident. He stated was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident nor during the interview with BCI. He does not wear corrective lenses.

Sgt. Grimm confirmed that he did not discharge a firearm during the incident. SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm if he watched any of the available body-worn camera (BWC) videos after the incident. Sgt. Grimm said he only watched his BWC video one time after the incident.

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SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm to provide details about the incident that occurred on March 21, 2023. Sgt. Grimm said he was at a Speedway gas station speaking with a Trumbull County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) deputy and a Champion Police Department (CPD) officer when they were notified about the assistance requested in Brookfield Township. Sgt. Grimm explained when he reported to work that night, he was notified about the vehicle pursuit earlier that day where the subject fled and was unable to be located.

Sgt. Grimm said the call from the Brookfield Township Police Department (BTPD) indicated that they received information about the location of the subject and needed assistance. Sgt. Grimm, OSHP Trooper Brown, OSHP Trooper Boyle, and the TCSO deputy left the gas station and went to the meeting area on State Route 7.

Sgt. Grimm said there was a briefing where Brookfield Township Police Department (BTPD) officers explained that they met with the homeowner who told them that he saw the subject drive to the property in a truck. The homeowner approached the subject and asked him to leave. The subject refused to leave and said he was going to stay overnight. The homeowner knew the truck that the subject was driving was stolen. The homeowner said he believed the truck was parked at the "back" of the property and was some distance behind the cabin on the property.

The officers planned how eight officers were going to walk back to the cabin, surround it, and call the subject out. Sgt. Grimm explained that it was dark outside and the officers were not going to use any lights. It was decided that Trooper Brown would stay back by State Route 7 in his cruiser and he would drive toward the cabin when the officers surrounded it and started calling the subject out. Trooper Brown was going to give orders over the "PA" system of his cruiser.

The officers began to walk down an "access road" toward the cabin. Sgt. Grimm heard a "radio blaring" and saw lights from the cabin. Sgt. Grimm saw the truck parked "right up against this hunting shed." He estimated it was a "couple inches" away from the structure and part of the truck was blocking the door to the cabin. Sgt. Grimm said it was a "well thought out process" because the subject likely knew it would be hard for law enforcement to access the interior of the cabin.

Sgt. Grimm moved to the right (to the north) as they approached the cabin. Other officers moved toward the front (to the south) of the cabin. As they moved into position, the subject stood up inside the cabin and saw the officers outside. Officers identified themselves and provided verbal

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commands to the subject to “get his hands up.” Sgt. Grimm saw the subject jump through the cabin window directly into the driver’s side of the truck. The officers near the truck continued providing verbal commands and tried to break the passenger side window of the truck.

Sgt. Grimm saw Trooper Boyle was near the “corner” of the cabin and OSHP Sgt. [REDACTED] was in between Sgt. Grimm and Trooper Boyle. The subject started the truck and began “driving erratically towards all officers that were on scene.” Sgt. Grimm said he could tell by the subject’s “demeanor” that he was likely “under the influence of something.” The subject stared “straight forward” and had “zero regard for anybody’s life.” Sgt. Grimm added, “His intent was that he was getting out of there at any cost.”

Sgt. Grimm said the subject began to drive the vehicle forward and toward Sgt. [REDACTED] and that is when “shots were fired.” Sgt. Grimm explained that he could not fire his weapon because there was an officer in front of him and he did not have a clear line of sight. Other gunshots were fired and the truck came to a stop. Officers approached the truck and made sure the scene was secured and the subject was no longer a threat.

Sgt. Grimm added that there was a potential threat to Trooper Brown as he was driving on the driveway toward the cabin because the subject had a snow plow on the front of truck and Sgt. Grimm believed the subject’s intent was to “get away at any cost.” Sgt. Grimm said the subject did not have “any regard for anybody’s safety.” The scene was secured and BCI was contacted.

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm about the initial briefing and if he was present when the homeowner spoke with BTPD officers. Sgt. Grimm said he was not present when the BTPD officers met with the homeowner and the information provided at the law enforcement briefing was from the BTPD officers.

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm if he had any prior law enforcement contact with the subject Fred Wild (Wild). Sgt. Grimm answered, “No sir. That’s the first time I’ve heard that name.”

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm for more details about the lighting conditions. Sgt. Grimm said it was “pitch black” and there were tall trees casting shadows.

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm if it ever appeared that the subject was or was going to comply with the verbal commands provided by the officers. Sgt. Grimm responded, “No. At no time did he, you know, his full intent was to get out of there at any cost. He, as they’re giving commands

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he's, his only concern was getting the truck started, getting it in gear and trying to drive, drive away."

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm about Trooper Boyle's position and if it was near the cabin. Sgt. Grimm confirmed that Trooper Boyle was near the cabin and Sgt. [REDACTED] was between him and Trooper Boyle.

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm what he believed might have happened to any officers that were near the truck. Sgt. Grimm stated, "Um, like I said, his, the way he was driving if there was anybody, officers, that would have been, that were in front of him, I mean, it's dark out, we're not, we weren't sure exactly where everybody was at the time, he was, he was going to run anybody over that he, that got in the way." Sgt. Grimm continued, "They would have been seriously injured or killed."

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm about the manner that the subject started to drive the truck. Sgt. Grimm said he heard the "engine rev up" and he heard the "tires spinning through the mud." Sgt. Grimm said he did not recall the subject striking anything with the truck. He added, "Everything kind of happened so fast." Sgt. Grimm said after the incident he saw a few small trees that had been knocked down by the truck, but he did not recall that during the incident.

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm about the positions of the officers. Sgt. Grimm said he knew where the OSHP troopers were, but he was not certain of where the other officers were located. SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm if he could tell where the gunshots were fired from. Sgt. Grimm said one of the first gunshots was near the area where Sgt. [REDACTED] was located and the subsequent gunshots were from behind the truck. Sgt. Grimm said it was a possibility that Sgt. [REDACTED] fired first because the subject drove the truck "straight at" Sgt. [REDACTED]

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm if he spoke with the other officers in detail after the incident. Sgt. Grimm said they made sure that the officers were not physically injured and made sure they knew who fired. Sgt. Grimm said he had a brief discussion with Sgt. [REDACTED] and he said he was standing on a rock pile in front of the truck and his firing angle was through the driver's side front window. He did not speak with any other officers in detail.

SA Moran asked Sgt. Grimm if any officers checked on the subject. Sgt. Grimm said it was immediately apparent that the subject was deceased and Trooper Boyle checked for a pulse on the subject and no pulse was located.

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SA Goudy asked Sgt. Grimm if the truck was driving in the direction where Trooper Brown was driving toward the cabin. Sgt. Grimm stated, "Yes." Sgt. Grimm explained that Trooper Brown was driving west and the subject's truck was pointed in that direction. Sgt. Grimm said there was a fence gate a short distance ahead that only had room for one vehicle to pass through and the subject's truck would have been driving "straight towards" Trooper Brown's cruiser.

SA Goudy asked Sgt. Grimm if he heard Wild say anything during the incident. Sgt. Grimm said he did not hear Wild say anything. SA Goudy asked Sgt. Grimm if he saw Wild doing anything inside the cab of the truck. Sgt. Grimm said he was some distance from the front of the truck and could only tell that Wild was trying to start the truck.

SA Goudy asked Sgt. Grimm if he knew if any other officer fired around him. Sgt. Grimm said he believed Sgt. [REDACTED] fired. Sgt. Grimm recalled that a BTPD officer was near him, but he was not certain if anyone else fired around him.

SA Goudy asked Sgt. Grimm about the law enforcement briefing and if they assigned officers to each side of the cabin. Sgt. Grimm said the plan was to have two officers on each side of the cabin.

The interview ended at 0723 hours.

Reference Item:

The video recorded interview of Sgt. Grimm was copied to a DVD+R and was submitted to the BCI Special Investigations Unit (SIU) case file as Reference Item N.

Attachments:

1. BCI Criminal Investigation Notification Form - OSHP Sgt. Timothy Grimm
2. 2023-04-11 - Audio - Interview of OSHP Sgt. Timothy Grimm - 803_0765
3. 2023-0795 Overhead diagram w-o placards



Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is not a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

SGT. TIMOTHY GRIMM 469
Printed Name of Interviewee

4/11/23
Date / Time

SGT. Kelly C. [Signature] 469
Signature of Interviewee

SA CHARLES MORAN #67
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature] #67
BCI Agent (Signature)

03/21/2023
2023-0795
BCI for TCSO
OICI
1433 SR 7, Brookfield, Ohio
SA Dan Boerner #135
To Scale



- 1 - FC 223 REM
- 2 - FC 223 REM
- 3 - FC 223 REM
- 4 - FC 223 REM
- 5 - FC 223 REM
- 6 - FC 223 REM
- 7 - Hornady 5.56
- 8 - Hornady 5.56
- 9 - Hornady 5.56
- 10 - Hornady 223 REM
- 11 - Hornady 223 REM
- 12 - Hornady 223 REM
- 20 - Projectile

