



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



2024-1376

Officer Involved Critical Incident - Interstate 77 Southbound
at Exit 85, New Philadelphia, OH 44663

Investigative Activity: Officer Involved Critical Incident Investigation
Involves: Ohio State Patrol and Tuscarawas County Sheriff Office
Activity Date: 05/03/2024
Activity Location: Interstate #77, South bound, Exit 85 (Schneider Crossing),
Dover (Tuscarawas County) Ohio
Authoring Agent: Special Agent Charlie Snyder #90

Background:

On Friday, May 3, 2024, the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested to investigate an officer involved critical incident, involving personnel from the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) and Tuscarawas County Sheriff Office (TCSO) personnel. The incident occurred at Schneider's Crossing, south bound exit #85, from Interstate 77, in Tuscarawas County. Initial information indicated gunshots had been fired, resulting in injury to a subject. Special Agent Supervisor Charles Moran (Moran) made telephone contact with Special Agent Charlie Snyder (Snyder) at approximately 0626 hours, dispatching him to respond.

Action Taken:

Snyder arrived at the scene at approximately 0645 hours. Numerous TCSO and OSP vehicles and personnel were present. The Ohio Department of Transportation was also assisting with the placement of barricades and temporary traffic control devices at the scene. All traffic was blocked from moving on this exit ramp.

Yellow evidence markers were observed lying near the decedent, on the exit ramp roadway. Those markers had been placed there by TCSO Lieutenant Adam Fisher.

A red-colored 1994 Chevrolet C-1500 pick-up truck, bearing Ohio Motor Vehicle registration HZG-2442, was observed sitting on the edge of the exit ramp roadway, facing south bound. The vehicle exhibited multiple apparent ballistic defects to the front windshield, left and right-side door glass, rear window and left rear fender above the wheel opening.

The deceased subject, subsequently identified as Kendell Floyd Woodard, was observed lying face-up, with his hands beneath him, with his upper clothing pulled up, and

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apparent medical devices attached to his chest and abdomen. There was also apparent blood observed on the roadway, originating from the decedent's upper body.

Snyder received an initial briefing of circumstances and relayed information to Moran by cellular telephone at approximately 0651 hours.

Initial information indicated OSP personnel had discovered an occupied stopped vehicle on the exit ramp. When the occupant was approached, it was determined he was experiencing possible mental health issues, and a request was made for additional support. TCSO responded and sent a crisis intervention trained deputy to the scene. After lengthy efforts to help the subject, the subject reportedly was observed pulling a concealed handgun and law enforcement officers responded with gunfire, striking the subject. Dover Fire Department (DFD) was on scene and rendered emergency medical treatment immediately, but the subject was deceased.

The involved TCSO [REDACTED] who had reportedly fired his weapon, had been removed from the scene at this time and was taken to a local hospital per his agency's instructions, and would subsequently be available for possible interview at the TCSO office (2295 Reiser Avenue, SE, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663 - telephone: 330-339-7743) at a later time.

The three OSP [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who had fired their weapons and a fourth, Trooper Spencer Day, who had witnessed the incident, were on the scene. After obtaining their identification information, the four OSP Troopers were then taken to the New Philadelphia OSP Post, (2454 East High Avenue, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663 - telephone: 330-339-1103) to await follow-up contact and possible subsequent interview.

Dover Fire Department - Medical Squad Captain Michael Mossor, (Dover Fire Department - 116 East 3rd Street, Dover, Ohio - telephone: 330-343-5552) advised his vehicle was equipped with a video recording device. Mossor removed the micro-SD memory card from his recording device and provided it to Snyder. The indicated micro-SD memory card was placed into a protective envelope, subsequently turning it over to BCI Special Agent Joe Goudy for inclusion into the case file. Captain Mosser also provided Snyder with an electrocardiogram (EKG) strip that his personnel used on the decedent during their medical effort. It was noted that it was indicated as a flat line.

Tuscarawas County Coroner, Doctor Jeffery Cameron, M.D., and Coroner's Investigator Rachel Fetty (Tuscarawas County Coroner's Office - 125 East High Avenue, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663 - telephone: 330-364-8811), after arriving at the scene and examining the decedent Woodard, pronounced his death. The EKG strip from Dover Fire Department - Medical Squad was used to determine the official time of death of This document is the property of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and is confidential in nature. Neither the document nor its contents are to be disseminated outside your agency except as provided by law - a statute, an administrative rule, or any rule of procedure.



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0533 hours. The decedent was subsequently learned to have been transported to Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's office (11001 Cedar Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 - telephone: 216-721-5610) for purposes of autopsy.

Snyder also conducted audibly recorded interviews of possible witnesses George David Wright and Jeffery Allen Hagan, who were in their vehicles when this incident occurred. Those interviews will be reported separately.

Investigation Continues.

References:

None

Attachments:

None

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