



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



2024-1218

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 1822 Sherrick Road SE,
Canton, OH 44707

Investigative Activity: Interview of James Kemper
Involves: James Kemper (w)
Activity Date: 05/14/2024
Activity Location: 1700 Sherrick Road SE, Canton, OH 44707
Authoring Agent: SA Jon Lieber #50

Narrative:

On May 14, 2024, at 1727 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jon Lieber (Lieber) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) SA Preetham Rao (Rao) interviewed James Kemper (Kemper) at 1700 Sherrick Road SE, Canton, OH.

SA Lieber said that he saw on body camera video that Kemper was driving a white color vehicle and possibly talked to Frank Tyson (Tyson). Kemper said that Tyson was trying to flee. Kemper said that he told Tyson that he looked in distress and needed medical attention. He told Tyson to wait for an ambulance. Kemper said that Tyson acted like he (Kemper) was trying to kill him (Tyson).

Kemper said that he was sitting on the couch when the accident happened. Kemper said that Tyson drove into his garbage cans and then took out the utility pole. When he came outside, he saw the car down the road in his neighbor's driveway and he saw Tyson leaving and running up the road. Kemper said that he thought Tyson may need medical attention. He said that when people get in car wrecks they can go into shock.

SA Lieber asked about his contact with Tyson in the Amvets parking lot. Kemper said he told Tyson that he might need medical attention. Kemper said that he read about what it takes to break a telephone pole and he learned that it is 50 to 60 miles per hour. Kemper said that Tyson said to him that he didn't need any help and to leave him alone. Kemper then drove back toward his house. Kemper said that the Amvets would have had to buzz Tyson into the building, and they normally don't let you in unless they know you. Kemper said that later he saw on the news that Tyson was saying that there was someone in the parking lot trying to kill him. Kemper said that there was no confrontation between him and Tyson that would have led Tyson to think that Kemper was going to hurt him. Kemper said Tyson was much bigger than him.

Kemper said that about a half hour before the accident he picked up a to-go order from the Amvets.

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Kemper said that Tyson was holding his side. Specifically, Tyson was holding his left side near his waist. Kemper said that Tyson was past the Amvets sign by the time Kemper caught up to him. Kemper said that if he wouldn't have stopped Tyson, Tyson would have probably kept heading up the road. After he spoke to Tyson, Tyson turned around and went into the Amvets. When Kemper returned to the area where the utility pole was broken, Canton Police had arrived.

SA Lieber asked if there was anything else about his interaction with Tyson such as Tyson being injured, sweating, or erratic behavior. Kemper said "Just yeah just like he was like scared, it looked like he was under the influence of more than alcohol" [11:32]. Kemper said that Tyson was confused, but that could have been from the wreck. Kemper said Tyson's eyes were big, round, and Tyson was probably scared.

Kemper said when Tyson cut through the parking lot and entered the Amvets he (Kemper) buzzed the door and told them that Tyson was just in an accident. Kemper said that the conversation between him and Tyson lasted less than a minute.

A copy of the audio recording of the interview of James Kemper has been attached to this report.

References:

None

Attachments:

2024-05-14 James Kemper interview

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