



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: Interview with Witness
Involves: Adairia Kelly (O)
Date of Activity: 05/06/2024
Activity Location: Adairia Kelly – 200 Homewood Avenue, Dayton, OH 45417
Author: SA Douglas Eveslage, #66

Narrative:

On Friday, May 3, 2024, at approximately 0630 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) was requested by Ohio State Highway Patrol (OHSP) for assistance to conduct an independent investigation surrounding an officer-involved shooting which occurred on Interstate 77 Southbound at Exit ramp 85 in the City of New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County, Ohio. BCI Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and BCI Crime Scene Units responded to assist with the investigations. The shooting incident involved a subject, Kendell Floyd Woodard (Kendell), three OHSP troopers, and one Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) deputy. The incident resulted in the death of Woodard.

On Monday, May 6, 2024, at approximately 1332 hours, SA Douglas Eveslage interviewed Adairia Kelly (Adairia), the mother of Kendell Woodard's ten year old daughter, at Dayton Early College Academy 200 Homewood Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45405. SA Eveslage asked Adairia when the last time she talked to Kendell and she explained that the last time they talked it was "not good" (1:14), and she had him blocked from communicating with her cell phone. She said that their relationship has been on and off ever since her and her daughter moved out of Kendell's Germantown Street residence several years ago. Adairia believes that around February or March of 2024 is the last time her and Kendell had any conversation and it was only about their daughter. The last time Kendell did attempted to communicate, he sent a text message that said something like "I love you or how are you guys," (3:03), but Adairia did not respond to the message.

SA Eveslage asked Adairia if she has known Kendell to suffer from any mental health issues or if he was on any medication that she was aware of, but she explained that she never knew Kendell to take medicine and she would always encourage him that he needed medicinal help. Adairia said that Kendell's first "manic episode" (3:29) was around her and her daughter a long time ago and that he has had these for years. She described the episode as Kendell not sleeping, not bathing, and "spazing out" (8:53). Adairia said that the behavior of Kendell on

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May 3rd, is not the Kendell she knew and that he has changed. She showed SA Eveslage photos from her phone of Kendell with her and her daughter. Kendell was clean cut in every photo and with either their daughter or Adairia. She further explained that Kendell and her have been in love with each other since they were eight years old, and that they grew up together, dating off and on again through high school, college, and afterwards.

SA Eveslage asked if she knew Kendell to use alcohol or narcotics, but Adairia said that he would drink occasionally but never use narcotics; however, she could not say what he has done since 2020 because they have grown apart. SA Eveslage asked if there was something that happened in Kendell's life that made him change because some family members mentioned a shift in his looks and behavior. She was not sure if SA Eveslage has heard of the "Hoetap guys" (7:09) but she was not sure who Kendell was talking to that was providing him information which said that he was very sure of himself and "not conforming to anybody's way" (7:31) and knew the bible very well.

Adairia said that Kendell did see a therapist after he was having episodes but she is not sure if he was ever diagnosed or received medication. She thought that any time their relationship was having trouble, Kendell's behavior became unstable so her and her daughter moved out. SA Eveslage asked for Adairia to describe Kendell's behavior and she said it was "manic" (10:24), he would not try to hurt you; however, his first episode he dropped their daughter on the floor, so she grabbed their daughter. Adairia said that when she looked into his eyes, "she saw somebody different" (10:57) so she ran and hid in the bathroom with their daughter. Kendell broke open the door which caused her and her daughter to fall into the shower and that was when she decided to move out with her daughter. Adairia eventually tried to talk to Kendell about this episode, but Kendell said that he did not remember acting the way he did or doing anything of those things. SA Eveslage revisited the look in Kendell's eyes as being "detached," and Adairia agreed and said she could tell by looking at his eyes whether he was doing well or not.

Adairia explained another situation that occurred with Kendell as she was arriving home with her daughter and Kendell "snatched open" the door to her grandparent's residence. She tried to talk to Kendell and asked him to leave, but during this time he had long dreaded hair. Kendell tried to talk to Adairia the next day, but her grandmother told Kendell that he needed to go back to the clean cut Kendell their family knew. Adairia said that Kendell again showed up to her residence the following day and every piece of hair on his head, face, and even eyebrows were shaved off and thought that this was the oddest behavior. SA Eveslage asked when this happened and she said it was around three or four years ago, when she just started living with her grandparents again.

SA Eveslage asked if Adairia knew anything about Kendell's living situation on Germantown Street, and she said that the Germantown residence is his house but Kendell was always secretive about where he was living so she did not allow him to see their daughter because of this. Adairia said the Kendell randomly started showing up with "these guys that were African" (13:50) and thought that he met these Africans when he was working at the airport, and all the Africans were related to the guy who Kendell worked with at the airport. SA Eveslage asked if the person Kendell worked with could be named "Nah Nah" and she thought it was possibly him because she has heard her daughter say that name previously.

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Adairia said that Kendell has always had identity issues because of the situation with his parents, and having his aunt which he called his mother. SA Eveslage asked if Adairia could explain Kendell's family situation, so she said Kendell's mother's last name was Woodard but she has been deceased for over 12 years. Kendell's father's name is possibly Kenneth Shackelford, but she explained that Kendell went straight home from the hospital with his Aunt Eunice Twitty when he was born. He has contact with his father who lives in the Dayton, Ohio area but Adairia did not have phone numbers to contact his father or siblings. Adairia said that Kendell had three siblings, Joy, Kenneth "Buggy", and Kendra but she was not sure about what their last names were.

SA Eveslage asked if Kendell had any social media accounts that she was aware of, but Adairia explained that she did not know any accounts and she tried to remove herself completely from Kendell. SA Eveslage asked if Kendell ever mentioned committing suicide or if he made any threats towards the police, but she said he never had any aggression towards the police and never talked about hurting himself. SA Eveslage asked if Adairia knew if Kendell to carry a firearm, but she never knew him to carry or possess a firearm and she was surprised to hear that information.

This interview was concluded at approximately 1356 hours. This report is a summary of the interview with Adairia Kelly which was audio recorded. See audio recording for further details (Attachment #01).

References:

No references.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-05-06 Adairia Kelly Interview