



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



2021-1431

Officer Involved Critical Incident - 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma,
OH 44134

Investigative Activity: Interview with Officer Philip Seelie
Activity Date: August 18, 2021
Activity Location: Parma Police Department
Authoring Agent: SA Jared Prill #137

On Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at approximately 0900 hours, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Special Agent (SA) Jared Prill (Prill) and SA Jonathan Lieber interviewed Parma Police Department Officer (Ofc.) Philip Seelie (Seelie), who was accompanied by his attorneys, Adam Chaloupka and Danielle Chaffin, from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (OPBA). The interview took place at the Parma Police Department and was audio recorded. Ofc. Seelie read, understood and signed the BCI Criminal Investigation Notification form. Ofc. Seelie was identified as being a police officer who witnessed and/or had some level of involvement in the June 13-14, 2021, officer-involved shooting which occurred in the area of 5714 South Park Boulevard, Parma, OH 44134. Reportedly, Ofc. Seelie 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.

Ofc. Seelie stated that on June 13-14, 2021, his radio call sign was his badge number "506." He has been employed by the Parma Police Department for about eight years and has served as a member of the SWAT team for approximately two years. Ofc. Seelie stated he had no previous law enforcement experience before being hired by the Parma Police Department.

During the incident, Ofc. Seelie wore his standard navy-blue color police SWAT uniform which included "Police" on the front and back and a Southeast Enforcement Bureau (SEB) patch on one shoulder. He also wore an external ballistic vest. He considered himself to be well-represented as a police officer during the incident. He stated he was not under the influence of any substance that would impair his memory or judgment during the incident or during the interview with BCI. He does not wear corrective lenses.

Ofc. Seelie stated that he became aware of the incident via a group text that notified him of a potential call and that he was ultimately paged to respond in the evening hours of June 13, 2021. Ofc. Seelie stated that he was given a general background of the situation; which consisted of being told that the suspect (Kevin Giesel) may have been involved in a kidnapping offense, who then fled from officers and was now barricaded inside a residence with a firearm.

Once on scene, Ofc. Seelie took up a position inside an armored personnel carrier staged in front of the residence and armed with a 40mm grenade launcher, used to deploy OC canisters and

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related munitions, along with his service pistol. Ofc. Seelie never deployed non-lethal munitions during the standoff, though he was aware of their use.

Ofc. Seelie advised that early on upon his arrival, he observed Giesel come out of the residence on the porch and engage in a verbal dialogue; however, due to his location inside the armored personnel carrier, he could not hear what was being said. This verbal exchange lasted only a short period of time before the suspect retreated back inside the residence.

Ofc. Seelie stated that after an extended period of time with no communication with Giesel, tear gas was deployed into the front of the home via the armored personnel carrier. Ofc. Seelie did state that he believed additional tear gas munitions were deployed into the rear of the residence as well. When no movement or contact with the suspect resulted from this, the decision was made to deploy a robot into the home.

During the deployment of SEB's bomb squad robot, Ofc. Seelie stated that he heard dialogue between Giesel and police personnel via the robot. This dialogue again broke down and Giesel was engaged with Pepper Ball rounds, which caused Giesel to retreat further inside the house. At this time, Ofc. Seelie stated that he heard gunfire from inside the home and was advised through law enforcement communications that Giesel had shot the robot.

After hearing these shots and communications about Giesel shooting the robot, Ofc. Seelie advised that he could clearly see Giesel carrying or dragging the now disabled robot from the back of the house to the front of the house with a handgun in his hand. At this time, Ofc. Seelie observed Giesel raise the firearm and discharge it at officers that were to Giesel's left and Ofc. Seelie's right. Ofc. Seelie stated that he put out over the radio that Giesel was shooting at officers.

Ofc. Seelie believed Giesel discharged one or two rounds at officers. Ofc. Seelie then heard a shot or two from his right, where a second armored personnel carrier was stationed. After the exchange of gunfire, Ofc. Seelie witnessed Giesel fall inside the residence.

Once Giesel was believed to be incapacitated inside the residence, Ofc. Seelie stated that an armored personnel carrier with a camera was used to view Giesel inside the home. It was confirmed, via these means, that Giesel had been struck by gunfire and was on the floor of the home; at this time, an entry team was deployed inside the home. Ofc. Seelie believed he was on scene on South Park Boulevard for approximately eight hours or longer during the call out.

The interview concluded at approximately 0911 hours.



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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).

Philip J Seelie

Printed Name of Interviewee

8/18/21 0900hrs

Date / Time

Philip J Seelie

Signature of Interviewee

Jon Lieber

BCI Agent (Printed)

SLA #50

BCI Agent (Signature)