

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



2023-1809 Officer Involved Critical Incident - 3110 E. Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43227 (L)

Investigative Activity: Interview with Witness

Involves: Officer Corey Zacharitz (W)

**Date of Activity:** 08/31/2023

Activity Location: Harshman, Wannemacher, Tipton & Lipperman – 4683 Winterset

Drive, Columbus, OH 43220, Franklin County

Author: SA Ryan D. Scheiderer, #89

#### Narrative:

On August 31, 2023 at approximately 1503 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI) Special Agent Ryan Scheiderer (SA Scheiderer) obtained a recorded statement from Columbus Division of Police (CPD) Officer Corey Zacharitz (Officer Zacharitz) regarding the shooting incident involving officers from CPD, deputies from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), and Antwan Lindsey (Lindsey) that occurred on July 08, 2023 at 3110 E. Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio (Franklin County). Lindsey was fatally shot by officers during that incident. The contact with Officer Zacharitz took place at his attorney's office and his attorney, Lathan Lipperman, was present. Officer Zacharitz signed a Criminal Investigation Notification (CIN) form affirming his decision to provide a voluntary statement. The following is a summation of the contact with Officer Zacharitz and additional details can be found in the attached audio recording. (It should be noted that during the interview, Lindsey was referred to as "suspect" by the officer and that verbiage may be used throughout the summary when trying to quote the officer or document what an officer stated they heard or thought regarding the incident.)

Officer Zacharitz, Badge #3295, has been with CPD since June 14, 2021, and his assignment on July 8<sup>th</sup> was 13B4. On that date, Officer Zacharitz was partnered with and heard radio traffic of a "10–3" advising a deputy sheriff was involved in a shooting. That was followed by radio traffic advising the deputy was down and that was followed by radio traffic advising the "suspect" was down. Officers arrived on scene from the west and there were already numerous CPD cruisers on scene. Officer Zacharitz observed officers running towards the rear (north) of the apartment building located at 3110 E. Livingston so he joined them. Once he arrived at the rear of the building, Officer Zacharitz observed an unidentified African–American male with his hands up and telling officers "He's inside... he has a gun" which Officer Zacharitz understood to be the "suspect". Officer Zacharitz took a position of cover behind a vehicle parked in the parking lot and focused his attention on the windows on the rear side of

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### the building.

While maintaining the perimeter, Officer Zacharitz heard radio traffic advising the "suspect" was inside and observed several officers "stacking up" and then entering the rear entrance of the building. Officer Zacharitz heard additional radio traffic such as "suspect" is not compliant and alerting officers to watch their crossfire. That was followed by several gunshots which Officer Zacharitz believed came from multiple firearms. Shortly after that, Office Zacharitz observed exit the building and mutter something about needing assistance inside the building. Officer Zacharitz and other officers entered the building and he observed shell casings on the floor of the hallway and the "suspect" down at the far end of the hallway. Officer Zacharitz approached the "suspect" and observed other officers there, so he decided to go to the second floor to clear it. After that, Officer Zacharitz went back to where Lindsey was located and began assisting with first aid which included conducting chest compression on Lindsey until Medics arrived. Officer Zacharitz then assisted with scene security and observed a wallet and what he believed to be a Glock handgun near where Lindsey's body had been located after being shot. Officer Zacharitz described the handgun as having something red on it and the slide was partially "back" with a fired cartridge casing "stuck" in the ejection port, which led him to believe the firearm had been fired at officers.

Officer Zacharitz didn't know the location of the involved-deputy any time during the incident, nor did he know where Lindsey was located prior to Officer Zacharitz observing Lindsey laying on the ground after he had been shot. Officer Zacharitz never observed anyone discharge a firearm during the incident, but heard the gunfire. Officer Zacharitz wasn't able to tell who had fired their firearm when he heard the gunfire, but could tell it came from several different firearms. Officer Zacharitz admitted the scene was chaotic while he was present. Officer Zacharitz didn't have any additional information.

#### Attachments:

Attachment # 01: Officer Corey Zacharitz Audio Interview 8.31.2023

Attachment # 02: Officer Corey Zacharitz CIN 8.31.2023

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## **Criminal Investigation Notification**

- 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 <u>not</u> a "Garrity" interview (where you could be required to answer).

ZACHRITZ, COREY E.
Printed Name of Interviewee

Date / Time

Signature of Interviewee

BCI Agent (Printed)

BCI Agent (Signature)