

2022-1316 Officer-Involved Critical Incident - Quincy Pritchett and Izak Ackerman



Investigative Activity:Interview with OfficerInvolves:Izak AckermanActivity Date:7/8/2022Activity Location:Allen County Ohio Sheriff's OfficeAuthoring Agent:SA Chris Hamberg #69

Narrative:

On Friday, July 08, 2022, at 1223 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Chris Hamberg (Hamberg) and SA Ryan Emahiser interviewed Allen County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) Deputy (Dep.) Izak Ackerman (Ackerman), who was accompanied by his attorney, Doug Behringer, from the Ohio Fraternal Order of Police. Also present for the interview was Detective Donavin Geiger and Detective Nick Burke, union representatives for Ackerman. The interview took place in the Sheriff's Office Conference room. The interview was audio and video recorded.

Dep. Ackerman read, understood and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form.

During the course of the interview, agents utilized tactics designed to illicit truthful responses and to test the veracity of information provided. As many of the details of the investigation into the incident were publicly available, it was necessary to utilize alternative tactics (beyond the typical methodology of retaining confidential "holdout" information regarding the incident and then comparing/contrasting witness statements with information that could only be known by those with actual knowledge of the incident). These tactics include developing rapport and potentially providing information known to be erroneous. Therefore, misstatements of facts or evidence in the recorded interview by the interviewing agents are intentional and align with the strategy for the overall investigative plan.

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



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Preliminary and Demographic Information:

Name: Izak Ackerman	Rank: Deputy (Dep.)
Badge Number: 645	Cruiser/Vehicle Number: 02-227
Radio Call Sign: 227	Immediate Supervisor: Lt. Butler
Radio Channel Utilized: SO Dispatch	Mobile Data Terminal: Present; Not Used
Cruiser Description: Marked Ford Police	Occupants of Cruiser and Seating
Interceptor	Positions: Ackerman was in the driver seat.
Assignment: Patrol	Normal Shift: 2400 hours to 0800 hours
In-Car Camera: Operational & Utilized	Spotlight: Present; Not utilized
Emergency Lights: Present & Utilized	Siren: Present; Not Used
Shift Day of Incident: 2400 hours to 0800 hours	Duty Status: On-Duty
Days Off: Friday and Saturday	Prior Overtime or Extra Details within Preceding 48 Hours: None
Hours of Sleep Prior to Incident: 8 hours	Consider Self Well Rested: Yes
Total Length as Officer: Four (4) years	Length at Current Agency: Four (4) years
Physical Disabilities (to include hearing aid): NA	Corrective Lenses: Contact Lenses
Uniform Worn: Uniform pants and shirt with an external vest carrier	Equipment and Less-Lethal Options Carried on Person/Belt/Vest: Taser, Baton and Mace
Ballistic Vest: External Armor	Body Worn Camera: Not Present
Other Recording Devices: None	Partner: None
Injurioge Wag shot in the shin	
Injuries: Was shot in the chin.	Equipment Damage: External vest and carrier had bullet impact.
Training or Areas of Specialty: NA	
	carrier had bullet impact. OPOTC Certification: 05/15/2018; James
Training or Areas of Specialty: NA	carrier had bullet impact. OPOTC Certification: 05/15/2018; James A. Rhodes State College Use-of-Force Training: Policy and
Training or Areas of Specialty: NA Military Experience/Training: NA Prior Shooting Incidents: None Medications, Prescriptions, or Drugs that	carrier had bullet impact. OPOTC Certification: 05/15/2018; James A. Rhodes State College Use-of-Force Training: Policy and Procedures Prior Discipline or Use-of-Force
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Officer's Firearm(s):

Weapon #1

Make: Glock	Model: 17
Caliber/Gauge: 9 mm	Serial:
Type: Semi-Auto Handgun	Method of Carry: Right Hip
Magazine Capacity: 17	Total Rounds as Carried (including
	chamber): 18
Extra Magazines: 2	Number of Rounds in Extra Magazines: 35
Discharged During Incident? Yes	Primary or Backup Weapon: Primary
Rounds Remaining After Incident: 4	Number of Rounds Fired: 14 estimated
	from round count.
Right/Left-Handed Carry: Right-Handed	Ownership: Department Owned
Last Qualification Date: 09/28/2021	Type of Holster, if any: Retention

Narrative:

SA Hamberg asked Ackerman about his specialized training. Ackerman stated he has no specialized training. Ackerman stated he has approximately four (4) years on at the ACSO, which is his first job in law enforcement. Ackerman was asked what firearms he is certified to carry; Ackerman stated, Glock 17, shotgun and AR-15. Ackerman was asked what his normal uniform consists of and how he carried his equipment. Ackerman stated, besides his standard uniform, he has an external ballistic vest carrier, that is black-in-color, his name plate and badge are on the front, along with an embroidered United States flag on the left front of the external vest carrier. Ackerman stated, on his duty-belt, he carried the following equipment in a clockwise direction: Can of OC spray, key ring, Glock 17 (in his duty holster), baton, pair of handcuffs, glove pouch, a second pair of handcuffs, portable radio, taser and a double-magazine pouch. Ackerman was asked if his Glock 17 was fully loaded when the incident occurred; Ackerman stated, "Yes." SA Hamberg asked Ackerman which other deputies were working that night; Ackerman stated the following: Dep. Breitigan, Dep. Klill, Lt. Butler and Sgt. Hanjora.

Ackerman was asked to explain how the incident unfolded in the early morning hours of June 21, 2022. Ackerman stated he was assigned to work on the east side of the county that shift and was in the city of Lima, around E. 2nd St. and Taft Ave., at approximately 0230 hours, in the morning. Ackerman told investigators that this portion of Lima is known for drugs and other illegal criminal activity. Ackerman stated that he noticed a vehicle approximately a block ahead of him that made a left turn and then another left turn, which Ackerman stated seemed a little



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suspicious for that time of the morning. Ackerman stated, as he was attempting to "catch-up" with the vehicle, he noticed that the vehicle made another left-hand turn and, at this point, Ackerman thought the vehicle was attempting to evade him. Ackerman stated that he was not sure if it was at Taft Ave. when the vehicle had made the third left-hand turn, as Ackerman was approaching him.

Ackerman stated that the vehicle then made a fourth left-hand turn on to E. 2nd St. Ackerman stated he activated his emergency overhead lights and attempted to make a traffic stop, due the driver's suspicious driving actions, appearing to evade Ackerman. Ackerman stated he then activated his siren and radioed to dispatch that he was attempting to make a traffic stop. Ackerman told investigators that the vehicle made a left-hand turn onto S. Sugar St. and "rolled" through the stop sign on E. 2nd and South Sugar St. Ackerman stated the vehicle went northbound for about a half of a block and then made another left-hand turn onto an alley, travelling westbound. (The alley is an east/west direction and is positioned between S. Sugar St. and Taft Ave.) The alley is north and parallel to E. 2nd St.; for further information, please refer to the crime scene diagram by SA Hammond.

Ackerman stated, the vehicle went a short distance in the alley and went to the left or south off the alley into a residence's yard. Ackerman stated he positioned his cruiser for a "high-risk, felony stop." Ackerman noted the following occurred: He turned off his siren, exited his cruiser with his weapon drawn and was getting ready to give verbal commands to the driver [later identified as Quincy Pritchett (Pritchett)], when the driver exited the vehicle and took off running southbound through a backyard. Ackerman stated he pursed Pritchett for approximately 20 yards, when Pritchett fell to the ground. Ackerman stated he circled back around to the southwest of Pritchett. Ackerman stated his left hand was on the portable radio mic, and the Glock 17 (that had a streamlight TLR-1 flashlight attached to it) was in his right hand. (It should be noted that the area was completely dark, and there were no street lights or any type of lights where the shooting incident occurred.) Ackerman stated he utilized the streamlight to illuminate the area and was giving verbal commands to Pritchett to show his hands.

Ackerman told investigators that Pritchett was lying on the ground in the prone position, leaning over and was "bridged" on the right side, which had obstructed Pritchett's right hand and arm slightly. Ackerman said that Pritchett's left hand and arm were extended out and upward, and no weapons were observed at that time. Ackerman stated, he gave verbal commands to Pritchett to show his hands to Ackerman. Ackerman stated that Pritchett then got completely on the ground and he put his left hand out. Ackerman said, at that time, he decided he would take Pritchett into custody. Ackerman stated he placed his duty weapon back into his holster and jumped on the back of Pritchett and attempted to place Pritchett's hands behind his back and handcuff him. Ackerman stated, at that exact time, Pritchett rolled over toward Ackerman and they were facing



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each other and were chest-to-chest. Ackerman stated, it was completely dark at this time, and he could not see anything; since he had reholstered his duty weapon with the attached light. Ackerman stated, he was trying to grab Pritchett's right hand with his [Ackerman's] left hand; but, with it being completely dark, it was difficult to do so. Ackerman said that he then saw a bright flash of light and heard a loud bang, approximately a foot from his chest. Ackerman stated, he immediately felt a burning sensation, with some tingling on the left side of his face, along with his face being covered in blood. Ackerman said that he was very disorientated but knew that he had been shot at that time and only remembered hearing one shot. Ackerman told investigators that he immediately rolled off Pritchett and onto his [Ackerman's] right side and pushed Pritchett away from him by kicking him, in order to put some distance between them; so Ackerman could safely draw his Glock 17 from his duty holster. Ackerman stated that he could feel Pritchett's body between his legs and below him, as he was like "straddling Pritchett."

Ackerman stated he had a general idea of where the "center mass" of Pritchett's body was. Ackerman advised that he then fired his Glock 17 into that general area. Ackerman told investigators that he did not have time to activate the streamlight flashlight and, when he fired his weapon, it was completely dark; Ackerman was not sure where the bullets were striking Pritchett. Ackerman stated he stopped firing his weapon when he could feel Pritchett's body no longer moving and the threat was gone. (Ackerman re-enacted the positions that he and Pritchett were in, prior to and during the shooting incident. For further information, please review the video interview portion.)

Ackerman stated he did not remember how many times he fired his service weapon but had some rounds left in the magazine. Ackerman said that after firing his duty weapon, he was not sure how serious his injuries were to his face; so, he moved away from Pritchett's body and made his way back to his cruiser for cover, while radioing into dispatch that he had been shot, that shots were fired and the general location of the incident. Ackerman advised that he waited by his cruiser, under cover, until the Lima Police Department (LPD) showed up and began rendering aid to Ackerman and also checked on Pritchett. Ackerman stated that the officers removed his vest and shirt, checking for any other injuries that he [Ackerman] may have had. Ackerman stated that Dep. Breitigan arrived on scene and removed Ackerman's duty weapon and secured it. Ackerman stated, other deputies were arriving on scene, as well as the paramedics, and the paramedics were rendering aid to him when he was transferred to the hospital.

SA Hamberg asked Ackerman if he observed anyone else in the vehicle with Pritchett; Ackerman advised that he did not. Agents asked Ackerman if he knew Pritchett previously or had any prior interactions with Pritchett; Ackerman advised that he did not. Ackerman was asked if he knew how his uniform nameplate, pen and other items came off of his uniform; Ackerman stated that he did not. Ackerman said he was not physically assaulted by Pritchett, but there was



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a struggle with Pritchett, in attempting to get him handcuffed; and, it could have happened when they were on the ground and in close contact struggle with each other. Ackerman had no further information to share on the incident.

The interview concluded at approximately 1252 hours.

The interview was audio recorded. The audio recording was attached to this report. The signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form is also attached to this report. Please see the attachments for further details.



Ohio Attorney General's Office Bureau of Criminal Investigation



Criminal Investigation Notification

- 1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
- 2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
- 3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is <u>not</u> a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

Izak Ackerman

Printed Name of Interviewee

Signature of Interviewee

Hambs BCI Agent (Printed)

BCI Age nature)

-8-2022 12:07

Date / Time

BCI-INVEST-34 Revised 03/17