



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



2024-2727

Officer Involved Critical Incident – 1370 Belmont Avenue,
Youngstown, Ohio 44504, Mahoning County

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer
Involves: [REDACTED] W)
Date of Activity: 10/03/2024
Activity Location: Youngstown City Building – 26 South Phelps Street, Youngstown,
OH 44503
Author: SA John P. Tingley, #154

Narrative:

On Thursday, October 3, 2024, at approximately 1605 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) John Tingley (Tingley) and SA Jack Shea (Shea) interviewed Youngstown Police Department (YPD) [REDACTED] who was accompanied by his attorney Dominic Vitantonio (Vitantonio). Also present was Mike Quinn, a union representative from the YPD. The interview took place at the Youngstown City Hall which is located at 26 South Phelps Street, Youngstown, Mahoning County, Ohio. The interview was audio recorded.

[REDACTED] was identified as being a law enforcement officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the officer involved critical Incident which occurred at 1370 Belmont Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio. Reportedly, [REDACTED] did not discharge a firearm during the course of the incident. The purpose of the interview was to obtain all relevant information of the incident known or observed by this officer.

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 nor is it a word-for-word translation of either the questions or answers. It is suggested that the full recording be reviewed to clarify any content or contextual questions regarding the information from the interview.

The interview began with SA Tingley presenting [REDACTED] with the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form which [REDACTED] read, stated that he understood, and signed.

SA Tingley then asked a number of Preliminary and Demographic Information questions with

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██████████ responses included in the following table.

Is it correct that you did not fire a weapon during this incident?	Yes
Radio call sign during the incident.	██████████
Years of service at the Youngstown Police Department.	██████████
Years of total law enforcement experience.	6
What was the uniform of the day?	Standard YPD
Were you wearing a vest?	Yes. Outer carrier
Would you consider yourself to have been well represented as a police officer during the incident?	Yes
Were you under the influence of any substance during the interview?	No
Did you wear a body worn camera and was it on?	Yes. Yes
Were there any other audio or video recording devices?	No
Have you watched any body worn camera footage from the incident?	No
What type of YPD vehicle were you driving?	YPD marked cruiser

After getting preliminary and demographic information from ██████████, SA Tingley asked ██████████ to describe the incident in detail, including the nature of the initial incident that he responded to.

██████████ stated that he was dispatched to the Dollar General for a male stabbing/slitting the throat of a female and also stabbing/slitting his own throat. ██████████ responded and pulled into the parking lot of the Dollar General behind ██████████. A store employee was contacted outside the business who said that a male was still inside the store causing physical harm to a female. ██████████ and ██████████ then entered the store with ██████████ leading. Both officers went past the checkout counter and turned left where they came into contact with a white male (later identified as Shane Linderman).

██████████ said that he initially could not see Linderman, so he moved to the left, at which time he observed Linderman kneeling over a white female (later identified as Maureen Stopperich) with Stopperich lying on the ground and large amounts of blood visible. The officers began giving commands to Linderman to get off Stopperich but Linderman did not comply and could not reply vocally because of the injuries to his throat. The decision was then made to go hands on and take Linderman into custody. ██████████ then holstered his weapon, put on gloves, and grabbed his handcuffs. Linderman observed these actions and began to reach into his pocket. Linderman then removed an unknown object from his pocket, but ██████████ was unable to determine what the object was.

██████████ continued his narrative and stated that Linderman then stood up and began moving towards the officers. At that time, ██████████ fired his weapon and Linderman dropped to the floor. ██████████ then announced over the radio that shots had been fired. As he was still on the radio, ██████████ fired again. ██████████ and ██████████ then moved forward, and ██████████ handcuffed Linderman. Once Linderman was secure, ██████████

████ checked on Stopperich. Shortly thereafter, the ambulance arrived and took over care of Stopperich. █████ then concluded his description of the events.

SA Tingley asked █████ if he was able to see what was in Linderman's right hand when he stood up. █████ said that he was not sure what it was.

SA Tingley asked █████ if, when Linderman advanced towards the officers, could he see anything in Linderman's left hand. █████ replied that from his position he could not see Linderman's left hand.

SA Tingley then asked █████ how many shots were fired by █████ stated three (3) or four (4).

SA Tingley continued and asked █████ if he had watched any body worn camera (BWC) or other video of the incident. █████ said "no".

SA Tingley asked █████ if, during the encounter with Linderman, if he was in fear for either his safety or █████ safety. █████ replied yes because of the type of call, the physical harm to Stopperich, and the threat to the Officers.

The interview was then concluded.

This interview was audio recorded. The audio recording and the signed BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form are attached to this report. Please review the attachment and audio recording for further details.

Attachments:

Attachment # 01: 2024-2727 █████ Criminal Notification Form

Attachment # 02: 2024-2727 Interview YPD █████

References:

No references.



DAVE YOST

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



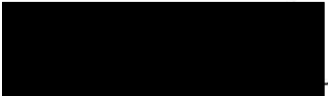
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
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Criminal Investigation Notification

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).


Printed Name of Interviewee

10-3-24 // 10:56
Date / Time


Signature of Interviewee

SA John Tinsley
BCI Agent (Printed)

SA [Signature]
BCI Agent (Signature)