



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



2022-0535
Officer Involved Critical Incident – I-71 N. Mile Marker 123, Lewis
Center, Ohio (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Officer Luke Velie (W)
Date of Activity: 03/11/2022
Activity Location: Fraternal Order of Police Lodge – 6800 Schrock Hill Ct, Columbus,
OH 43229, Franklin County

On March 11, 2022, at approximately 1330 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (Ohio BCI) Special Agent John Rodriguez interviewed Columbus Police Department (CPD) Officer Luke Velie (Officer Velie). Ohio BCI was asked to investigate an Officer Involved Critical Incident, which involved CPD that had occurred earlier that morning. Ohio BCI was informed CPD officers were involved in the shooting which reportedly took place on Interstate 71 North just north of Gemini and Polaris Parkway.

The purpose of this interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by Officer Velie. The interview with Officer Velie took place inside the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge located at 6800 Schrock Hill Court, Columbus, Ohio. Also in attendance for the interview was Attorney Cathrine Harshman, who is an attorney hired by the Fraternal Order a Police to represent Officer Velie.

The interview was audio recorded. A copy of the recording is attached to this report and a copy was saved electronically within the Matrix case file. Please refer to the attached audio recording for complete details. The following is a statement was provided by Officer Velie:

CPD Officer Velie is currently assigned to patrol for the 1st district (185) and working on first shift.

On March 11, 2022, CPD Officer Velie and his partner CPD Officer Nathan Komisarek received radio traffic and responded to the area where the officer involved incident took place. Radio traffic reported a male seen near the Gemini exit on Interstate 71 shooting at cars. Officer Velie responded to the scene of the incident from SR 161 and Maple Canyon. Officer Velie requested dispatch to re-air traffic of the description of the male and radio traffic received; black male wearing black clothing with "dreads."

Officer Velie and Officer Komisarek was the third or fourth car to arrive on scene. Officer Velie's immediate observations was a CPD Patrol car with both doors open and with officers standing on either side of the doors. Officer Velie also observed a gray four door car

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"smashed up," parked on the left side of the freeway. The gray car had bullet holes to what appeared to be in the front windshield and on passenger side of the vehicle. A black female was seen standing outside and on side of the vehicle. Officer Velie also seen a male standing towards the front of the vehicle.

Officer Velie and Officer Komisareck took cover and concealment behind their patrol vehicle. They began ordering the female standing by the gray car to back up to them while witnessing the male walking away on the left side of the freeway. Other officers on scene were ordering the male to stop, but he was "not listening" to commands.

The male was wearing a "hoddie" sweatshirt(hooded sweat shirt) and Officer Velie witnessed the male going into his pockets. At this time more officers are responding and patrol vehicles are pulling up parallel to Officer Velie's vehicle to add additional cover.

Officer Velie got into a Columbus Police Wagon "paddy wagon" as officers were requesting for someone to start pulling the vehicle up towards the male for additional cover. Officer Velie started driving the vehicle towards the male adding cover for the other officers who are ordering the male to stop.

As Officer Velie started driving towards the male, the male pulls out a gun and begins to fire towards his direction and other officers. The male started running from the left side to the right side of the freeway. Officer Velie yells shots fired as he hears gunfire. Officer Velie witnessed smoke coming from the gun fired by the male. When shots were fired Officer Velie stops, exits the vehicle and takes cover.

Officer Velie witnessed the male fall down on the right side of the freeway and witnessed officers approach the male and begin to render aide to the male subject. Officer Velie radios for a medic and reported the male subject was down. As officers started to render aide, Officer Velie draws his attention to the female and make sure she was secured. Once the female is secured, Officer Velie begins a search for evidence between his vehicle and where the male subject went down. Upon approaching the male subject, Officer Velie witnessed the male subject laying on his side and a black automatic handgun laying next to him. The handgun was left in place and not touched by any officers. Officer Velie continued his search and located three (3) spent handgun castings located a bit south where the male subject went down. Officer Velie reported, he marked the spent castings with cones.

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 interview. It is suggested that the full audio recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Luke Velie

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