



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



2023-2306

Officer Involved Critical Incident - [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Ave., Alliance, OH 44601, Stark County

**Investigative Activity:** Witness Officer Interview  
**Involves:** Officer Chad Caughey (W)  
**Activity Date:** September 22, 2023  
**Activity Location:** Alliance Police Department, 470 E. Market Street, Alliance, Ohio  
**Authoring Agent:** SA Nicholas Valente #139

**Narrative:**

On September 22, 2023, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Matthew Armstrong (Armstrong) and SA Cory Momchilov (Momchilov) interviewed Alliance Police Department (APD) Officer Chad Caughey (Officer Caughey). The interview took place in a training room at the APD and was video recorded. The video recording has been stored in the BCI SIU case file as Reference Item C. Prior to beginning the interview, Officer Caughey, in the presence of his attorney, read and signed a criminal investigation notification form indicating he understood this interview was voluntary and not part of or related to any departmental internal review of the matter. The criminal investigation notification form signed by Officer Caughey was attached to this report.

Officer Caughey was identified as an APD officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the September 3, 2023, officer-involved shooting which occurred at [REDACTED], Alliance, Ohio. Officer Caughey 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 Officer Caughey (excluding any potential Garrity derived information).

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 of the 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. It 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 obtained during the interview.

Throughout the interview, Officer Caughey provided the following information:

Officer Caughey had not watched his body-worn camera recording of the incident. On a single occasion Officer Caughey did see footage from Officer Rose and Officer Tallman's body-worn

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cameras that were part of news story covering the officer-involved shooting. Officer Caughey wore a clearly marked police uniform at the time of the incident. Officer Caughey was not under the influence of any substances that would impair his memory at the time of the officer-involved shooting or at the time the interview was conducted with BCI agents. Officer Caughey had previously responded to calls for service in other units of the multi-family dwelling where the officer-involved shooting occurred. However, Officer Caughey had not previously interacted with the subject, the involved female, or the specific unit where the incident took place.

Officer Caughey reported he was clearing an unrelated call when he heard radio traffic pertaining to this incident and he noted the urgency in the involved officers' voices. Officer Caughey then reviewed brief notes entered about the call on his in-car computer and drove to the residence in question while utilizing his vehicle's emergency lights and sirens. Upon arriving at the scene, tenants and other bystanders directed him to go up the stairs at the back of the building. Officer Caughey went up the stairs and entered the residence. Once inside, Officer Caughey observed Sergeant Minnick with a halogen tool in his hands and "starting to pry at the door." Officer Caughey also observed Officer Toussant and Officer Tallman in the area. Because of the narrow nature of the hallway Officer Caughey stood behind Officer Tallman.

Officer Caughey stated once the (bedroom) door opened Sergeant Minnick moved out of the way and Officer Toussant was "able to slide into position." Describing what he observed next, Officer Caughey stated "It happened so fast. It happened right then and there. I heard, I heard the shots. That was it."

Officer Caughey explained that due to the prior call he was handling he missed the original information that dispatchers provided to the officers over the radio. When Officer Caughey reviewed the information related to the call on his in-car computer, he noted it was entered as "a cutting" and based on the radio traffic he heard from an officer to bring a halogen tool into the residence he believed the call was for a person who had cut themselves and barricaded themselves in the bedroom. Officer Caughey was not aware that someone had been cut by a second party and taken hostage. Officer Caughey did not become aware there was someone being held against their will until the bedroom door was opened.

When asked what he saw when the bedroom door was opened, Officer Caughey reported due to his positioning in the hallway he did not have a good vantage point and only partially saw the involved female's shoulder and half of her face.

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Officer Caughey did recall observing the female bleeding. Officer Caughey stated he “was guessing” she was bleeding from her arms but did not have an opportunity to look closely at her or her injuries.

Officer Caughey did not recall seeing a weapon present when the door was opened.

When asked how many gunshots he recalled, Officer Caughey stated “two.”

Officer Caughey did not know who fired the shots he heard.

Officer Caughey reported when the officers entered the room, he observed Officer Tallman step over the subject and kick a knife away from him.

Officer Caughey did not administer first aid to the subject. Officer Caughey intended to administer first aid to the subject but did not due to the extent of the injuries suffered by the subject. Officer Caughey felt due to the extent of the subject’s injuries there was nothing he could do to help him.

When asked if he feared for his safety while waiting to make entry into the room, Officer Caughey stated he did.

Officer Caughey gave consent for BCI agents to watch his body-worn camera recording in its entirety.

Officer Caughey believed his recollection of events was based on his memory of the incident rather than the single time he observed other officers’ body-worn camera recordings shown on the news.

Officer Caughey reported he had spoken with the other involved officers after the incident occurred but those conversations did not include any conversation regarding what to tell BCI agents or otherwise share with investigators.

Attachments:

1. 2023-09-22 Signed Criminal Investigation Notification - Chad Caughey

Reference Items:

C – Video Recorded Interview of Officer Caughey

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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).

Chad Caughey  
Printed Name of Interviewee

1107 9-22-23  
Date / Time

[Signature]  
Signature of Interviewee

Cory Momchilov  
BCI Agent (Printed)

[Signature] #64  
BCI Agent (Signature)