



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



2023-2080  
 Officer Involved Critical Incident – 45 Great Southern Blvd.,  
 Columbus, OH 43207

**Investigative Activity:** Interview with Officer  
**Involves:** Officer Heidi Graber (W)  
**Date of Activity:** 08/09/2023  
**Activity Location:** CPD 12 PCT – 950 E. Main St. , Columbus, OH 43205, Franklin County  
**Author:** SA James Poole

**Narrative:**

On August 9, 2023, the Columbus Division of Police (CPD) requested the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) Crime Scene and Special Investigation Units respond to 45 Great South Blvd., Columbus, Ohio, in reference to an Officer –Involved Critical Incident. It was reported to BCI that CPD Officers ██████████ (Officer ██████████ and ██████████ (Officer ██████████ responded to a robbery in progress call for service in the parking lot of the above location and where met by the involved subject, later identified as Austin Huntzinger (Huntzinger), who reportedly was armed with a firearm. Officers ██████████ and ██████████ reportedly exchanged gunfire with Huntzinger resulting in Officer ██████████ being shot in the leg and Huntzinger being killed.

BCI Special Agents James Poole (SA Poole) and Craig Call (SA Call) responded to the above location to assist with the investigation and were informed there were potential witness officers from the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office (FCSO) and CPD currently waiting at Precinct 12. SA Poole and SA Call responded to Precinct 12 to meet with the officers in order to obtain witness statements.

Prior to any questioning, SA Poole informed CPD Officer Heidi Graber #2279 (Officer Graber) BCI’s investigation was third party and not a part of any internal review of the incident by CPD or the FCSO and any statement they provided would be free and voluntary. Officer Graber acknowledged and agreed to be interviewed. The audio recording began at approximately 1115 hours.

Officer Graber stated she was working first shift patrol in the area when she noticed a suspicious person run was dispatched. She stated CPD Wagon ██████████ and Cruiser 130 were dispatched. Later on, Officer Graber stated there were several more calls that came in from the Turkey Hill, Lowes, Waffle House, and Hardwood Store involving a male White with a gun

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that were never aired or she would have backed the officers up. Officer Graber stated when the officers were arriving to the scene the run updated to a robbery in progress or "Carjacking," which prompted her to add herself to the run, running lights and sirens to the location.

Officer Graber stated once she arrived she saw CPD Officer [REDACTED] on the ground, injured, and saw Medics 22 loading an injured male White, later identified as Austin Huntzinger (Huntzinger), into the back of the medic. Officer Graber explained she knew someone had to guard Huntzinger, so she hopped in the back of the medic and stayed with Huntzinger at Grant medical center until she was relieved.

SA Poole asked if Officer Graber had her body camera on and if it was working during the incident. She stated, "Yes."

SA Poole asked if she was at the hospital during the time doctors called Huntzinger's time of death. Officer Graber stated yes, but she did not know the exact time he was pronounced.

The interview concluded at 1127 hours.

**Attachments:**

Attachment # 01: 2023.08.09 Ofc Heidi Grabber Interview