

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



2022-2876 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 256 N. Swain, LaRue, Ohio (L)

Investigative Activity:Interview with Captain John "Jason" DuttonActivity Date:December 20, 2022Activity Location:Marion County Sheriff OfficeAuthoring Agent:Special Agent David Horn #48

On December 20, 2022, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate the facts and circumstances surrounding an officer-involved critical incident (OICI) that occurred on the railroad tracks near Section Street, in LaRue, in Marion County, OH. BCI Special Agent (SA) David Horn (Horn) interviewed Captain John "Jason" Dutton (Dutton) of the Marion County Sheriff's Department. The interview occurred at the Marion County Sheriff's Department, 100 Executive Drive, Marion, OH.

The purpose of the interview was to ascertain what Dutton may have witnessed at the Marion OICI. SA Horn asked Dutton to describe how the events unfolded and what he saw regarding the officer-involved shooting. Dutton stated he was assigned to the MRAP (armored vehicle) as the driver. Dutton noted that they pulled up to the target house, where it was predetermined. Dutton further stated that he stayed with the MRAP but did see the suspect, Travis Hellinger (Hellinger), flee on the railroad tracks. A SWAT team was behind Hellinger, ordering Hellinger to put the gun down; however, Hellinger ignored the commands. Dutton said that Hellinger and the SWAT team got out of sight but he heard some gunfire later.

This report only summarizes the information deemed by the author most relevant 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 understanding of the information elicited during the interview. It may not be reflective of the actual sequencing of questions or responses. It is suggested that the reader refers to the audio recording.

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