



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



2023-2306

Officer Involved Critical Incident - [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED], Alliance, OH 44601, Stark County

Investigative Activity: Crime Scene Processing
 Activity Date: Sunday, September 3rd, 2023
 Activity Location: [REDACTED] Alliance, Ohio 44601 / Stark County
 Authoring Agent: SAS Edward Lulla #117

Summary:

On Sunday, September 3rd, 2023 Ohio BCI Special Agents Edward Lulla and Larry Hootman processed a crime scene at [REDACTED], in Alliance, Ohio, where an Officer Involved Critical Incident had occurred. The scene was photographed, scanned with a Leica RTC 360 Laser Scanner and several items of evidence collected and secured.

Details:

On Sunday, September 3rd, 2023 at approximately 1530, Ohio BCI Special Agent Supervisor Edward Lulla arrived at [REDACTED], in Alliance, Ohio regarding a request for crime scene assistance in an Officer Involved Critical Incident scene. There, the agent was met by Special Agent Hootman of the crime scene unit, as well as Special Agents Conn and Armstrong of the special investigations unit.



[REDACTED]

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Alliance, Ohio

Agent Lulla was advised that earlier in the day, Alliance Police responded to the residence where they observed George W. Appleby (C/M 5-12-64) apparently hold a large knife to the throat of [REDACTED] (C/F 3-11-55). Apparently, Appleby forced [REDACTED] into the apartment and eventually into a bedroom which has its door locked from the inside. As Alliance officers forced their way into the bedroom, Appleby was found to still be holding the knife to [REDACTED]'s throat and at this time an Alliance Patrol Officer fired two shots from a patrol rifle, striking Appleby in the head and killing him.

At this time, the BCI Special Agents were informed by Alliance Police Investigators that that the County Prosecutors Office had been notified and it was their legal opinion that a search warrant for the residence would not be needed, however, a consent to search from [REDACTED] whose apartment the shooting had taken place inside of.

Prior to any crime scene processing, photographic documentation of the scene was obtained followed by a laser scan using a Leica RTC 360 Laser Scanner.

A search of the scene revealed an older Caucasian male in the apartment's bedroom just right of the bedroom door. The subject (George W. Appleby) was deceased and had severe trauma to his head. The subject was discovered to be supine and was found to be wearing only a pair of shorts.



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George W. Appleby

The bedroom door was discovered to have been damaged and a Halligan bar was observed in the hallway outside the bedroom.



Location of Halligan bar

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Damaged Bedroom Door

At this time, the following items of evidence were located, documented and later collected.

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Photo ID#1
Remington .223 cartridge casing



Photo ID#1

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**Headstamp on
Photo ID#1**

The vomit located inside the bathtub was apparently deposited by an Alliance Patrol Officer who had become ill following the shooting incident.

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Photo ID #2
Remington .223 cartridge casing

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Photo ID #2

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Headstamp
Photo ID #2



Photo ID#3
Wood Handled knife

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Photo ID #3



Photo ID #4

Schok brand cellular telephone

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Photo ID #4

Upon the arrival of Investigator Tamara Wilkes of the Stark County Coroners Office, the remains of Appleby were turned over to her.

Evidence Items #1-#4 were turned over to Agent Armstrong for transport to the Ohio BCI Richfield Office. A BCI Inventory / Receipt form was filled out and has been uploaded into the Matrix database.

The photographs taken in this investigation were uploaded into the Matrix database, a copy of the photographs was made available to both the SIU agents and Alliance PD. A copy of the Leica RTC360 scanner data will be placed on the "BCI Scanner" folder on the shared directory.

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