



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



2022-2918

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 500 West Hopocan, Barberton, OH
44203

Investigative Activity: Interview of Witness
Involves: Kylie Bussey (W)
Activity Date: 12/27/2022
Activity Location: 547 Miami Avenue, Barberton, Ohio 44203
Authoring Agent: SA Nicholas Valente

Narrative:

On December 27, 2022, at 1614 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Nick Valente and SA Todd Clark interviewed Kylie Bussey (Bussey). Bussey was identified as a possible witness to the officer-involved shooting in Barberton, Ohio on December 26, 2022. The interview with Bussey was audio recorded and attached to this report.

During the interview, Bussey reported the following:

Bussey works at The Coffee Pot. The Coffee Pot is a restaurant located on the corner of West Lake Avenue and 2nd Street Northwest in Barberton, Ohio. The front windows of the establishment face a gravel lot used for overflow parking of a nearby church. Bussey became aware that something unusual was occurring, when she noticed a young couple begin to enter the restaurant. The young man in this couple opened the door to the shop "and just held it there."

As the young man continued to hold the door open without any known reason to Bussey, she said to him, "Hey, close the door. It's letting in all that cold air in." Moments later, the man apologized for leaving the door open and said to her, "Sorry about leaving the door open, but this guy out there, we felt like he was gonna rob us, like steal our car or rob us."

Bussey continued her work and in the ensuing moments noticed the man outside that the young couple had described. That man was now in the parking lot across the street "and the cops come right up on him, like by the YMCA area." Bussey observed the subject's back as he walked through the parking lot away from the restaurant. The police approached the subject with their guns drawn.

Bussey alerted others in the coffee shop as to what was happening. Bussey continued to observe the activity outside and described: "He [the subject] just kept walking. He just kept, like, they [the police] were saying, 'Stop! Stop!' And they kept backing up and backing up, couple feet. And he just kept walking toward them, towards them." Bussey added the subject was already walking in the direction of the police officers when they arrived. Bussey then described the subject appeared to reach with his left arm into his pocket for something. Once the subject reached into his pocket, the officer to the right (north) fired a single shot.

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Bussey then described how the officers approached the subject and noted one officer “put their foot on something and kicked something off to the side.”

A third officer arrived and, at that point, the three officers “got the guy under control.”

When asked if she could hear the police officers, Bussey stated, “They were telling him to stop.” “Don’t go any further! Stop right there!” And he, they, they just kept saying “Stop! Don’t!” “And just kept coming towards them, towards them.”

Bussey reiterated the subject was already walking in the direction of officers upon their arrival, indifferent to their commands and walking at a normal pace.

Bussey clarified the actions of officers, just before the shooting, as having backed up “three or four times” during the encounter before the subject was shot. Bussey described the officer who pushed the unknown object away from the subject as the same officer who fired the shot.

When asked, Bussey stated she did not see a weapon or any other object in the subject’s hand at the time he was shot.

When asked, Bussey estimated the time from when the subject was first noticed by the customers in the doorway of the coffee shop to the time he was shot to have been “maybe five minutes.” Bussey felt the entire incident happened very fast.

Bussey did not take any pictures or videos of the incident.

Attachments:

1. 2022-12-27: Interview Kylie Bussey