



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



2024-0431

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 6042 Huntley Rd, Columbus,
OH

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: Philip Callaghan (W)
Date of Activity: 02/23/2024
Author: SA Kyle Douglass, #126

Narrative:

On February 23, 2024 at approximately 1605 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agents Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) and Kyle Douglass (SA Douglass) conducted an interview with Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Officer Philip Callaghan (Ofc. Callaghan) as a witness to an Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI) which occurred on February 7, 2024, involving CPD [REDACTED] and Holly Graham (Graham) in the area of 6042 Huntley Road in Columbus, OH. During the incident, [REDACTED] discharged his firearm while officers were attempting to detain Graham in a stolen vehicle. Graham was transported to Riverside Methodist Hospital with alleged gunshot wounds.

Prior to the interview, Ofc. Callaghan had agreed to provide a voluntary statement to BCI as a witness to the incident. Also present with Ofc. Callaghan during the interview was his legal representative from the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), Jackie Tipton. Ofc. Callaghan was presented with a Criminal Investigation Notification (CIN), which he acknowledged and signed. The following is a summation of the interview, specific details can be found in the attached audio recording.

Ofc. Callaghan (badge #3246) reported his current assignment is "1-B-3" patrol. On the date of the OICI, Ofc. Callaghan was partnered with CPD Officer Shane Mills (Ofc. Mills) in CPD cruiser #12, with Ofc. Mills driving.

Ofc. Callaghan explained he and Ofc. Mills were en route to another call for service when they were notified via radio of an attempt to locate a stolen vehicle which had evaded CPD attempts to stop the vehicle. Ofc. Callaghan and Ofc. Mills proceeded towards the area of the stolen vehicle to assist if needed. Ofc. Callaghan recalled there was initially instruction to all units to disengage from the stolen vehicle, and they returned to their previous dispatch run.

While traveling westbound to their previous call, Ofc. Callaghan observed a vehicle matching the description of the stolen vehicle. Ofc. Callaghan used their cruiser's license plate recognition (LPR) system, which confirmed the observed vehicle had been reported stolen. Ofc.

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Approved By SA James A. Mulford on
03/06/2024

Callaghan and Ofc. Mills began following the vehicle and announced their location for other CPD personnel in the area to respond. Ofc. Callaghan explained they were only following the vehicle and were not in a pursuit.

Ofc. Callaghan and Ofc. Mills followed the vehicle to a nearby Sheetz gas station, and the driver parked the vehicle at a gas pump. Ofc. Callaghan stated they attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the vehicle with their lights and sirens. Ofc. Callaghan and Ofc. Mills exited their cruiser to approach the vehicle, which then pulled away from the gas pump. Ofc. Callaghan recalled the vehicle began driving in circles in the parking lot.

Ofc. Callaghan explained they continued to follow the stolen vehicle, which he described was "jumping from parking lot to parking lot" on OH-161 between Busch Boulevard and Huntley Road. The stolen vehicle was followed to a Speedway gas station, then a BP gas station. Ofc. Callaghan observed the driver asking another gas station customer to pay for her gas. The stolen vehicle pulled away again, northbound into the Huntley Square shopping plaza parking lot.

Ofc. Callaghan explained the vehicle continued to circle the parking lot of Huntley Square. Other CPD responders began to prepare "stop sticks" at the parking lot exits to disable the stolen vehicle. Ofc. Callaghan observed [REDACTED] approach the stolen vehicle on foot near the southern parking lot exit, at which point the stolen vehicle began driving in reverse. Ofc. Callaghan observed [REDACTED] had drawn his gun, and could hear him giving verbal commands to the driver to stop the vehicle. The vehicle stopped and then accelerated forward towards [REDACTED] striking him and sending him onto the vehicle hood. While on the hood of the vehicle, [REDACTED] was seen by Ofc. Callaghan firing several rounds into the vehicle through the windshield. The driver continued to accelerate forward through the south exit of the parking lot, driving into a ditch between the service road and OH-161. Ofc. Callaghan explained the vehicle contact with the ditch caused [REDACTED] to be thrown off the hood of the car and into the road. Ofc. Callaghan and other CPD responders briefly pursued the vehicle on foot, which then continued eastbound in the wrong directional lanes on OH-161.

Ofc. Callaghan reported he did not fire his weapon during the incident, nor did he observe any other law enforcement responders fire their weapons besides [REDACTED]. Ofc. Callaghan did not observe any "less lethal" force deployed by CPD officers during the incident.

After the incident had concluded, Ofc. Callaghan created a perimeter around the scene of the OICI with police barrier tape (crime scene tape). Ofc. Callaghan checked on [REDACTED] who said his shoulder was injured and appeared to be in a severe amount of physical discomfort. Ofc. Callaghan believed [REDACTED] was transported to the hospital for medical treatment. Ofc. Callaghan also conducted a canvass of the businesses in Huntley Square to locate any potential witnesses of the incident.

Ofc. Callaghan initially believed the driver of the stolen vehicle, later identified to be Holly Graham, to be male due to ambiguous facial features and her short-cropped haircut. Ofc. Callaghan did not recall having any previous encounters with Graham prior to the date of the incident.

Ofc. Callaghan was asked if Graham ever acknowledged police presence at any point in his

encounter with her. Ofc. Callaghan recalled a specific interaction when their cruiser was face-to-face with the stolen vehicle, and they had ordered Graham to exit the vehicle. Graham made a statement to them such as, "When I say no, I say no," or something similar.

Ofc. Callaghan opined Graham appeared to make no effort to avoid striking [REDACTED] with her vehicle. Ofc. Callaghan believed Graham purposefully drove her vehicle directly towards [REDACTED] with the intent to run him over.

Ofc. Callaghan did not believe [REDACTED] had any other reasonable option than to fire his weapon. Ofc. Callaghan explained he felt that Graham made a decision to strike [REDACTED] and then continued to drive, leading Ofc. Callaghan to believe Graham had not struck [REDACTED] accidentally. Ofc. Callaghan also explained how a vehicle can be used as a deadly weapon.

Interview concluded at approximately 1632 hours.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Officer Philip Callaghan Interview Audio 2.23.2024

Attachment # 02: CIN – CPD Ofc. Philip Callaghan



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Criminal Investigation Notification

1. This investigation is being conducted in order to determine whether any criminal laws have been violated on the part of those involved in this incident. Specifically, to collect facts and information to be provided to the prosecutor and/or grand jury in order for them to determine whether the conduct involved is authorized or prohibited by criminal statutes.
2. Your participation in this interview is voluntary and you may decline to answer or cease the interview at any time. You are entitled to have an attorney present if you wish.
3. The criminal investigation is separate from any internal, administrative investigation which your employer may or may not be independently conducting. You are not being compelled to give any statement or answer any questions. This is not a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

P. CALLAGHAN

Printed Name of Interviewee

2-23-2024 4:05 PM

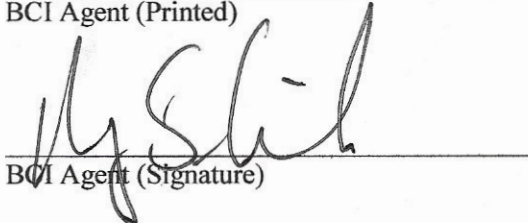
Date / Time

 #3246

Signature of Interviewee

RYAN SCHEIDERER

BCI Agent (Printed)



BCI Agent (Signature)