

Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Investigative Report



2024-4082 Officer Involved Critical Incident - (L) 303 S. Main St., Celina, Ohio

Investigative Activity: Interview with Docksider's Gas Station Clerk Harsh Patel

Involves: Harsh Patel
Activity Date: 12/31/2024

Activity Location: 303 S. Main St. Celina, OH 45822

Authoring Agent: SA Douglas Burke #162

Narrative:

On Tuesday, December 31, 2024, at 0640 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Douglas Burke (Burke) and Special Agent Supervisor (SAS) Scott Stranahan (Stranahan) interviewed Harsh Patel (Harsh), relative to the Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) which took place on Tuesday, December 31, 2024. The interview took place at Docksider's Gas Station 303 S. Main St. Celina, OH 45822. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information about the incident known or observed by this individual. The interview was digitally recorded and is attached to this report.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author to be of the most relevance to the investigation and does not purport to contain all questions and answers from the audio recording. Further, this report was placed in a chronology to aid the reader's overall understanding of the information elicited during the interview and may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions or responses. It is suggested that the reader refer to the audio recording in its entirety.

Throughout the course of this investigation the subject in question getting into the patron's vehicle at Docksider's Marathon Gas Station was found to be Moses Alik (Moses).

Harsh introduced himself to Agents and explained what he knew leading up to the OICI in the parking lot of the gas station. It should be noted, there was another clerk, Yash Patel (Yash) who spoke very broken English and did not know much of what took place during the incident but was present during the interview with Harsh.

Harsh explained to Agents there was a patron who had come inside the gas station from just filling his car. The patron had left his car running at Pump #3 and assumed the car to be unlocked. SA Burke asked Harsh if he was familiar with this patron and Harsh said he was, and the patron lived just down the street from the gas station.

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Harsh stated he noticed a Marshallese subject, Moses outside by the patron's car, who then got inside the car to try and leave the gas station. Noticing this, the patron went outside to his car to confront Moses in the driver's seat. Harsh stated he could see Moses inside the patron's car turning the steering wheel as though he was trying to drive away from the gas station.

According to Harsh, Moses then got out of the patron's car and came inside the gas station for a moment. Harsh told Agents, he briefly spoke with Moses who he had recognized before, being inside the gas station stealing alcohol a few days prior. SA Burke asked Harsh if he said anything to the Moses. Harsh stated he asked the Moses about just trying to drive the car away. The Moses who Harsh was familiar with did not say anything back to Harsh, then left the gas station.

SA Burke asked Harsh about being familiar with Moses. Harsh said in the early morning hours of December 27, 2024, at approximately 0135 hours, Moses come into the gas station and stole a bottle of liquor from the gas station. It was not realized until after Moses left the store that he had stolen a bottle of liquor. Harsh was able to show SA Burke security camera footage of this Moses stealing the bottle of alcohol. SA Burke noted. Moses of Marshallese decent had been wearing the same type of coat, "puffer style" as he was during the OICI on this date.

SA Burke asked Harsh how law enforcement was notified about this incident. Harsh explained that the clerks at the gas station have the direct phone number posted behind the counter to call the Celina Police Department (CPD). The number to CPD was dialed and the phone was handed to the patron to explain to a CPD dispatcher his car had almost been stolen by Moses while at the gas station.

SA Burke spoke with Harsh about retrieving the security camera footage from inside the gas station and outside the gas station on this date. Harsh stated he has nine (9) separate camera views around the gas station, inside, and outside, which he would be able to provide to Agents. SA Burke also asked Harsh about obtaining the incident which involved the alcohol theft which involved Moses in the early morning hours of December 27, 2024. Harsh explained to SA Burke, he would be able to provide this security camera footage of both incidents; however, it would take time to download. SA Burke stated he understood.

Harsh had no other relevant information to add to this interview and the interview concluded.

On the morning of January 2, 2025, SA Burke collected a USB Drive from Harsh which contained security camera footage of the OICI in the early morning hours of December

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31, 2024, along with the security footage of the theft of alcohol in the early morning hours of December 27, 2024.

All video footage mentioned above has been placed into Axon Evidence and is available for review upon request. All times are relevant to the video footage where it was obtained.

Attachments: #01 Interview with Docksider Clerk Harsh Patel

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