



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



2022-2876

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 256 N. Swain, LaRue, Ohio (L)

Date of Activity: 12/21/2022
Author: SA Joshua S. Rammel, #175

Narrative:

On December 21, 2022, Special Agent (SA) Josh Rammel (Rammel) assisted with multiple interviews conducted at 100 Dillmont Dr., Columbus, Ohio 43235, involving members of the Delaware County Special Response Team (SRT). The interviews were in regards to an officer-involved shooting (OIS) which occurred on December 20, 2022, in LaRue, Ohio, during the course of a search warrant. The Delaware County SRT was requested to assist the Marion County SRT during the search warrant, which directly led to the OIS.

It is important to note that no members of the Delaware County SRT were involved with the OIS, and the interviews were conducted due to the members of the Delaware County SRT being potential witnesses to the OIS.

The interview was recorded using a digital audio recorder. A copy of the recording was attached to this investigation.

SA Rammel interviewed Ramon Diaz (Diaz). SA Rammel began the interview by identifying himself, clarifying that Diaz understood the reason for the interview and making sure Diaz was willing to speak with SA Rammel without an attorney or union representative present. Diaz advised he was good to proceed with the interview. Diaz provided his date of birth as June 2, 1967. Diaz informed SA Rammel that he was employed with the Delaware Police Department and is the commander of the Delaware County SRT. Diaz indicated he has been a police officer for 24 years.

Diaz advised that he was present during the course of the search warrant conducted, along with the Marion County SRT in LaRue, Ohio, on December 20, 2022. Diaz mentioned he was at the command post with the drone unit a few hundred yards away from the scene of the search warrant on Swain Avenue. Diaz indicated that he heard over the radio the alleged suspect was heading west along the railroad tracks, so the call was made to use a drone to follow the alleged suspect. Diaz advised that he watched the drone footage as it was happening, but the drone footage did not have audio. Diaz told SA Rammel he believes commands were being made to the alleged suspect but he did not hear anything. It appeared to Diaz that the alleged suspect was being noncompliant because he kept walking backwards. Diaz indicated that the drone footage was "jumping back and forth" between regular footage and infrared. Diaz told SA Rammel that he did not hear any of the gunshots due to being far enough away.

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Due to the alleged suspect being noncompliant, a K9 was dispatched towards the alleged suspect. Diaz advised that he could see the heat flashes from the drone footage, and it appeared the first round fired by the alleged suspect towards the K9 just barely missed the K9; but, it appeared to Diaz that the second round fired by the alleged suspect hit the K9 (later deemed to have missed also). Diaz indicated that was when the Marion County SRT returned fire, hitting the alleged suspect. Diaz advised that aid was rendered to the alleged suspect, and a medical helicopter was initially called to the scene before being cancelled.

Diaz stated that during this time, the Delaware County SRT held position by the residence located on Swain Avenue, and it was determined by commanders to have the Delaware County SRT secure the buildings due to the Marion County SRT being occupied with the shooting.

Diaz informed SA Rammel that all members of the Delaware County SRT are clearly identified as police officers with additional tactical gear worn identifying them as members of the Delaware County SRT. Diaz mentioned that the only difference in the uniforms would be the local agency patch worn by the SRT members identifying the agency they work for.

At that time, SA Rammel thanked Diaz for speaking with him and the interview was concluded.

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.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Interview with Ramon Diaz 2022-12-21