



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



2023-0052

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1785 Rt. 28, Lot 419, Goshen Township, OH 45122 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness
Involves: Daniel Knapke (W)
Date of Activity: 01/06/2023
Activity Location: Knapke, Daniel – Business – 5644 Sugar Camp Road, Milford, OH 45150, Clermont County
Author: SA Douglas Eveslage, #66

Narrative:

On January 6, 2023, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) was called by the Goshen Township Police Department in Clermont County, Ohio, to assist with an Officer-Involved Critical Incident (OICI) that occurred at 1785 State Route 28, Lot 419 AA, Goshen Township, Ohio, between the Goshen Township Police Department and subject, Thomas Dewald Jr. (Dewald).

On January 6, 2023, Special Agents Douglas Eveslage and Sean Zint interviewed Paramedic Daniel Knapke (Knapke) at approximately 1628 hours at the Miami Township Fire Department, located at 5644 Sugar Camp Road, Milford, Ohio. Knapke has been a paramedic since 2016 and has been an EMT since 2009. On January 6, 2023, Knapke was working for the Miami Township Fire Department on Medic 29 and responded to the OICI location with Goshen Township Fire Department Engine 19 and Squad 19.

Knapke stated that when he arrived the Goshen Township Fire personnel were already attending to patient, Thomas Dewald, and had placed him in the supine position with an automated CPR device attached already. Miami Township Fire personnel assisted with giving the Dewald care when he went into cardiac arrest. During aid, Dewald had a "heart rhythm change" which prompted medic personnel to move Dewald from the supine position near the foot of the bed, to the stretcher, and transport him to Bethesda North Hospital 10500 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, Ohio. Knapke said that once they arrived at the hospital, patient care was transferred to hospital personnel and Dewald was taken into Emergency Room 4.

SA Eveslage asked Knapke if he noticed the taser in the bedroom, and Knapke stated that he saw the taser cartridge on the bed. Knapke said, "It should be noted that there was a taser wire on the patient's left side when they arrived at the hospital, but he did not see the actual barb itself."

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SA Eveslage asked if Knapke noticed any weapons when inside the residence, and Knapke stated, "There appeared to be a knife, I would describe it as a dresser, as you are in the doorway to the bedroom, you can see the back wall, bed to your left, this dresser was on the right side. There was what appeared to be, I would describe it as a cooking knife, white in color, with what appeared to be blood stains on it."

SA Eveslage asked if Dewald said anything while being treated, and Knapke stated, "The patient was considered deceased from the time we arrived until transport was complete at Bethesda North ER. He was unresponsive throughout the incident."

Knapke explained that as they were on scene with Dewald, they were on the phone with the doctor from Bethesda North with the heart rhythm change occurred and the medics decided to transport. Once they arrived on scene the doctor pronounced Dewald deceased.

This interview was concluded at approximately 1437 hours. See audio recording for further details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2023-01-06 Medic Daniel Knapke Interview

Exhibit 1

Included as a separate file.